



South Coast Fire Protection District

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

Minutes from the Board of Directors meeting on May 21, 2020

Location: 39215 Church Street, Gualala, California

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Pete Slunaker.

2. Roll Call

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

3. Public Expression – 3-minute limit

None.

4. Financial Report

Maureen said that there is approximately \$330,000 in the bank. An equipment payment of \$54,000 is due for one of the apparatus. Also coming up at the end of the summer is another audit. Mr. Celentano, who has done the districts audits for the last nine years, may not be able to do the next audit because the county said that he has done too many of the audits in a row. He would have to hire a subcontractor to do the audit, however, he is petitioning the county to allow him to continue doing the audit declaring that it would be a hardship for our district to have to train someone new.

Gregg brought to the board's attention that there are twenty plus addresses that have increased the number of dwellings on their property. This can potentially increase the demand for service by introducing more residents per parcel. Gregg is considering raising the tax base on those parcels to match the number of dwellings on those parcels. He asked for the opinion of the board members. Pete thought that because of the hardships that so many residents are experiencing right now, that perhaps that decision should be put off for another day. Flavia asked if making those adjustment might flag it for the county inspectors.

Gregg thought that many of the parcels have had these structures for a long time. But some have just installed trailers. At the moment Gregg said that he didn't feel that the district needed the money. The amount of the tax increase would be about \$150.00 per parcel.

5. Announcements

None.

6. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

Kevin moved to approve the minutes from the January 21st meeting. Chuckie seconded the motion. All approved, the motion passed.

7. New Business—2020-2021 Budget, Oath for Pete, New Elections

Maureen presented the preliminary budget for the board to review. While the board members were reviewing the budget, Gregg handed the paperwork to Flavia for Pete's oath of office.

After reviewing the budget, Pete asked for a motion to approve the preliminary budget. **Kevin moved to approve the budget, Rick seconded the motion. All approved, the motion passed.**

Gregg said that three board members terms would be expiring within the next 125 days. He inquired if each of the board members would be interested in continuing to serve on the board. All three, Kevin, Rick, and Chuckie said they would be interested in serving another term.

8. Old Business—Dry Suits, Website

Gregg authorized the purchase of two dry suits, some life jackets and helmets which came up to around \$2,200 or \$3,000. Maureen said that it was \$2,750, made out to Rescue Solutions. **Chuckie motioned to approve the purchase of the dry suits and miscellaneous equipment. Flavia seconded the motion. All approved, the motion passed.**

Gregg said that all fire districts need to have a website to post their agendas and minutes. Flavia said that she would look into establishing a domain name for the district. Maureen suggested calling Mendocino Community Network.

9. Chiefs Report

- Gregg thanked Pete, Kevin and their crew for the work that they have been doing on the new addition.
- Gregg announced that RCMS would be conducting COVID-19 tests next weekend.
- The fire department has responded to 92 calls to date. Last year at this time they had responded to 150 calls.
- Water rescue training has been progressing well; and wildland training is starting up. The pay scale for the firefighters are increasing a little bit this year, and there are also guidelines for COVID-19 prevention during fire season.
- Gregg said he talked with Pete about setting up his old chief's rig, 7500, as an assistant chiefs rig. Gregg's new chiefs rig is now officially in service. Jason Warner will be the new assistant chief, and will have use of the old chiefs rig.
- The department is purchasing new bags for their medical gear. They are consolidating all their gear into one bag, rather than having three different bags. The new bags would be deployed on each of the rigs, and would cost about \$4,500 total.

Flavia motioned to approve the purchase of new medical bags for \$4,500. Kevin seconded the motion. All approved, the motion passed.

- Gregg introduced his plan to replace the rescue truck with a smaller truck. He wants to eliminate the air tanks and focus more on the medical, rescue and extrication. He is looking for something with a Ford 550 chassis. Gregg thinks that the department could get about \$40K to \$45,000 for the old rescue. Pete said that he would like to have Gregg look into trading in the old rescue. Gregg says that he doubts that a manufacturer would take a trade in. However, there are companies that will advertise your apparatus for you. Jason has been investigating various manufacturers. Pete would like to see a proposal, and also have a loan put together for the next meeting.
- Gregg also said he would like to look into replacing one of the structure engines in the future.

- The auto extrication tools need to be replaced fairly soon. That will cost around \$25,000 per set. He said they might get a grant for one set.
- Gregg would like to replace the SCBAs that the department uses. He said they are looking for a grant to purchase those. He said that Chris has been successful in getting some grants for the department.
- Calfire is replacing all of their handheld and mobile radios with a new 2,000 channel Relm radio. They expect fire agencies that participate in strike teams to eventually purchase the same brand of radio for their engines that they send out on strike teams.
- There are a few people interested in purchasing the old fire engine (7571). It needs some work, but it still runs well. The board members concurred that the district doesn't want to put anymore money in it, and just sell it "as is."

10. Closed Session

None.

11. Open Session after Closed Session

None.

12. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at: 7:10pm, the next meeting is on July 16, 2020.