

1 **March 24, 2010**

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

4 President Thuner called the meeting to order at 17:00.

5 **THE INVOCATION GIVEN BY CHIEF METCALF.**

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

7 **ROLL CALL: Present:** Directors Harris, Schaden and Thuner.

8 **Absent:** Directors Hooper and Munson.

9 **Staff Present:** Fire Chief/CEO Metcalf, Attorney James and Board Secretary
10 Stephen-Porter. In the audience were: Deputy Chief Torchia, Division Chief
11 Morel, Battalion Chief Abbott, and members of the public.

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13 **PUBLIC ACTIVITIES AGENDA**

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

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18 **ACTION AGENDA**

19 **CONSENT ITEMS:**

20 2. **APPROVE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES, FEBRUARY 2010**

21 3. **APPROVE FINANCIAL REPORT FEBRUARY 2010**

22 4. **APPROVE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

23 President Thuner inquired whether there were any questions on Items 2-4. There being none,
24 she asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. On a motion by Director Harris to
25 approve Items 2-4 as presented, which was seconded by Director Schaden, the motion passed
26 unanimously.

27 **ACTION ITEMS:**

28 5. **BOARD RECOGNITION PROGRAM — B/S STEPHEN-PORTER:** B/S Stephen-Porter presented
29 the report to the Board, reminding the Board of the Program parameters. On a motion by

30 Director Harris, seconded by Director Schaden and unanimously approved, the Board
31 approved the following individuals for recognition: [1] November 15, 2009 crew for their rescue
32 efforts (crew award); [2] November 4, 2009 P/S Rasmussen for her involvement in the
33 Hardship Donation; [3] August 24, 2009 Crew for the Apartment Fire (Crew Award). It was the
34 consensus of the Board to use budgeted funds for next quarter and to limit the next round of
35 awards to \$100.00.

36 6. **REVIEW AND APPROVE RESOLUTION 2010-01 OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTH**
37 **COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT MAKING ANNUAL REQUIRED FINDINGS OF THE SAN DIEGO**

38 **COUNTY FIRE MITIGATION FEE PARTICIPATION ORDINANCE**

39 **FY 2010/2011 — D/C MOREL:** D/C Morel noted this is the required annual findings necessary
40 for the District to continue to participate in the Fee Mitigation Program with San Diego County.
41 Discussion ensued regarding the amount of the funding, with it being noted that the amount
42 has remained at \$0.46 for the last three years, which is consistent throughout the County. On
43 a motion by Director Harris, seconded by Director Schaden, the Board unanimously made the
44 required findings and approved Resolution 2010-01 as presented.

45 7. **REVIEW AND RECOMMEND NOMINATIONS FOR (CSDA) BOARD OF DIRECTORS — CHIEF**

46 **METCALF:** Chief Metcalf presented the information from CSDA seeking nominations for Board
47 members, noting that one seat is open in Region 6. Director Harris expressed an interest in
48 serving in this capacity. Discussion ensued regarding the responsibilities and participation
49 requirements. On a motion by Director Thuner, which was seconded by Director Schaden,
50 Director Harris was unanimously selected as the District's nominee to the CSDA Board.

51 8. **SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE/TIME CERTAIN FOR MAY 25, 2010, 5:15 P.M. — ADOPTION OF**
52 **FEE SCHEDULES FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES/AMBULANCE FEES AND ADOPTION OF**
53 **RESOLUTION NO. 2010-03 RE: AMENDING THE CURRENT FEE SCHEDULE FOR EMERGENCY AND**

54 **NON-EMERGENCY SERVICES AND TRANSPORTATION — B/C ABBOTT:** B/C Abbott informed the
55 Board that the District reviews Ambulance fees on an annual basis. For the last three years,
56 the Staff has recommended no increases in the fee rate. However, this year there has been a
57 change in the comparable rates in surrounding agencies and the Staff will be requesting an
58 increase in fees to recoup expenses for these services. The Staff is requesting that the Board

59 set a public hearing date for May 25th, at 5:15 p.m. to hear the matter. On a motion by Director
60 Harris, seconded by Director Schaden, the Board unanimously approved setting the hearing
61 date as requested.

62 9. **REVIEW AND APPROVE RESOLUTION 2010-02 EXTENDING THE AUTHORIZATION TO PROVIDE**
63 **PRE-HOSPITAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL STANDBY SERVICES WITHIN THE EXCLUSIVE OPERATING AREA**
64 **OF THE NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT — B/C ABBOTT:** B/C Abbott provided
65 information to the Board regarding the renewal of the contractor with 2 the Rescue for ALS
66 services within the EOA. He noted their activities are limited to providing services and does
67 not include the transportation of patients. Discussion ensued regarding how often there were
68 transports from this site. On a motion from Director Harris to renew the contract and approve
69 the Resolution 2010-02 as presented, which was seconded by Director Schaden, the Board
70 unanimously approved the matter as presented.

