

MINUTES

FIVE CITIES FIRE AUTHORITY SPECIAL BOARD MEETING FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2020

Due to the County of San Luis Obispo's Executive Order to shelter at home and Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order N-25-20, members of the Board and staff participated in this meeting via a teleconference. Members of the public were invited to participate in the meeting by listening. They could comment electronically by submitting public comments to the Clerk to the Board at tmeyers@fivecitiesfire.org. or provide public comment during the meeting by calling 1(833)611-0393.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

FLAG SALUTE:

Vice Chair Storton led the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL:

FCFA Board: Chair Karen White, Vice Chair Keith Storton and Board Member Jeff Lee.

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

AGENDA REVIEW:

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

AYES: Storton, Lee, White

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

None.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

None.

CONTINUED BUSINESS:

- a. **Consideration of Approval of Successor Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and A Resolution with the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 4403 for FY 2020/21.** Chief Lieberman presented the staff report and explained that this item was first brought to the Board on May 15, 2020 and was voted to be a continued item. Vice Chair Storton requested the item be continued so he could take this information to Arroyo Grande City Council for feedback. Chair White asked for public comment. Aaron Henkel, Arroyo Grande, does not support the increase in wages for the fire fighters and suggested looking at contracting services with Cal Fire. Vice Chair Storton shared his appreciation for the Board allowing him to take the time and extend this item to today. He expressed his appreciation for Local 4403 and supports the pay increase.

Action: Vice Chair Storton moved, and Board Member Lee seconded the motion to adopt a resolution to approve a successor Memorandum of Understanding with the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 4403 for the period of May 15, 2020 to June 30, 2021. The voted passed on the following roll call vote.

AYES: Storton, Lee, White
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Consideration of Fiscal Year 2020-21 Preliminary Budget.** Chief Lieberman presented the staff report for the Five Cities Fire Authority preliminary budget. Funding levels were to continue to be constant through FY 2020-21 per the second amendment of the Memorandum of Agreement. Staff identified potential changes to both expenditures and revenues. Chair White asked for public comment. Julie Tacker suggested that an ad hoc committee be formed to review the Five Cities Fire Authority(FCFA) budget and strategic plan to find further ways to cut costs. Sean McMahon, President of Local 4403, expressed his concerns over any further cuts and stated FCFA is the leanest fire department in the surrounding counties. Board discussion ensued regarding the need for a fund balance policy in the future. The Board also directed the Fire Chief to include \$25,000.00 in the FY 20/21 budget for a PERS actuarial report to be completed. This will identify assets and liabilities of the fire authority. This information may be necessary should a member community decide to leave the Joint Powers Authority.

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:

None.

GENERAL COUNSEL ITEMS:

None.

FIRE CHIEF ITEMS:

- a. Chief Lieberman reported that dispatch reports show that 12.7% of calls are COVID-19 related.
- b. Mandatory meeting for non-profits groups that are selling safe and sane fireworks will be held at Station 1 on June 1st. Social distancing guidelines will be followed at the meeting, as well as reviewed for those in charge of their booths.
- c. Chief Lieberman was a panelist for the City of Templeton Fire Chief recruitment.
- d. A revised budget and a draft Memorandum of Agreement document will be on Five Cities Fire Authority's June 19, 2020 agenda.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

CLOSED SESSION:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair White adjourned the meeting at 11:17 a.m. The next Board meeting is scheduled for June 19, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. via teleconference.

/s/ Karen White, Chair

ATTEST:

/s/ Tricia Meyers, Clerk to the Board

(Approved at Board Meeting on 07/17/2020)