

## MINUTES

### FIVE CITIES FIRE AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 2021

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 teleconference. Members of the public were invited to participate in the meeting by listening in and could comment electronically by submitting public comments to the Clerk to the Board at [tmeyers@fivecitiesfire.org](mailto:tmeyers@fivecitiesfire.org).

#### **CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Storton called the Five Cities Fire Authority (FCFA) Board meeting to order at 09:00 a.m.

#### **FLAG SALUTE:**

Chair Storton led the Flag Salute.

#### **ROLL CALL:**

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

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

#### **AGENDA REVIEW:**

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

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

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

##### **Consideration of Approval of Minutes**

**Action:** Approved the minutes of the Board Meeting on March 19, 2021 with a roll call vote.

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

#### **COMMUNITY COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS:**

None.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**1. Consideration of Cash Disbursement Activity.**

**Action:** Received and filed the listing of cash disbursements for the period of March 1, 2021 through March 31, 2021.

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

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

None.

**CONTINUED BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Consideration of a Budget Appropriation and Authorization to Acquire Replacement Fire Chief Vehicle.** Chief Lieberman presented the staff report regarding the need to replace the Fire Chief's vehicle sooner than FY 2021-22 budget. Chief Lieberman was originally planning on bringing this item to the Board in July of 2021, however there is currently an automotive industry shortage of computer chips. The shortage is related to the COVID pandemic. With fire season quickly approaching, Chief Lieberman is requesting to purchase a replacement vehicle this fiscal year to avoid further delays. The funding is currently in the Five Cities Fire Authority fund balance for vehicle replacement. Chair Storton asked if we can shop local or follow a pre-negotiated government rate. Chief Lieberman confirmed it will be a local Chevrolet dealership and they will match the government rates.

**Action:** Board Member White moved, and Vice Chair Lee seconded the motion to approve a resolution approving a budget appropriation and authorize the Fire Chief to execute needed agreements to purchase a replacement vehicle. No public comment received. The motion passed on the following roll call vote:

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

- b. Consideration of a Purchasing Policy for the Five Cities Fire Authority.** Chief Lieberman presented a staff report for a purchasing policy. He explained when the Joint Powers Authority was formed, it was agreed upon that Five Cities Fire Authority(FCFA) would follow the City of Arroyo Grande's policies and procedures until they adopted their own. The policy presented is tailored toward FCFA and its needs. No public comment was received.

**Action:** Board Member White moved, and Vice Chair Lee seconded the motion to approve a purchasing policy for the Five Cities Fire Authority to acquire equipment, goods and services. No public comment received. The motion passed on the following roll call vote:

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

**BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:**

None.

**GENERAL COUNSEL ITEMS:**

None.

**FIRE CHIEF ITEMS:**

- a. Chief Lieberman plans on presenting a draft budget and a staff report for a Type III Engine at the May 21, 2021 Board meeting.
- b. Chief Lieberman will be meeting with the finance working group on April 22, 2021.
- c. Department staff are heavily engaged in multiple training opportunities and staff development.
- d. FCFA staff involvement in the vaccine clinics has significantly decreased. FCFA has submitted financial reports to the county for reimbursement of staff costs.
- e. Chief Lieberman has scheduled surgery in October and will be out for three weeks.

**BOARD COMMUNICATIONS:**

Vice Chair Lee expressed his gratitude for regionalism, including FCFA and its Joint Powers Agreement. He supports the regional partnership of Arroyo Grande, Grover Beach and Oceano.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

The Board adjourned to a Closed Session at 09:25 a.m. concerning the following item:

- a. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS** pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6:

Agency Negotiators: Che Johnson – Law Firm of Liebert Cassidy Whitmore  
Nicole Valentine – Accounting Manager – Arroyo Grande  
Karla Mattocks – Human Resources Coordinator-Grover Beach  
Tashina Ureno – Human Resources Manager-Arroyo Grande

Represented Employees: International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Local 4403

**RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION:**

Chief Lieberman called the meeting back to order at 09:32 a.m. with no reportable action.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Chair Storton adjourned the meeting at 09:32 a.m. The next Board meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. via teleconference.

/s/ Keith Storton, Chair

ATTEST:

/s/ Tricia Meyers, Clerk to the Board

(Approved at Board Meeting on 05/21/2021)