

MINUTES

**FIVE CITIES FIRE AUTHORITY
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2019
CITY OF GROVER BEACH COUNCIL CHAMBERS
154 SOUTH EIGHTH STREET
GROVER BEACH, CALIFORNIA**

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Nicolls called the Five Cities Fire Authority (FCFA) Board meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

FLAG SALUTE:

Chair Nicolls led the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL:

FCFA Board: Chair Barbara Nicolls, Vice Chair Karen White and Board Member Lan George.

FCFA Staff Present: Fire Chief Stephen Lieberman, General Counsel David P. Hale and Clerk to the Board Tricia Meyers.

AGENDA REVIEW:

Action: Vice Chair White moved, Board Member George seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to approve the Five Cities Fire Authority's Agenda by a voice vote.

AYES: White, George, Nicolls
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Consideration of Approval of Minutes (MEYERS)

Action: Approved the minutes of the Board Meeting on May 17, 2019 with a voice vote.

AYES: White, Nicolls
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: George

COMMUNITY COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Chair Nicolls asked if the Board Members had any questions. She then invited members of the public who wished to comment on any Consent Agenda item to do so at this time. No comments received.

Action: Board Member George moved, and Vice Chair White seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed on the following voice vote:

AYES: George, White, Nicolls
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

1. Consideration of Audited Financial Reports for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018.

Action: Received and filed the audited financial reports.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

a. Public Hearing: 2019 Weed Abatement Protest Hearing and Issuance of Abatement Order.

Chief Lieberman presented the properties on the list for the weed abatement protest hearing. He reported that there were triple the amount of properties on the abatement list compared to the last five years. This could be an issue compared to the \$12,000.00 budget available. Chair Nicolls asked if anyone would like to come forward to protest being on the abatement order. Two members of the public did come forward; however it was confirmed that they were not on the list for abatement.

Action: Board Member George moved and Vice Chair White seconded the motion to close the public hearing and issue an abatement order to the Fire Chief to have the weeds removed on the properties reported on the list.

AYES: George, White, Nicolls

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

CONTINUED BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Consideration of Fiscal Year 2019-20 Budget.** Chief Lieberman presented the staff report for the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020. Chair Nicolls asked for public comment. Sean McMahon, President of Local 4403, thanked the Board and expressed appreciation for the three full-time Firefighter positions that will start in the new fiscal year. He also explained that this is not an increase to staffing levels, but transitioning part time positions to full time. Vice Chair White moved and Board Member George seconded the motion to adopt the FY 2019-2020 budget. The motion passed on the following roll call vote:

Action:

AYES: White, George, Nicolls

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:

None.

GENERAL COUNSEL ITEMS:

None.

FIRE CHIEF ITEMS:

- a. Firefighter recruitment will start today. The tentative start date is the end of August 2019.
- b. An FCFA Captain experienced a medical emergency while at work. Chief Lieberman thanked Engineer LoPresti and Firefighter Rawson for their efforts during this difficult situation.
- c. Truck 5 is being road tested today. Annual ladder testing needs to take place prior to Truck 5 going into service.
- d. Captain Ferguson is an Acting Battalion Chief for a few days this week.
- e. Chief Lieberman has applied for grant funding to create a Community Wildfire Protection Plan(CWPP). The county has adopted a CWPP and local jurisdictions have opportunities to create their own, which will help educate the community on how to avoid wildfires. The grant would focus on the open space areas of Arroyo Grande.
- f. Chief Lieberman is working with the county regarding Class B firefighting foam that is stored at the Oceano Airport. The County of San Luis Obispo has environmental concerns.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS:

Vice Chair White reported that Oceano Community Services District is planning on having a special tax election in March of 2020. Board Member George reported that the City of Arroyo Grande council approved the proposed Five Cities Fire Authority FY 19/20 budget and continues to support FCFA.

CLOSED SESSION:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Nicolls adjourned the meeting at 10:43 a.m. The next Board meeting is scheduled for July 19, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. at the City of Grover Beach Council Chambers, 154 South Eighth Street, Grover Beach, California.

/s/ Barbara Nicolls, Chair

ATTEST:

/s/ Tricia Meyers, Clerk to the Board

(Approved at the Special Board Meeting on 07/26/19)