

1 **August 26, 2008**

2 **REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF**
3 **THE NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

4 President Harris called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

5 **THE INVOCATION GIVEN BY CHAPLAIN DAVE HELMAN.**

6 **ALL RECITED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

7 **ROLL CALL: Present:** Directors Graham, Harris, Munson, Olson and Thuner.

8 **Absent:** None.

9 **ALSO PRESENT:** Chief Metcalf, Attorney James and Acting Board Secretary Renae
10 Rasmussen. In the audience were: Division Chief Goldberg, Battalion Chief Abbott, F/A
11 Timmers and members of the public.

12
13 **PUBLIC ACTIVITIES AGENDA**

14 1. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** President Harris addressed the audience and inquired whether there
15 were any public comments regarding items not on the Agenda. There being no public
16 comment, the public comment time was closed.

17 2. **SPECIAL PROJECT RECOGNITION – STATION 3 – CHIEF METCALF:** B/C Abbott presented
18 the individuals to be recognized for their effort in landscaping of Station 3, including Eagle
19 Scouts David Abbott, Adam McGrath and Aaron Turley, with Matt Litnik unable to attend.
20 Certificates of Appreciation were given to each scout.

21
22 **ACTION AGENDA**

23 **CONSENT ITEMS:**

24 3. **APPROVE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES, JULY 22, 2008**

25 4. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JULY 2008**

26 5. **POLICIES AND PROCEDURES – NONE**

27 6. **REVIEW TRAINING REPORT – FOURTH QUARTER FY 2007/2008**

28 President Harris inquired whether there were any questions regarding Consent Agenda items.

29 There was a request for a change to the minutes at line 46, noting the Vice President Munson

30 seconded the motion and Director Olson made the motion. There being no further discussion
31 on Items 3-6, President Harris asked for a motion to approve the remaining consent agenda.
32 On a motion by Director Olson to approve Items 3-6 as they modified, which was seconded by
33 Vice President Munson, the motion passed unanimously.

34 **ACTION ITEMS:**

35 7. **PUBLIC HEARING DATE/TIME CERTAIN 5:15 P.M. — ADOPTION OF UPDATED FEE SCHEDULE**
36 **FOR FIRE PREVENTION FEES AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 2008-02 – D/C MOREL:** The public
37 hearing session was opened at 5:15 p.m. by President Harris. Public comment was
38 requested. With no public comment, the public hearing session was closed. After brief
39 discussion, with Director Thuner noting that because the numbers are averages, that in the
40 future, they be rounded, rather than exact amount. B/C Abbott presented the rationale for the
41 exact costs. On a motion made by Director Olson, and seconded by Director Graham, the
42 motion to adoption adopt the Updated Fee Schedule for Fire Prevention Fees and Ordinance
43 2008-02 was approved as presented.

44 8. **REVIEW AND APPROVE RECOMMENDATION FOR CSDA BOARD ELECTION — CHIEF METCALF:**
45 Chief Metcalf presented the Election materials provided by CSDA. He noted that
46 previously, the Board voted to nominate Richard Olson to run for this position. Staff
47 recommends that the Board cast our ballot for Richard Olson for the CSDA Board of
48 Directors. On a motion by Director Thuner, which was seconded by Director Graham,
49 the Board approved casting the District's ballot for Director Olson.

50 9. **PUBLIC HEARING DATE/TIME CERTAIN AT 5:25 P.M. — FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MULTI-**
51 **YEAR FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT PLAN FOR THE FIRE MITIGATION FEE PROGRAM AND ADOPTION OF**
52 **RESOLUTION No. 2008-08 – D/C MOREL:** The public hearing session was opened at 5:25 p.m.
53 by President Harris. Public comment was requested. With no public comment, the public
54 hearing session was closed. After brief discussion, regarding the on a motion made by
55 Director Olson, and seconded by Director Graham, the motion to adoption resolution 2008-08.
56 Chief Metcalf noted this is an annual action, which stems from the County's Fire Mitigation
57 Program, in which the District is permitted to collect \$0.46/square foot on new construction in
58 District. These funds may only be used for capital outlay and is intended to offset the growth

