

Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District
Regular Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes May 19, 2021



These minutes reflect the order in which items appeared on the meeting agenda and do not necessarily reflect the order in which items were considered.

President Ashcraft called to order the regular session of the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District Board of Directors at 1:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Fire Marshal Donner led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Directors Present: Ashcraft, Malin, Stine, Tanner

Directors Absent: Hillgren

Staff Present: Fire Chief Fred Cox; Battalion Chief Bruce Sherwood; Battalion Chief Bret Davidson; Fire Marshal Marlene Donner; Volunteer Recruitment & Retention Coordinator Chief Frank Twohy; and Manager, Finance & Administration/ Board Clerk Alicea Caccavo

MOTION BY DIRECTOR MALIN, SECOND BY DIRECTOR STINE, and CARRIED 4 AYES; 0 NOES; 1 ABSENT; 0 ABSTAIN to move Item 6c to the beginning of the meeting.

6c. Acceptance of Donation

To acknowledge and accept receipt of the following donations from the Rancho Santa Fe Fire District Foundation for:

- i. Maintenance of Fire Wise Garden at Fire Station 6 - \$2,567.53
- ii. Purchase of thirteen (13) personal Thermal Imaging Cameras (TIC) - \$7,566.00

Staff Report 21-11

Chief Twohy presented the donation from the Rancho Santa Fe Fire District Foundation for the purchase of thermal imaging cameras and the maintenance of the Fire Wise Garden at Station 6. President Ashcraft acknowledged how important and helpful the Foundation has been to the District and how the Board sincerely appreciates the Foundation.

1. Special Presentation

- a. David B. Dewey Firefighter of the Year –

President Ashcraft explained the background on the award and the incredible recipients of the award. The winner of the award for 2021 is Battalion Chief Bret Davidson. Chief Davidson thanked the board and was honored to receive the award.

2. Motion waiving reading in full of all Resolutions/Ordinances

MOTION BY DIRECTOR MALIN, SECOND BY DIRECTOR STINE, and CARRIED 4 AYES; 0 NOES; 1 ABSENT; 0 ABSTAIN to waive reading in full of all resolutions and/or ordinances.

3. Consent Calendar

MOTION BY DIRECTOR MALIN, SECOND BY DIRECTOR STINE, and CARRIED 4 AYES; 0 NOES; 1 ABSENT; 0 ABSTAIN to approve the consent calendar as presented.

- a. Board of Directors Minutes
 - Board of Directors minutes of April 21, 2021
- b. Receive and File
 - Monthly/Quarterly Reports

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(1) List of Demands Check 33829 thru 33914, Electronic File Transfers (EFT), and Wire Transfer(s) for the period April 2021 totaling:	\$ 255,564.65
(2) Wire Transfer(s) period April 2021	\$ 415,498.57
Payroll for the period April 2021	\$ <u>689,423.85</u>
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	\$1,360,487.07

(3) Activity Reports – April 2021

- (a) Operations
- (b) Training
- (c) Fire Prevention
- (d) Correspondence: None

c. Surplus Equipment: Type III Brush Rig ID# 0262– Staff Report 21-08

4. **Public Comment**

None

5. **Old Business**

None

6. **New Business**

a. Article XIII B California Constitution Appropriation Limit

To discuss and/or approve the change in population for the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District appropriations limit. Staff Report 21-09

Manager Caccavo reported that this is an annual calculation used to ensure the District does not exceed the appropriations limit set by State and Local governments based on population and changes in cost of living. She recommended that the Board of Directors select the following formula to calculate the District's new appropriation limit for the 2021/2022 fiscal year:

Change in California per capital personal income (5.73%) for the Cost of Living Factor, and

Change in population within San Diego County average (-.37%).

MOTION BY DIRECTOR STINE, SECOND BY DIRECTOR MALIN, and CARRIED 4 AYES; 0 NOES; 1 ABSENT; 0 ABSTAIN to accept staff's recommendation for calculation of the District's appropriations limit.

b. Authorization to Purchase Ballistic Helmets– Staff Report 21-10 and Attachments

Chief Sherwood summarized the staff report. He recommended the proposal from Hard Head Veterans to protect the safety personnel.

MOTION BY DIRECTOR STINE, SECOND BY DIRECTOR MALIN, and CARRIED 4 AYES; 0 NOES; 1 ABSENT; 0 ABSTAIN to authorize Fire Chief to purchase ballistic helmets using CSA 17 funding.

c. Acceptance of Donation

Moved to start of Agenda

7. **Resolution/Ordinance**

a. Resolution No. 2021-11

Manager Caccavo reported that this is the resolution that indicates the selection of the method chosen for the Gann Limit.

MOTION BY DIRECTOR TANNER, SECOND BY DIRECTOR MALIN, and ADOPTED Resolution No. 2021-11 entitled "Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District Determining the 2021/2022 Appropriations of Tax Proceeds" on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Ashcraft, Malin, Stine, Tanner
NOES: None
ABSENT: Hillgren
ABSTAIN: None

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b. Resolution No. 2021-12

Manager Caccavo informed the Board that this resolution required by the County of San Diego must be renewed annually. If adopted, the special tax will continue at \$10.00 per benefit unit for FY21.