71 72 **DISCUSSION AGENDA**

73 10. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE PROCESS OF FIRE CHIEF/CEO METCALF'S ANNUAL**
74 **EVALUATION — CHIEF METCALF AND PRESIDENT THUNER:** Director Thuner noted she had been
75 discussing the process of evaluation with Chief Metcalf as the last quarter of 2009/2010 is
76 coming up. Discussion ensued regarding the tools and processes used over the last several
77 years. Director Harris noted she did not like last year's tool and that there were two questions
78 on the previous evaluation that needed modification, Management Team Effectiveness and
79 Employee Relations. Discussion ensued regarding these processes. Director Thuner stated
80 she had been looking for a more meaningful tool to give Chief Metcalf the meaningful feedback
81 he deserves. It was noted that a cover sheet with key definitions may be helpful, with
82 instructions for completion and a copy of the evaluation from the previous year. Chief Metcalf
83 informed the Board he is desirous of receiving their feedback and the interaction with the
84 Board on these matters. It will be scheduled for discussion for the next Board meeting.

85 **STANDING DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

86 • **LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT:** Counsel James presented his letter "Settlement with
87 Resigning Employee May Not Exceed Statutory Formula." Brief discussion ensued regarding

88 the statutory limitations. Chief Metcalf noted they will ensure compliance in his contract when
89 revised this year. This is informational only, no action required.

90 ● **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:** Chief Metcalf discussed the newsletter from
91 Assemblyman Jefferies for proposed legislation he sponsors. He noted that Mr. Jefferies is
92 one of the hardest working legislators on fire issues, noting he has been involved in two
93 important issues involving DMV licensing and weights. Discussion ensued regarding cancer
94 as a job-related disease and changes in the law due to the fact it is likely to turn up after
95 employment terminates. Informational only, no further action required.

96 ● **BOARD RECOGNITION PROGRAM:** None.

97 ● **NEWS ARTICLES:** Chief Metcalf directed the Board's attention to issue with the station
98 brown outs in City of San Diego, noting the individual that died near a non-operative station.
99 He noted that even though there was no engine, they staff double houses and a ladder truck
100 was still manned and available, arriving in the specified amount of time. Discussion ensued
101 about the timing model and combustion timing based on outdated models. Informational only,
102 no further action required.

103 ● **COMMENTS:**

104 ● **STAFF REPORTS/UPDATES:**

105 ● **UPDATE ON STATION CONSTRUCTION:** Deputy Chief Torchia informed the Board there is
106 nothing new with regards to construction. The District has not heard back on the grant
107 submission. He informed the Board that next month he would be bringing forward the options
108 for Station 5 construction as a back-up plan to the grant. Informational only, no further action
109 required.

110 ● **BILL METCALF, FIRE CHIEF/CEO:** Chief Metcalf informed the Board of the budget
111 update, noting the numbers through February are improving, with the percentage of deficient
112 falling from 13% in January to 11% in February and down to 7 % in March. Chief Metcalf
113 applauded the effort of employees to maintain and cut costs. Chief Metcalf brought the Board
114 current on the Annexation of the Orange Grove area. He recently met with representatives of
115 SDG&E, Orange Grove and the County to discuss options. He is working with the County to
116 re-negotiate the contract for services in this area as it looks as though they will begin collecting

117 taxes on the Orange Grove property when construction is done at the end of the month. Chief
118 Metcalf noted that with the adoption of the National Health Care Plan, the District will have
119 some impact to its recovery of unfunded patients. Not enough details are known yet to make
120 any predictions. Chief Metcalf noted there has been some pressure to support the Governor's
121 emergency response initiative, to assist with the State's mutual aid systems. He noted that
122 although it has been endorsed by a number of organizations, it is opposed by the League of
123 Cities and Counties. There are concerns that the funds will be used to free up monies for the
124 general fund by supporting CalFire rather than supporting the mutual aid programs. Chief
125 Metcalf thanked the Board for supporting the Awards Banquet. He thanked Chief Morel and
126 his Committee for the excellent arrangements and their hand work setting up the banquet.
127 Informational only, no further action required.

128 ● **CHIEF OFFICERS:** D/C Morel informed the Board he had been to a recent meeting of the
129 Fire Protection Officers, where they discussed collaborative partnerships. He noted the
130 District's partners in CERT and the Fire Safe Council are doing great work and are being
131 recognized throughout the state for their fire safety efforts.

132 ● **BOARD:** Director Harris inquired whether there had been any calls to power plant, with it
133 being noted there have been none at the plant, although there have been calls in area for
134 accidents on the highway. There is no changes in the call demographics as of yet. Director
135 Harris informed the Board she had asked Ms. Timmers for a comparison of the overtime this
136 year as compared to last and was pleased to note there was a reduction of approximately
137 \$500,000.00. The Board requested that the employees be thanked for their efforts to reduce
138 this figure. Informational only, no further action required.

139 ● **BARGAINING GROUPS:** No comments.

140 ● **PUBLIC COMMENT:** A scout was present working on his Communication Badge. He
141 noted following the process was confusing.

142 143 **CLOSED SESSION**

144 There was no Closed Session for the March 23, 2010 meeting.

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ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made at 17:55 by Director Harris and seconded by Director Schaden, to adjourn the meeting and reconvene on, April 27, 2010 at 17:00. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Loren Stephen-Porter
Board Secretary

Minutes approved at the Board of Director's Meeting on: April 27, 2010