59 in the District. Chief Metcalf noted that as a result of the Standards of Cover, there may be
60 significant changes to the plan. He noted there is nothing new for this year. Discussion
61 ensued regarding the amendments. Chief Metcalf noted we are upside down in this account
62 by 1.8 million dollars, experiencing more impact of growth, than is compensated by the fees at
63 this time. On a motion by Director Olson to Adopt the Multi-Year Facilities and Equipment Plan
64 and Fire Mitigation Fee and Adoption of Resolution 2008-08 as presented. The Motion was
65 seconded by Director Graham and passed unanimously by the following Role Call Vote:
66 **AYES:** Directors Graham, Harris, Munson, Olson and Thuner; **NOES:** None.

67 10. **PARCEL TAX BALLOT — CHIEF METCALF:** Chief Metcalf presented the proposal for the
68 Parcel Tax Ballot item, which requires an election under Prop 13 and related laws. There was
69 a push to approve this ballot addition, as a special election would cost between 6-7 million
70 dollars. Since it need to be approved by the first week of August to go on the November ballot,
71 the County Supervisors pushed the matter forward. The proposal amounts to approximately
72 \$1 a week per effected parcels. There was a feeling that in order to engage the Cities in the
73 ballot, there would have to be a benefit to them. This is realized in the collection and re-
74 distribution of the one-half of the funds back to the jurisdiction. For North County Fire
75 Protection District, in the first year, that would amount to approximately \$469,000.00, with an
76 escalator. The District may use these funds for any purpose, although the Cities are required
77 to use the monies to augment, improve or increase fire protection services. The other half
78 would be to purchase more ground apparatus, between 25-50 fire engines, mixing types,
79 based on need. This would create an OES-type program, where the engines are given to fire
80 entities for use, although they are required to have them manned and available during a
81 County fire event. The remainder of the money would be utilized to purchase three medium lift
82 helicopters. The Sheriff has two, San Diego has two and the three additional would bring the
83 total to seven. In addition, the County would contract for several more tankers and one heavy
84 helicopter. Some would be spent on training and fire prevention. Chief Metcalf noted that the
85 air equipment would include pilots, maintenance and all other necessary support. Discussion
86 ensued re: opting out, with it being noted \$26.00 would be collected for the region but not the
87 jurisdiction. In order to administer the program, the County would establish a Joint Power

88 Authority, called the San Diego County Fire Agency, with representation from each political
89 organization. Chief Metcalf noted the District could use funding from the fee to buy
90 equipment, obtain financing of approximately \$13 million to fund the building program, to hire
91 staff and other needed activities. The opposition is that it does not solve all problems for
92 County fire protection and does not go far enough. He informed the Board that to resolve all
93 the problems would require at least triple the amount of funds. Mostly from Cities, we do not
94 feel it is right to subsidize fire protection in areas that do not pay for it. Chief Metcalf noted we
95 are already doing it anyway, but leaving our own jurisdictions with reduced coverage. Another
96 issue is that the fires that start out in the rural areas and come to the Cities. Chief Metcalf
97 opined this may be the only opportunity to put this on a ballot until 2010 and by that time,
98 public interest may have waned and this represents a good step in the right direction. Director
99 Graham asked about whether the firefighters would put up money to support. Chief Metcalf
100 indicated the San Diego County of Fire Chiefs, the Fire District's Association and the newly
101 formed Council of Firefighters are all on record as supporting this ballot. However, law
102 prevents public entities of funds to use support this type of measure. He noted that the San
103 Diego County Taxpayers Association have been generally supportive, although they feel it
104 does not go far enough. The only opposition so far is the City of La Mesa and the Ramona
105 Water District. Director Graham inquired whether any other Counties have done this type of
106 activity. Chief Metcalf noted that Los Angeles has, collecting \$175.00/parcel, in fact the
107 formula for allocation is directly from that organization. He noted there are other areas
108 charging a fire protection fee. Discussion ensued re: having a roundtable at the District to
109 explain the upcoming ballot measure to our public and the entities in the community. He
110 suggested schedule a press release to talk with major service entities in town, schedule a town
111 hall meeting, spend time with the papers and several who are campaigning and give you an
112 opportunity to talk about the initiative and how it will benefit the District. Discussion ensued re:
113 building loose language to allow the Agency to grow into the most effective entity to meet the
114 County needs. On a motion by Vice President Munson, seconded by Director Graham, the
115 Board to endorse the ballot initiative.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

