

MINUTES

FIVE CITIES FIRE AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2023

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Rushing 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 Representatives 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 Weirick seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to approve the Five Cities Fire Authority's Agenda by a voice vote.

AYES: George, Weirick, Ray Russom, 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 August 21, 2023.

2. Consideration of Cash Disbursement Activity.

Action: Received and filed the listing of cash disbursements for the period of August 1, 2023 through September 30, 2023.

3. Consideration of Changes to the Management Resolution to Unrepresented Employee Compensation.

Action: 1) Adopted a Resolution, increasing the compensation for the unrepresented management employees; 2) Adopted a Resolution, increasing compensation for the unrepresented part-time Office Assistant II position and the part-time Reserve Firefighter position.

4. Consideration of Approval of Successor Memorandum of Understanding(MOU) and a Resolution with the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 4403 for FY 2023-24 through FY 2026-27.

Action: 1) Approved a successor Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). 2) Adopted a Resolution with the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Local 4403 for the period July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2027; 3) Approved a budget adjustment to appropriate \$51,900 fund balance.

5. Consideration of a Resolution to Declare a Patrol Vehicle and Generator as Surplus.

Action: Adopted a Resolution to declare a 2002 Ford F-550 Patrol and Trailer Mounted Generator as surplus equipment.

6. Consideration of a Resolution Adopting Revised Job Description for Fire Chief.

Action: Adopted a Resolution adopting a revised job description for Fire Chief.

CONTINUED BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Consideration of Approval for Interim Fire Chief. Management Committee representative Robeson presented the staff report regarding the consideration to appoint Chief Lieberman as Interim Fire Chief until a new Fire Chief has been appointed. No public comment was received.

Action: Board Member Weirick moved, and Vice Chair George seconded the motion to adopt a Resolution appointing Stephen C. Lieberman as Interim Fire Chief until completion of the recruitment process for a new Fire Chief. The motion passed on the following roll call vote:

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

2. Update and Policy Direction on Oceano Fire Service. Management Committee representative Bronson presented the staff report providing an update on recent County Board of Supervisors action regarding fire service in the Oceano. The SLO County Board of Supervisors will begin to negotiate with FCFA in early 2024 to continue to provide fire service in Oceano if both parties agree that is the preferred option. The FCFA Board provided feedback to the management committee. Chair Rushing invited public comment. Speaking from the public was Local 4403 Union President, Jeff Lane.

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:

None.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE / FIRE CHIEF ITEMS:

- a.** Chief Lieberman announced that the new Five Cities Fire Authority Battalion Chief is Ryan Bird. He will start on October 24, 2023.
- b.** Battalion Chief Riki Heath announced his retirement as of October 27, 2023. He has over 30 years in the fire service.
- c.** FCFA is hosting an Open House on October 21, 2023.
- d.** Management Committee representative Bronson announced that Mosaic Recruitments will be handling the next Fire Chief recruitment. The deadline for applications is November 17, 2023.

GENERAL COUNSEL ITEMS:

None.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS:

Board Member Ray Russom expressed her thanks to Battalion Chief Heath and wished him well in his retirement. She also thanked the management committee for the work they have done on the policy direction in regards to fire service in Oceano. Board Member Weirick congratulated Chief Heath on his retirement.

CLOSED SESSION:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Rushing adjourned the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

/s/ Daniel Rushing, Chair

ATTEST:

/s/ Tricia Meyers, Clerk to the Board

(Approved at Board Meeting on 01/29/2024)