



South Coast Fire Protection District

P.O. Box 334 Gualala, California 95445 (707)884-4700

Minutes from the Regular Meeting on January 19, 2023
Location: 39215 Church Street, Gualala, California

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Pete Slunaker at 4:35pm.

2. Roll Call:

Present: Chair, Pete Slunaker; Directors Kevin Callanan, Rick O'Neil, Chuckie Sorensen, and Flavia de Oliveira.

3. Public Expression: 3 – minute limit person, 10 - minute total subject.

None.

4. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

Rick O'Neil motioned to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Chuckie Sorensen seconded the motion. Ayes: Pete Slunaker, Kevin Callanan, Rick O'Neil, Chuckie Sorensen, Flavia de Oliveira; Nays: None. The motion passed, 5 Ayes, and 0 Nays.

5. Financial Report:

The district has received the check for the first installment from the property taxes. Jason said it was about \$350,000. We also have \$240,000 in our reserve account.

6. Old Business: Discussion / Action on Updates

- a) **MHA Mobile Clinic Storage**—We are moving forward with the MHA mobile clinic storage plan. There have been no new developments since our last meeting.
- b) **Strategic Planning**—Recent events brought on by severe weather has delayed Jason's strategic planning efforts.
- c) **Grants**—Jason said that there will be a public meeting at the firehouse this Monday at 5:30pm as a requirement for the USDA grant for the ATV/UTV trailer that he would like to get. The department is working on a new AFG grant for firefighter safety and gear care. And they are putting in a application for a grant with the Dept of Transportation for extrication equipment. Jason said they are also looking into grants for fuels management and reduction.

7. New Business: Discussion / Action

- a) **Brown Act Training**—Jason advised the board that Mendocino Council is offering a Brown Act Training class, via Zoom, on January 25, from 9 to 11am.

- b) **District Website**—Flavia reported to the board what she had learned about the ADA requirements and suggestions to make the district website ADA compatible. Jason said he sent the information regarding our compatibility issues to a person who said he would help us.

- c) **Storm Report**—Less than three weeks into January, the department has run 111 calls, mostly storm related. If compared to last year that would be close to a third of the total number of calls the department responded to. The calls went very well, especially when they changed the incident command structure. Jason decided to treat the incident as a “complex” instead of series of individual calls which enabled him to triage the calls and delegate resources more efficiently. Our district was the busiest in the county. Jason said the firefighters did a phenomenal job. Jason discussed the idea of establishing an EOC (Emergency Operation Center) during major events that impact a large geographic area. The EOC would include our EMS partners (CLSD and RCMS), and other agencies to make decision-making collaborative and quicker. Jason also discussed bringing in heavy equipment to make cleanup easier. The board discussed how the district could compensate the volunteers when they respond to these lengthy events.

8. Chief's Report:

- The audit is coming up next week on Monday and Tuesday.
- The district is continuing pump testing on the engines
- Anchor Bay station is leaking badly and needs a new roof.
- The driveway at the main station is crumbling. Jason is putting together a plan for addressing that.
- Iversen station needs work on the apron and driveway as well.

9. Directors Comments:

Kevin Callanan clarified some comments he made during the brainstorming session regarding volunteer compensation.

10. Closed Session: Personnel Benefits

No action taken during closed session.

11. Open Session after Closed Session:

The meeting was re-opened after the closed session on covering employee health insurance costs.

12. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:40pm. Next Meeting is on February 16, 2023