

MINUTES

**FIVE CITIES FIRE AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER:

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

FLAG SALUTE:

Chair Varni led the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL:

FCFA Board: Chair Charles Varni, Board Member Barneich and Board Member Daniel Rushing.

FCFA Staff Present: Chief Stephen Lieberman, General Counsel Dave Hale and Clerk to the Board, Tricia Meyers.

AGENDA REVIEW:

Action: Board Member Barneich moved, Board Member Rushing seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to approve the agenda of the Five Cities Fire Authority's by a voice vote.

AYES: Barneich, Rushing, Varni

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

CLOSED SESSION:

General Counsel Hale announced the closed session items. The Board adjourned to a Closed Session at 9:03 a.m. concerning the following items:

- 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

- b. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-EXISTING LITIGATION** pursuant to paragraph (1) subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9: Boyer v. Five Cities Fire Authority, Case No. 18CV-0438

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION:

General Counsel Hale called the meeting back to order at 9:27 a.m. with no reportable action.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Action: Board Member Barneich moved, and Board Member Rushing seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. No public comment was received. The motion passed on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Barneich, Rushing, Varni
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

1. Consideration of Approval of Minutes.

Action: Approved minutes of the Board Meeting of February 17, 2023.

2. Consideration of Cash Disbursement Activity.

Action: Received and filed the listing of cash disbursements for the period of February 1 through February 28, 2023.

CONTINUED BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Consideration of a Resolution to Declare Xenex Disinfecting Robots as Surplus.** Chief Lieberman presented the staff report requesting the Board declare Xenex Robots acquired through the Department of Defense as surplus. This equipment was Covid-19 related and obtained at no cost. The equipment is no longer needed.

Action: Board Member Barneich moved, and Board Member Rushing seconded the motion to adopt a Resolution to declare three Xenex Robots as surplus and directed the Fire Chief to facilitate the sale of the equipment. The motion passed on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Barneich, Rushing, Varni
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:

None.

FIRE CHIEF ITEMS:

- a. Chief Lieberman introduced new Firefighter Braden Jones to the Board.
- b. Budget preparation will begin soon, including eligibility lists for future positions. This will depend on the funding decisions of the Joint Powers Authority members.
- c. The apparatus spec committee is designing a replacement ladder truck. This item will likely be included in the budget for next fiscal year.
- d. Chief Lieberman will work with the city managers to determine what type of fire prevention program is needed. The program is largely paid by cost recovery.
- e. The County Administrative Officer has resigned and is leaving on May 1, 2023. He was involved in the decisions for the future of fire protection in Oceano and EMS system changes.
- f. Lake Lopez is predicted to spill over in the next 24 hours due to the incoming storm.

GENERAL COUNSEL ITEMS:

None.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS:

Chair Varni distributed a letter from the SLO Local Agency Formation Commission regarding the Oceano Community Services District divestiture request.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Varni adjourned the meeting at 9:41 a.m.

/s/ Charles Varni, Chair

ATTEST:

/s/ Tricia Meyers, Clerk to the Board

(Approved at Board Meeting on 04/26/2023)