

## MINUTES

### FIVE CITIES FIRE AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2023

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

Management Committee representative Bronson called the Five Cities Fire Authority (FCFA) Board meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

#### **FLAG SALUTE:**

Management Committee representative Bronson led the Flag Salute.

#### **DESIGNATION OF OFFICERS**

Pursuant to the Joint Powers Authority agreement, the Board needs to appoint a Chair and Vice Chair for a one year term. The selection of the Chair also determines the role of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO). The CEO shall alternate automatically, serving during the same term as the Board Chair of their member agency's City Council. Daniel Rushing from the City of Grover Beach was named Chair, therefore Matt Bronson will serve as Chief Executive Officer for the next year. Lan George from the City of Arroyo Grande will serve as Vice Chair. No public comment was received.

**Action:** Board Member Ray Russom moved, Board Member Weirick seconded the motion, to appoint Daniel Rushing as Chair and Lan George as Vice Chair. The motion passed on the following roll call vote:

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

#### **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 Whitney McDonald, Fire Chief Steve Lieberman, Interim General Counsel Isaac Rosen and Clerk to the Board, Tricia Meyers.

#### **AGENDA REVIEW:**

Chair Rushing asked if there were any comments on the agenda. Hearing none, the agenda was approved as presented.

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

None.

**ESTABLISHMENT OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING FREQUENCY, DATES, TIME AND LOCATION**

Staff recommends that the Board establish a specific frequency, day, time, and place for regular meetings of the Board. Discussion ensued, resulting in the third Monday of the month at 5 p.m. as the preferred meeting date and time. No public comment was received.

**Action:** Vice Chair George moved, and Board Member Ray Russom seconded the motion to confirm the Five Cities Fire Authority Board will hold a regular meeting of the Board on August 21, 2023 and October 16, 2023 at 5 p.m. Beginning in 2024, the regular meetings will be held in January, April, July, and October on the third Monday at 5 p.m. The meeting location will coincide with the city associated with the Board Chair. The motion passed on the following roll call vote:

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

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

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

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

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

**Action:** Approved minutes of the Board Meeting of May 24, 2023.

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

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

**3. Management Resolution – Battalion Chief.**

**Action:** Approved Management Resolution reflecting the transition to shift-based Battalion Chief positions.

**4. Consideration of Authorization to Purchase a Replacement Station Alerting System for Arroyo Grande and Grover Beach Fire Stations.**

**Action:** Authorized the Fire Chief to execute a purchase order, issued to Radio Mobile, Inc. for the purchase and installation of replacement station alerting systems at the Arroyo Grande and Grover Beach fire stations.

**5. Consideration of Acquisition of Replacement Vehicle.**

**Action:** Directed the Fire Chief to execute needed agreements to purchase a replacement pickup truck outfitted for emergency response.

**PROTEST HEARING:**

- a. **Protest Hearing and Consideration of a 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 step in the annual weed abatement process. A list of abated properties was presented, along with the cost to abate. No public comment or protest of charges was received.  
**Action:** Board Member Ray Russom moved, Vice Chair George seconded the motion, to close the public hearing and approved the Resolution, including weed abatement charges. The motion passed on the following roll call vote:

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

**CONTINUED BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Agreement to Provide Fire Services Between Five Cities Fire Authority and Oceano Community Services District.** Management Committee representative McDonald presented the staff report and reported the details of the proposed agreement. No public comment was received.  
**Action:** Vice Chair George moved, and Board Member Ray Russom seconded the motion to approve an agreement for services with the Oceano Community Services District for a 12-month period beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024.

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

2. **Agreement to Memorialize the Oceano Community Services District's Ongoing Share of Unfunded CalPERS Liabilities.** Management Committee representative McDonald presented the staff report and terms included in the proposed agreement to memorialize Oceano Community Services District's ongoing CalPERS liabilities after they exit the Joint Powers Agreement on June 30, 2023. No public comment was received.  
**Action:** Board Member Weirick moved, and Vice Chair George seconded the motion to approve an agreement to memorialize the Oceano Community Services District's ongoing share of unfunded CalPERS liabilities. The motion passed on the following roll call vote:

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

3. **Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget.** Treasurer Valentine presented the staff report for the 2023-24 budget. Chair Rushing invited public comment. Speaking from the public was Local 4403 President, Jeff Lane. **Action:** Vice Chair George moved, and Board Member Weirick seconded the motion to approve a resolution adopting the FCFA annual FY 2023-24 budget. The motion passed on the following roll call vote:

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

4. **Authorization to Purchase a Replacement Type 1 Engine and Ladder Truck.** Chief Lieberman presented the staff report requesting approval to execute a purchase order to purchase a Type 1 Fire Engine and a Ladder Truck. The current Type 1 Fire Engine (6691) has exceeded the 15-year replacement cycle. Ladder Truck 5 is nearing the 15-year replacement cycle and has been plagued with costly mechanical problems. Current build time for this equipment is over 3 years. No public comment was received. **Action:** Board Member Ray Russom moved, and Vice Chair George seconded the motion to authorize the Fire Chief to execute a purchase order, issued to Pierce Manufacturing, Inc. for the purchase of one Type 1 Fire Engine and one Ladder Truck. The motion passed on the following roll call vote:

**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 thanked the new Board Members, FCFA staff and Management Committee representative McDonald for all their efforts in creating the new Joint Powers Authority. He reported that an RFP for an Attorney will need to take place.
- b. Chief Lieberman thanked the Board and looks forward to working with new members.

**GENERAL COUNSEL ITEMS:**

General Counsel Rosen reported that he submitted the amended and restated Joint Powers Authority agreement to the Secretary of State, State Controllers office and SLO LAFCO.

**BOARD COMMUNICATIONS:**

Board Member Ray Russom thanked Management Committee representatives for their hard work creating the restated Joint Powers Authority (JPA) agreement. Board Member Weirick wanted to acknowledge the good work accomplished by all involved in the restated JPA agreement.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 2:07 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. FCFA-designated negotiators: Che Johnson, Special Labor Counsel
2. Unrepresented Management Employees
  - a. FCFA-designated negotiators: Che Johnson, Special Labor Counsel
3. Fire Chief
  - a. FCFA-designated negotiators: Che Johnson, Special Labor Counsel

**RECONVENED TO OPEN SESSION:**

Chair Rushing called the meeting back to order at 2:38 p.m. with nothing to report.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Chair Rushing adjourned the meeting at 2:39 p.m.

/s/ Daniel Rushing, Chair

ATTEST:

/s/ Tricia Meyers, Clerk to the Board

(Approved at Board Meeting on 08/21/2023)