

Clarksburg Fire Protection District
52902 Clarksburg Avenue, P.O. Box 513
Clarksburg, CA 95612
Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
April 4, 2024, 4:30 p.m. (via In-Person and Zoom)
Meeting Minutes

Chairman Pruner called the meeting to order at 4:37 p.m.

Members present:

Joe Gomes, Nancy Kirchhoff, Mark Pruner, Steve Pylman, and Bob Webber
Richard Bagby, Commission Secretary

Fire personnel present:

Chief Craig Hamblin, Assistant Chief Richard Bagby, Captain Peter Hunn, and Firefighter Joe Gomes.

Public present:

Ryan Bogle; Joe Pick, Executive Director, Firefighter's Burn Institute; Lulia Bodeanu, Deputy to Supervisor Oscar Villegas.

Agenda approval:

It was moved by Commissioner Pylman and seconded by Commissioner Gomes to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Firefighters' Burn Institute:

Chairman Pruner Introduced Mr. Joe Pick, Executive Director of the Firefighters' Burn Institute of Sacramento. Mr. Pick provided a summary of his history in the fire service and expressed his appreciation for the work of the fire service, large agencies and small, in the Sacramento area. Director Pick outlined the mission of the Firefighter Burn Institute and delineated a number of the services provided. Following questions and answers, Mr. Pick presented the Board with a participation plaque recognizing the Firefighters' Association work on the "Boot Drive" of February 17, 2024.

Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 7, 2024:

Following discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Gomes and seconded by Commissioner Kirchhoff to approve the Minutes of the March 7, 2024 Regular Meeting, as presented. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Approval of the uses of expenditures for the month of February 2024 in the amount of \$3,577.35:

Following review and discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Pylman and seconded by Commissioner Webber to approve the uses of expenditures for the month of February 2024, in the amount of \$3,577.35. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Public Comment:

Captain Hunn reported that he has received information from the West Sacramento Fire Department that they are about to declare, as surplus, a Type 6 Brush Engine that would be well suited to the needs of the Clarksburg District. The Captain added that this is a 2000 model year, Ford 550 chassis, with foam would be well suited to the narrow driveways low hanging tree limbs, smaller fires, and the need for a District "command vehicle". A brief discussion ensued regarding the various provisions that may be associated with a donation or purchase. Captain Hunn stated that he will continue to monitor the status of this apparatus.

Reports from Commissioners:

There were no reports from Commissioners.

Closed Session:

A closed session was not held.

Grant/Allocation Application Status:

Chairman Pruner reported that the 2024 United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) bill was somewhat difficult to navigate given the various sections, sub-sections, and projects. Notwithstanding, the Chair reported that our District received an allocation of \$432,291.00 for the purpose of purchasing a new Water Tender. Secretary Bagby reported that, earlier today, he attended a webinar on the procedures for completing the necessary paperwork to receive the award. The Secretary reported that the USDA presenters were knowledgeable, clear, and concise with the information they provided. A recording of the webinar will be made available within two weeks. Asst. Chief Bagby reported that he has heard nothing regarding the Yolo County Office of Emergency Services State Homeland Security Grant or the Regional, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Aid to Firefighters Grant (AFG) application for multi-band portable radios. Chief Hamblin reported that he and Lieutenant Paul have completed an application to receive a pallet of drinking water from Anheuser-Bush. Captain Hunn reported that, as we have already funded the replacement of our two water tenders, he plans to revise our application with the Wintun Nation to more accurately reflect the current needs of the District.

Sacramento-Sierra Arson Task Force Membership:

Assistant Chief Bagby presented the opportunity for our District to be part of the Sacramento-Sierra Arson Task Force. Membership would provide a regional team of fire investigators to investigate the cause and origin of fires within our District. Cost of membership is \$100 per year. Both Chiefs Hamblin and Bagby recommended being a part of this organization. Chief Hamblin clarified that any investigation report is only valid if approved by our Fire Chief and delineated additional procedures and benefits of this membership. Following questions, it was moved by Commissioner Kirchhoff and seconded by Commissioner Pylman to apply for membership in the Sacramento-Sierra Arson Task Force. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Apparatus Replacement Schedule:

Chairman Pruner expressed his view that, as apparatus replacement has been our single largest expenditure, this item is an integral part of the next agenda item, the consideration of a new Proposition 218 Benefit Assessment. Notwithstanding, Commissioner Pylman presented the most recent revision of the Apparatus Replacement Plan. The Commissioner reported that this revision more accurately reflects the District's treasury balances and recent allocations from the State and Federal governments. An extended discussion took place that included, but was not limited to, the variability of our income, expenses, and actual needs from year to year. Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Board that, regardless of varying circumstances, the District make every effort to budget a consistent amount of money to the Apparatus Replacement Account each year.

Consideration of a new Proposition 218 Benefit Assessment for the Clarksburg Fire Protection District:

Chairman Pruner expressed concern regarding the County retained Consultant's Engineer's Report. The Chairman reminded the Board that it was by consensus of the Board at the last Regular Meeting that the report did not adequately consider our District's unique distribution of agriculture, hospitality, and residential land. In addition, the Chairman restated his concern over the consultant's un-willingness to reconsider the Engineers Report for the Clarksburg Fire District. Anticipating the possibility of this Board asking SCI Consulting and the County for a 30-day extension of the current Proposition 218 process, the Chairman distributed a proposed schedule outlining a timeline for a 30-day extension. The proposed plan moved the ballot tabulation to a Special Meeting of this Board to be held on July 25, 2024 with the actual submission of the new direct charges to the Yolo County Tax Collector by August 10, 2024. Following a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Board that Chairman Pruner contact the County and request such an extension. Under the assumption of a 30-day extension in the Proposition 218 process, an extended discussion ensued regarding, the possibility of commissioning a dedicated Engineer's Report, access to County matching funds, flexibility in the current County commissioned system, a comparison of existing assessment with that proposed, a realistic total for the proposed assessment, the importance of the District's credibility with the public, an extended interpretation of "good faith progress", and the overall possibility (under the existing Engineer's Report) of a new Proposition 218 Benefit Assessment being approved by the landowners. Following, the Board focused on the possibility of commissioning a dedicated Engineer's Study to address specifically the characteristics and needs of the Clarksburg District. At the end of the aforementioned discussion, the Board proposed questions to be forwarded to the County Administrators Office; 1) If the District augments this process by commissioning an independent Engineers Report, delaying the election beyond this fiscal year, will the District be given credit for maintaining appropriate progress thus, qualifying for County matching funds for this fiscal year; and 2) Is there a County approved list of professional engineers that must be utilized to develop an Engineers Report for a Proposition 218 Benefit Assessment? Chairman Pruner requested that Ms. Bodeanu forward these questions to County officials.

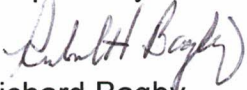
Chief's Report:

Chief Hamblin reported that call volume is at an average for this point in the year. The Chief further reported that the training of the 6 remaining probationary firefighters is going well and that he is working on Developmental Impact Fee (DIF) fee collection for one or more projects in the area. The Chief delineated a number of issues involved in the assessment of DIF fees. The Chief concluded his report by reminding the Board that the Ladies Night Dinner will be held on Saturday, April 27th. The Ladies Night program will be a presentation on Clarksburg's *1883 Schoolhouse*.

Chairman Pruner thanked all present for their time in consideration of the new Proposition 218 Benefit Assessment.

With no further business before the Commission, it was moved by Commissioner Kirchhoff and seconded by Commissioner Webber to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote. The meeting was adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard Bagby
Secretary to the Commission