

MINUTES

FIVE CITIES FIRE AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 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:

Board Member Lee led the Flag Salute.

MOMENT OF SILENCE:

Chair White asked for a moment of silence for the firefighter that died in the line of duty on September 17, 2020 in the El Dorado Fire.

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Consideration of Approval of Minutes

Action: Approved the minutes of the Board Meeting of June 19, 2020 and July 17, 2020 with a voice vote.

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

COMMUNITY COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Chair White asked for public comment. No public comment was received. She then asked if the Board had any comments. Vice Chair Storton asked if there are any concerns with the fleet if a fire engine is going to be surplus. Chief Lieberman explained that the cost to restore this engine is significant. He also stated that he is working on funding strategies for vehicle replacement. Fleet longevity and maintenance is a concern. Board Member Lee asked if there was any significance regarding the fact that Engine 6694 was property of the City of Grover Beach before Five Cities Fire Authority was formed. Chief Lieberman explained that Engine 6694 title and ownership is under Five Cities Fire Authority as of the inception date of the Authority. Decisions regarding equipment is made by the Board of the Five Cities Fire Authority.

Vice Chair Storton moved and Board Member Lee seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda items. The motion passed on the following roll call vote:

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

1. Consideration of Cash Disbursement Activity.

Action: Received and filed the listing of cash disbursements for the period of July 1, 2020 through July 31, 2020 and August 1, 2020 through August 31, 2020.

2. Consideration of a Resolution Declaring Surplus Property.

Action: Adopted a Resolution declaring computer equipment as surplus and authorizing its disposal.

3. Consideration of a Resolution Declaring a 2004 Fire Engine as Surplus.

Action: Adopted a Resolution declaring Engine 6694 as surplus property and directed the Fire Chief to facilitate the sale of the vehicle.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

None.

CONTINUED BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Consideration of Exempt Employee Compensation for Battalion Chief Overtime and Incident Response Subject to Reimbursement by Outside Agencies.** Chief Lieberman explained that this report is focused on compensation for exempt employees. The request would allow a Battalion Chief to receive straight time pay of 12 hours while covering for the other Battalion Chief that may be on vacation or is sick. Currently, the Battalion Chief has to cover the other with no additional pay. The second piece of the staff report is regarding a request for exempt employees to be compensated for work in excess of a regular 8-hour work day if they are called out on a strike team assignment. Five Cities Fire Authority is reimbursed for State or Federal strike team assignments. No public comment was received.

Action: Vice Chair Storton moved, and Board Member Lee seconded the motion to adopt a resolution allowing for additional exempt employee compensation in specific circumstances and to make retroactive to June 1, 2020. The motion passed on the following roll call vote:

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

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:

None.

GENERAL COUNSEL ITEMS:

None.

FIRE CHIEF ITEMS:

- a. Chief Lieberman reported that Engineer Silva is on the August Complex fire as a heavy equipment boss; Engine 6693 is assigned to a strike team on the North Complex Fire; Chief Lieberman is assigned to a unit in Redding, CA on the Area Command team.
- b. Chief Lieberman stated that Five Cities Fire Authority needs to replace aging apparatus. The Authority will be receiving unanticipated revenues for strike team response this fiscal year. The Chief would like those funds to go towards vehicle replacement.
- c. Battalion Chief Riki Heath spoke about a new program implemented called Compliance Engine. Contractors in our area reach out to the businesses in Five Cities Fire Authorities jurisdiction to complete annual business inspections per state requirements.
- d. Chief Lieberman will schedule a finance working group meeting with Treasurer Mike Stephens and Administrative Services Director, Deanne Purcell, to discuss the operations of the Authority. Financial modeling will be the topic of discussion as well.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS:

Vice Chair Storton thanked the local and state firefighters for all the work they are doing. The Arroyo Grande Council will declare October 4th through 10th as fire prevention week. Board Member Lee thanked the firefighters as well. He also reported the City of Grover Beach had a significant water main break.

CLOSED SESSION:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair White adjourned the meeting at 10:36 a.m. The next Board meeting is scheduled for October 16, 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 11/20/2020)