MOTION BY DIRECTOR MALIN, SECOND BY DIRECTOR TANNER, and ADOPTED Resolution No. 2021-11 entitled "Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection Setting Benefit Charges for fiscal year 21-22" on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Ashcraft, Malin, Stine, Tanner
NOES: None
ABSENT: Hillgren
ABSTAIN: None

c. Resolution No. 2021-13

Manager Caccavo informed the Board that this resolution required by the County of San Diego must be renewed annually to continue the collection of the voter approved special assessment in the tax rate areas within the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove reorganization. This assessment has a built-in cost of living increase that is 3.37% for FY22. If adopted, the special assessment will be \$168.65 per benefit unit for FY21/22.

MOTION BY DIRECTOR TANNER, SECOND BY DIRECTOR STINE, and ADOPTED Resolution No. 2021-11 entitled "Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection Adopting Levies for Special Taxes to be collected on the Tax Roll for Fiscal Year 2021/2022" on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Ashcraft, Malin, Stine, Tanner
NOES: None
ABSENT: Hillgren
ABSTAIN: None

8. Oral Report

a. **Fire Chief – Cox**

Fire Chief Cox reported that he is working with Legal to get forced abatement for Rancho Cielo Estates that are in bankruptcy.

Staff is working on two (2) Cal Fire grants in Escondido Creek and in San Elijo area; this is a joint effort with San Marcos Fire, Escondido Fire and Rancho Santa Fe Fire PD. These are being done through a conservancy. Chief is working with staffers from the State Assembly members for Covid relief funds.

b. **Operations – Deputy Chief**

In Chief McQuead's absence, Manager Caccavo confirmed that he had nothing else to add to his report.

c. **Volunteer – Volunteer Recruitment & Retention Coordinator**

Chief Twohy reported that the reservists donated 576 hours to the communities. Currently adding four (4) new reserves.

d. **Training – Battalion Chief**

Chief Sherwood reported all scheduled training hours are complete; working on wildland refresher training. Battalion Chiefs test coming up on Monday, May 24th. There is a new hire academy starting on June 16; reserves to be included in that academy. Chief Cox confirmed that the District will be promoting two (2) Battalion Chiefs, two (2) Captains, two (2) Engineers and three (3) Firefighters by around July 1st. The District should be fully staffed going into fire season.

e. **Fire Prevention – Fire Marshal**

Fire Marshal Donner reported that on or after July 1 property sellers in high severity fire zones will have to notify the buyers of a property that a defensible space inspection has been done and that the property is compliant per Assembly Bill 38. The new State Responsibility Area (SRA) High Fire Hazards Severity Map showing wind patterns should be out by July 1st. On or around January 1st, the seller of a home built before January 1, 2010 will need to disclose to the buyer what retrofits have been or need to be done to the home.

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She also summarized properties that need to come into compliance. Started defensible spaces inspections are now being worked on in the East side of the District.

f. Manager, Finance & Administration

Human Resources: *Manager Caccavo reported on recruitments discussed previously and included the Front Office Coordinator that the District expects to start June 16. The CDC relaxed the use of masks; the District plans to continue protocols in place until Cal OSHA gives direction.*

Finance: *Manager Caccavo reported that she is working on the Budget. Director Malin confirmed that the direction of the Board is looking to do an accelerated discretionary payment.*

Board Clerk: *Nothing to report.*

d. Board of Directors

- North County Dispatch JPA – Director Ashcraft reported that there will be a board meeting on May 26th.

- County Service Area – 17 – Director Stine reported that there will be a meeting on June 1st that he will be attending.

- Director Comments –

Director Malin – Discussed the Pennsylvania teachers’ pension fund and their interesting investments. Due to Covid, curious to see if California use their excess tax revenue to pay down the CalPERS unfunded actual liability for state employees. Political activity in the center of town.

Director Stine – Discussed a tumor found in his head due to electric and magnetic field (EMF) from cellular phones. Products he found to bring forward that helps eliminate EMF’s to assist with long term health of the District for employees.

9. Closed Session

Pursuant to the following section, the board met in closed session from 2:18 –2:31pm, and discussed the following:

With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to:

- a. California Government Code Section 54956.8 - CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS

Property: 16936 El Fuego

Agency Negotiator: Fred Cox, Fire Chief

Negotiating Parties: RSF Association and North County Dispatch Joint Powers Authority

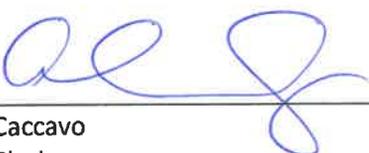
Under Negotiation: Instruction to negotiators concerning price and term

All board members listed, Manager Caccavo and Chief Cox attended and participated in this discussion.

Upon reconvening to open session, President Ashcraft announced that direction was given to the Chief and there was no action taken by the board.

10. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:38pm.



Alicea Caccavo
Board Clerk



James H. Ashcraft
President