



South Coast Fire Protection District

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

Minutes from the Regular Meeting on February 17, 2022

Location: 39215 Church Street, Gualala, California

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Flavia de Oliveira.

2. Roll Call

Present: Directors Kevin Callanan, Rick O'Neil, Chuckie Sorensen, and Flavia de Oliveira

Absent: Chair, Pete Slunaker

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

None.

4. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

Kevin Callanan motioned to approve the minutes from the regular meeting last January. Chuckie Sorensen seconded the motion. Ayes: Kevin Callanan, Rick O'Neil, Chuckie Sorensen, Flavia de Oliveira. Nays: None. The motion passed 4 Ayes, 0 Nays.

5. Financial Report

Maureen said some grant expenses are starting to come in. The district will be reimbursed 50 percent of those costs. We are still getting income via direct deposit from Federal resources for strike teams we sent out last summer and early fall. Maureen said the district finances are in good shape

6. New Business: Discuss/Action on:

a. Coast Life Support -- Coast Life Support District (CLSD) District Administrator Dave Crowl and Secretary Naomi Schwartz came to the meeting to present South Coast FPD with a check, approximately \$20,000, from the Special Government Relief Fund set up by the Governor's administration for COVID-19 relief funds. They expressed their gratitude for the 35 vaccine clinics we hosted at the firehouse coordinated with CLSD and Redwood Coast Medical Services. The medical and emergency providers came together at a critical time to marshal the resources needed to provide services for the residents of this community and the surrounding area.

b. Purchase Apparatus – Jason found an equipment trailer for sale in Sonoma County that will fill our needs for the dozer package he is piecing together. He showed us pictures of the trailer that he and Artie Bell looked at and said it was in good shape and under current market value. The cost of the trailer is \$35,000.

Kevin Callanan motioned to approve the purchase of the trailer for \$35,000. Rick O'Neil seconded the motion. Ayes: Kevin Callanan, Rick O'Neil, Chuckie Sorensen, Flavia de Oliveira. Nays: None. The motion passed 4 Ayes, 0 Nays.

c. CSA 3 discussion – Kevin Callanan attended a zoom meeting of the Mendocino County Association of Fire Districts. Mendocino County is considering forming CSA 3 (Community Service Area) to cover areas of the

county that are not covered by districts. Services in Mendocino's CSA would cover not only fire services, but maintenance of roads and other infrastructure. Jason explained that our district is impacted because a portion of the area that we respond to is outside of our district boundaries, but we are still responsible for these non-taxpayers. The properties that are currently not taxed would be taxed to fund the CSA. This would provide representation for those residents at the county level. The CSA 3 in Mendocino county has not been established yet, and there is very little information at this time as how it would function, and what their funding needs would be. It was noted that the CSA 40 in Sonoma county eventually collapsed after The Sea Ranch, whose funding obligations supported a large portion of the CSA 40's activities, pulled out to form their own fire district.

Jason said he would be more interested in incorporating the areas in question into our district. He also added that a few of the larger districts are opposed to the CSA 3 formation because they feel it would compete with their funding operations. Kevin added that coverage of this area outside of our district boundaries increases our eligibility for grants because of the vast amount of acreage relative to population served, and the lack of funding from those residents. Kevin said he would be attending another meeting of the county Association of Fire Chiefs about this subject and would provide more information in the future for us to make a decision on our position on the formation of CSA 3.

7. Old Business: Discuss/Action on:

Grants Update – Jason said that we submitted paperwork for two of our current grants recently and should be seeing some reimbursement money coming in. He said he also just signed a contract for \$45,000 with the county Board of Supervisors for equipment funded by the PG&E settlement. There are a few other grants that he has initiated to support of the Knox box program, and for prevention. He is actively pursuing more grants that should be posted in the upcoming months and is very happy with the grant writer that we are working with currently.

8. Chief's Report

- Jason said he is moving forward on the engineer position and getting that in play.
- We have been accepted into the California Special District's Association.
- The wife of one of our firefighters passed away very recently, and the Firefighter's Association is cooking a dinner at the firehouse tomorrow evening to support him. Jason extended an invitation to the board members and their families.

9. Director's Comments – Rick O'Neil offered his knowledge of auctions in regard to purchasing equipment. He revealed that the auction price of the equipment is not representative of the money that the seller receives. The auctioneer, and other entities, receive their percentage of the sales price. His statement underscored the good deal Jason made on the trailer that we just authorized him to purchase.

10. Closed Session

Gann Update

11. Open Session after Closed Session

Meeting was re-opened after closed session.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45pm. The next regular meeting is on March 17, 2022.