

## MINUTES

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

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

Chair Storton called the in-person 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 roll call vote.

**AYES:** Lee, White, Storton

**NOES:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

#### **CLOSED SESSION:**

The Board adjourned to a Closed Session at 09:01 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:**

General Counsel Thurmond called the meeting back to order at 09:08 a.m. with no reportable action.

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

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

**Action:** Approved the minutes of the Board Meeting on May 21, 2021 and the Special Board Meeting on June 11, 2021 with a roll call vote.

**AYES:** Lee, White, Storton

**NOES:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

**COMMUNITY COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS:**

None

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Chair Storton asked if there was any public comment. No public comment was received. Chair Storton pulled item 3. from the Consent Agenda. Staff responded to questions from the Board and moved to approve item 3.

**3. Consideration of Changes to Unrepresented Employee Compensation.**

**Action:** 1) Adopted a Resolution to increase compensation for unrepresented management employees and the unrepresented part-time Office Assistant II position. 2) Approved to appropriate an additional \$13,500 from the fund balance to reflect the 3% increase.

Vice Chair Lee moved and Board Member White seconded the motion to approve Consent Agenda Item 3. The motion passed on the following roll call vote:

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

Board Member White moved and Vice Chair Lee seconded the motion to approve the following Consent Agenda items 1, 2, and 4. The motion passed on the following roll call vote:

**AYES:** White, Lee, Storton  
**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 June 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021.

**2. Consideration of a Resolution Adopting Revised Job Descriptions for the Positions of Fire Captain, Fire Engineer, and Firefighter.**

**Action:** Adopted a Resolution revising job descriptions for positions of Fire Captain, Fire Engineer, and Firefighter.

**4. Consideration of Approval of Successor Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and a Resolution with the International Association of Fire Fighters(IAFF) Local 4403 for FY 2021-22.**

**Action:** Approved a successor MOU with the IAFF Local 4403 and approved a Resolution.

**PROTEST HEARINGS:**

- a. **Public Hearing and Consideration of Resolution Confirming Weed Abatement Cost Accounting Report Consistent with Health and Safety Code Section 14905 and 14906 ET SEQ.** Chief Lieberman presented the staff report to the Board regarding the final process for the yearly weed abatement program. A list of properties abated, including the cost, was presented to the Board with the report. Chief Lieberman did point out that the property located on Calvin Court in Grover Beach had significant issues that were a fire hazard, including weed abatement that led to a removal fee of nearly \$12,000. Chair Storton asked if anyone would like to protest their property being on the list. No public comment or protest was received on this item. Therefore, the information will be submitted to the County to be assessed on the property owner's tax bill.

**Action:** Vice Chair Lee moved and Board Member White seconded the motion to approve the Resolution confirming weed abatement costs.

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

**CONTINUED BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. **Fire Station Cost/Data Analysis and Comparison to CAL FIRE Pismo Beach Contract.** Chief Lieberman presented a staff report regarding the cost for various fire and emergency response models per the direction of community partners. His report included financial model options for fire service: 1) Status Quo; 2) Fully Staffed; 3) Stand Alone; and 4) CAL FIRE contract. The scope of this report was to provide factual alternatives for emergency services. The results of the analysis confirmed that there is an efficiency for these member partners to share operating costs, equipment and staff. The data identified the benefits of having multiple stations in the current service area. Chief Lieberman pointed out that FCFA will require additional funding for staffing and equipment, but it remains to be a cost effective model. No public comment was received. The Board received and filed the report.

**BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:**

None.

**GENERAL COUNSEL ITEMS:**

None.

**FIRE CHIEF ITEMS:**

- a. FCFA Strike Team that has been at the River Fire will be demobilizing and returning home.
- b. Chief Lieberman reported that there were no significant incidents reported on July 4<sup>th</sup>.
- c. FCFA is currently in the process of an internal recruitment for Fire Captain and Fire Engineer, as well as a recruitment for Firefighter.
- d. The Wildland Engine has been fully funded by the financing company. FCFA staff will be traveling to Florida to attend a preconstruction meeting for the build where the design will be confirmed.
- e. Chief Lieberman participated in an interview on KVEC radio talk show.
- f. FCFA staff responded to a vegetation fire in the dunes and utilized UTV 1.
- g. Chief Lieberman will be on vacation from August 19<sup>th</sup> through September 6<sup>th</sup>.

**BOARD COMMUNICATIONS:**

Vice Chair Lee reported that Grover Beach Police wrote 8 violations on July 4<sup>th</sup> for illegal fireworks.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Chair Storton adjourned the meeting at 10:38 a.m. The next Board meeting is scheduled for August 20, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.

/s/ Keith Storton, Chair

ATTEST:

/s/ Tricia Meyers, Clerk to the Board

(Approved at Board Meeting on 09/17/2021)