

## MINUTES

### FIVE CITIES FIRE AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING MONDAY AUGUST 21, 2023

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

Management Committee representative Bronson called the Five Cities Fire Authority (FCFA) Board meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

#### **FLAG SALUTE:**

Chair Rushing led the Flag Salute.

#### **ROLL CALL:**

FCFA Board: Chair Rushing, Vice Chair George, Board Member Ray Russom and Board Member Weirick.

FCFA Staff Present: Management Committee Matthew Bronson and Bill Robison, Fire Chief Steve Lieberman, General Counsel Dave Hale and Clerk to the Board, Tricia Meyers.

#### **AGENDA REVIEW:**

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

**AYES:** George, Ray Russom, Weirick, Rushing  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** None  
**ABSTAIN:** None

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

None.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Action:** Vice Chair George moved, and Board Member Weirick seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. No public comment was received. The motion passed on the following roll call vote:

**AYES:** George, Weirick, Ray Russom, Rushing  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** None  
**ABSTAIN:** None

#### **1. Consideration of Approval of Minutes.**

**Action:** Approved minutes of the Board Meeting of June 22, 2023.

#### **2. Consideration of Cash Disbursement Activity.**

**Action:** Received and filed the listing of cash disbursements for the period of June 1, 2023 through July 31, 2023.

**3. Consideration of Side Letter to Existing Memorandum of Understanding – Five Cities Fire Authority and International Association of Fire Fighters Local 4403 Related to Increased Minimum Daily Staffing.**

**Action:** The Board directed the Fire Chief to execute a side letter agreement with Local 4403 to increase minimum daily staffing levels due to the addition of two (2) additional Fire Engineer positions.

**CONTINUED BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Consideration of Board Approval of Fire Prevention Agreements and Delegation of Fire Inspection Services with the Cities of Arroyo Grande and Grover Beach.**

Management Committee representative Bronson presented a staff report regarding the delegation of fire inspection services from the Fire Chief to the cities of Arroyo Grande and Grover Beach due to lack of staffing and funding within Five Cities Fire Authority. If approved, these agreements will be routed for approval by the respective city councils. No public comment was received.

**Action:** Board Member Ray Russom moved, and Vice Chair George seconded the motion to approve a Fire Prevention Agreement for Contract Services and delegation of fire inspection services from the Fire Chief with the cities of Arroyo Grande and Grover Beach, and directed staff to refer the agreements for City Council consideration and recommended approval.

**AYES:** Ray Russom, George, Weirick, Rushing  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** None  
**ABSTAIN:** None

**BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:**

None.

**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE / FIRE CHIEF ITEMS:**

- a. Management Committee representative Bronson detailed the substantial progress that has been made within the Authority by adding additional positions of Firefighters and a Battalion Chief.
- b. The new Type 3 Brush engine is now in service. It already was taken by a strike team crew to the Plant Fire.
- c. The SLO County Board will be discussing the possible service agreement with Five Cities Fire Authority to provide service to Oceano under a contract. LAFCO will make the final decision in early 2024.
- d. Interim City Manager for Arroyo Grande, Bill Robeson, was introduced.
- e. Chief Lieberman gave a status update on equipment.
- f. Captain Joe Silva is a single resource on the August Complex Fire, along with Engineer Joe Farnsworth.
- g. Chief Lieberman reported that the bay doors and generator replacement projects at Station 1 are moving forward.
- h. FCFA received a grant in the amount of \$50,000 to go towards extrication equipment.
- i. Chief Lieberman announced he is retiring in December.

**GENERAL COUNSEL ITEMS:**

None.

**BOARD COMMUNICATIONS:**

Board Member Weirick thanked the Firefighters for their response to a member of the public during their time of need at an incident at a park in Grover Beach.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

No public comment was received. The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:25 p.m. concerning the following item:

**a. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATIONS per Government Code Section 54957.6:**

Meet with FCFA-designated negotiators described below. Negotiation will include salary, compensation and benefits:

1. Employee Organization: International Association of Fire Fighters Local 4403
  - a. Agency-designated negotiators: Shelline K. Bennett, Special Labor Counsel; Matthew Bronson, Management Committee; Bill Robeson, Management Committee; Tashina Ureno, Human Resources Officer; Nicole Valentine, Treasurer
2. Unrepresented Management Employees
  - a. Agency-designated negotiators: Shelline K. Bennett, Special Labor Counsel; Matthew Bronson, Management Committee; Bill Robeson, Management Committee; Tashina Ureno, Human Resources Officer; Nicole Valentine, Treasurer
3. Fire Chief
  - a. Agency-designated negotiators: Shelline K. Bennett, Special Labor Counsel; Matthew Bronson, Management Committee; Bill Robeson, Management Committee; Tashina Ureno, Human Resources Officer; Nicole Valentine, Treasurer

**RECONVENED TO OPEN SESSION:**

Chair Rushing called the meeting back to order at 5:49 p.m. with nothing to report.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Chair Rushing adjourned the meeting at 5:49 p.m.

/s/ Daniel Rushing, Chair

ATTEST:

/s/ Tricia Meyers, Clerk to the Board

(Approved at Board Meeting on 10/16/2023)