



**South Coast Fire Protection District**  
P.O. Box 334 Gualala, California 95445 (707)884-4700

Minutes from the Regular Meeting on November 17, 2022  
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, and Flavia de Oliveira  
Absent: Director Chuckie Sorensen

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

None.

**4. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting**

**Kevin Callanan motioned to approve the minutes from the last meeting on September 15<sup>th</sup> (the regular meeting in October was cancelled due to lack of a quorum). Rick O'Neil seconded the motion. Yeas: Kevin Callanan, Rick O'Neil, Flavia de Oliveira, Pete Slunaker. Nays: none. The motion passed: 4 Yeas, and 0 Nays.**

**5. Financial Report:**

The financial report that our accounting agency prepared reflects our finances through the end of September. They said that they could give us more current numbers that have come in since then, but since some of the October statements had not come in yet, the report would not be as accurate. The board said that they would like to see the most recent information available knowing that some of the income and expenses might not be reflected in the report. Jason said that there is between \$180,000 to \$200,000 in accounts receivable still due in from strike team participation. We also have another \$62,000 in payroll for strike team work as well. At the end of December, we should also get our first check from property tax assessments. As of the end of September we had just under \$488,000, total, in our West America bank accounts. Our new auditor, Larry Bain, will be conducting an audit beginning in January.

**6. Old Business: Discussion / Action on Updates**

**Surplus Equipment**— Engine 7572 was sold for \$20,000. No offers on the two jet skis yet.

**7. New Business: Discussion / Action**

- a) **Appointment of a representative to attend the Mendocino County Association of Fire Districts meetings**--Flavia de Oliveira volunteered to be the representative for our district. Jason, who has been attending the meetings thus far, said he would email the chair of the Association to announce the appointment.
- A motion was made by Rick to appoint Flavia de Oliveira as the representative from South Coast FPD and vest her with the authority to vote on issues presented at Mendocino County Association of Fire Districts meetings. Kevin seconded the**

**motion. Yeas: Flavia de Oliveira, Rick O'Neil, Kevin Callanan, and Pete Slunaker. Nays: None. The motion passed: 4 yeas, and 0 Nays.**

- b) **Strategic Planning**—Jason said he is working on overall goals that he would like to achieve in a 5, 10 or 20-year period. He asked for input from the board. He said that if Measure P passes, it would provide somewhere around \$125,000 a year to our district for at least ten years. He would like to use those funds to supplement the stipend program as well as for capital improvements. He is also looking into how we could secure funding to keep our station where it is by purchasing a portion of the parcel that it is on. Pete Slunaker said that he would favor hiring additional staffing to ensure coverage during working hours. Other board members said that the people that are moving up here now seem to expect reliable essential services and aren't prepared for the complications that arise from reliance on volunteer services; and having paid staffing would help us provide consistency in response times.
- c) **FirstNet Phone**—FirstNet is a wireless phone network for first responders that is funded by the Federal government and offered in our area through AT&T. It is a separate network that supposedly will continue to operate in an emergency situation even if civilian network services go down. The cost of the service would be about \$45 a month. The board favored the fire department signing on with the service and getting a phone or Jason.

**8. Chief's Report:**

- a) Call volume is down from last year.
- b) Cal Fire is calling the fire season officially over at midnight tonight which will affect burn permit requirements. Residents will still be required to get burn permits online through Air Quality Management District, but they will no longer need a Cal Fire permit. Cal Fire will also be downsizing their facilities for the winter.

**9. Directors Comments:**

None.

**10. Closed Session:**

None.

**11. Open Session after Closed Session:**

None.

**12. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 5:40pm. Next Meeting is on December 15, 2022