11. There was no Discussion Agenda for the August 26, 2008 Board meeting.

STANDING DISCUSSION ITEMS:

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT:

Counsel's report on "Payment 'Under Protest' is Necessary Before Pursuing Claim to Refund Fees," was presented to the Board with brief discussion, noting that must pay first before they can request refund. This report is informational only, no action is required.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

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➤ July 21, 2008 Letter from Fallbrook Beautification Alliance

BOARD RECOGNITION PROGRAM:

➤ Email of August 1, 2008 from California Fire Safe Council

➤ August 8, 2008 Letter from Vista Fire Department

The written communications were reviewed, with it being noted that the "Kathy" in question was Kathy Ford. Informational only, no action is required.

NEWS ARTICLES: Chief Metcalf directed the Board's attention to several articles. This is informational only, no action required.

COMMENTS:

1. STAFF REPORTS/UPDATES:

1.1. CHIEF METCALF: Chief Metcalf noted as of yesterday, Chief Goldberg received notification the District had received an award from SDRMA, with us being selected as the large member recipient of their Earl F. Sayer Excellence in Safety Award in the Property and Safety, receiving fourteen credit points in their program. Credit goes to everyone, but Chief Goldberg and the Safety Committee do a lot of work to make this award possible. He noted Deputy Chief Torchia will be picking on the award on behalf of the District. The State still has not resolved their budget problems, with it causing significant problems. Chief Metcalf will not relax until the adoption is accomplished. Another item is a re-opening of the ADA in Section 1, for facilities access, which will be watched carefully. This includes ADA compliance in the

146 private areas of the Stations. Chief Metcalf noted the District would be receiving the Type I
147 and Brush engines within the next 2-4 weeks. Following last meeting, with District Counsel
148 working on values of the discussed property, will have values when Standards of Cover is
149 addressed.

150 1.2. **CHIEF OFFICERS: B/C ABBOTT:** B/C Abbott with drawing the hypertonic solution from the
151 ROC program, the reason is unknown at this time. We now have two-three reserves doing
152 their preceptorship here at North County Fire Protection District. **D/C MOREL:** D/C Morel noted
153 that the Fire Safe Council has received their allotment of the fire safe gel and are in the
154 process of determining how to distribute it. He noted the Bureau is also working on the
155 October 11th Fire Prevention Week Open House. The Bureau is changing to focus on fire safe
156 construction techniques. **CHIEF GOLDBERG:** Put in an application and received a grant for the
157 fire gel for firefighters application, with a five year lifespan. He noted that since the Type III
158 engine is our first all wheel drive and the District will be providing a state-modeled program to
159 ensure all types of driving are well understood. The District is also one month into the MUM
160 “Move Up Module,” which automatically makes changes based on the needs of the areas.

161 2. **BOARD:**

162 2.1. **Vice President Munson:** Vice President Munson inquired what type of attendance the
163 Board should expect at the presentation for the Standards of Cover would be occurring. Brief
164 discussion ensued. **President Harris:** Gave a report on their attendance at the IAFC
165 conference. President Harris has requested a report in September on the status of the Target-
166 Hazard Program. **Director Olson:** Director Olson thanked Dorothy Roth and the Fire Safe
167 Council for their work. He suggested that individuals who lost their home in the Rice Fire be
168 given first chance to obtain the Fire Gel being offered by the Council.

169 3. **BARGAINING GROUPS:** No comments.

170 4. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** No comments.

171
172 **CLOSED SESSION**

173 There was no closed session for the August 26, 2008 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made at 6:13 p.m. by Director Graham and seconded by Director Olson, to adjourn the meeting and reconvene for the Special Meeting on August 28, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Loren Stephen-Porter

Board Secretary

(Transcribed from tapes.)

Minutes approved at the Board of Director's Meeting on: September 16, 2008

