

1 MARCH 25, 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 DEPUTY CHIEF GLASGOW.

6 ALL RECITED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

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

8 Absent: Director Graham and Munson.

9 ALSO PRESENT: Chief Metcalf, Deputy Chief Glasgow, Attorney James and Board Secretary  
10 Loren Stephen-Porter. In the audience were: Division Chiefs Goldberg and Morel, Battalion  
11 Chief Abbott, F/A Timmers, members of the public and Association.

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13 PUBLIC ACTIVITIES AGENDA

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

18  
19 ACTION AGENDA

20 CONSENT ITEMS:

- 21  
22 2. APPROVE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES, FEBRUARY 26, 2008  
23 3. APPROVE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

24  
25 President Harris inquired whether there were any questions regarding Consent Agenda items.  
26 There being none, she asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. On a motion by  
27 Director Olson to approve Items 2-3 as they were presented, which was seconded by Director  
28 Thuner, the motion passed unanimously.

31 **ACTION ITEMS:**

32 4. **APPROVE FINANCIAL REPORT FEBRUARY 2008 — CHIEF METCALF, DEPUTY CHIEF GLASGOW**

33 **AND F/A TIMMERS:** Chief Metcalf informed the Board he had pulled the finance information off  
34 the consent agenda so that he could provide a more thorough report on the status of the  
35 District. He informed the Board that the last payment received in February, placed the District  
36 5.6% ahead of the anticipated property tax for 2007. Even though the District has not suffered  
37 shortfalls, the District is being proactive in examining its program areas and processes to  
38 ensure that shortfall does not damage the District's financial standing. He informed the Board  
39 the Management Team had identified \$250,000.00 in budgeted spending that could be placed  
40 on hold for the remainder of the year. The Staff will continue to look at ways to realize savings  
41 for the District, including put a hold on all discretionary spending. Chief Metcalf reviewed the  
42 impact of the Rice Fire on the District, noting the assessed valuation and inventory issues.  
43 With no further questions, President Harris inquired whether there were any questions  
44 regarding this issue. There being none, she asked for a motion to approve the Finance  
45 Report. On a motion by Director Olson to approve the report as presented, which was  
46 seconded by Director Thuner, the motion passed unanimously.

47 5. **REVIEW AND APPROVE RESOLUTION 2008-02 OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTH**  
48 **COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT MAKING ANNUAL REQUIRED FINDINGS OF THE SAN DIEGO**

49 **COUNTY FIRE MITIGATION FEE PARTICIPATION ORDINANCE FY 2008/2009 – D/C MOREL:** D/C  
50 Morel presented Resolution 2008-02 to the Board for approval, noting that there were no  
51 increases recommended by the County's Fire Mitigation Committee for the FY 2008/2009,  
52 leaving the rate unchanged for the FY 2008/2009, leaving the rate at \$0.46 per square foot.  
53 D/C Morel informed the Board the adoption of this resolution is a standard and required  
54 practice to participate in the FMF program. President Harris inquired whether there were any  
55 questions regarding this issue. There being none, she asked for a motion to make the  
56 required annual findings and to approve Resolution 2008-02. On a motion by Director Olson to  
57 make the annual finding and to approve Resolution 2008-02 as presented, seconded by  
58 Director Thuner, the motion passed unanimously.

59 6. **REVIEW AND APPROVE AMBULANCE COLLECTIONS CONTRACT – B/C ABBOTT:** B/C Abbott

60 presented information regarding the performance of ADPI and his concerns that the District is

61 not capturing ambulance fees as expected, going from the previous recovery rate of 50% to  
62 40%. He informed the Board he had spoken with others who are using ADPI's services, noting  
63 additional concerns with their services. After checking with counterparts within the County, he  
64 was informed that most used Wittman as their billing company and that they were very  
65 satisfied with their performance. B/C Abbott informed the Board of the information received  
66 from the District's collection contractors, who felt that ADPI was not recovering easily obtained  
67 fees. B/C Abbott informed the Board that Wittman is willing to honor their RFP prices from the  
68 previous year. Because of the dissatisfaction with the ADPI performance and the favorable  
69 reports for Wittman, B/C Abbott recommended giving ADPI their 90 day notice and to move  
70 forward to formalize the contract with the Wittman company to be in place at the conclusion of  
71 the ADPI contract. President Harris inquired whether there were any further discussions  
72 regarding this issue. There being none, she asked for a motion to approve giving ADPI its 90  
73 day termination notice and to contract with Wittman for ambulance billing. Director Thuner  
74 made the motion as stated, which was seconded by Director Olson and the motion passed  
75 unanimously.

## 76 **DISCUSSION AGENDA**

77 7. There was no discussion agenda for the March 25, 2008, Board of Directors meeting.

### 78 **STANDING DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

#### 79 **LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT:**

80 Counsel James presented his report "Proposition 218 Amendments" to the Board. He noted  
81 that this provides information regarding who may preside at the hearing and who may be the  
82 reviewing officer. This is informational only, no action required.

#### 83 **WRITTEN COMMUNICATION:**

84 1. **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:** None.

85 2. **BOARD RECOGNITION PROGRAM:**

86 2.1. Notice of Outstanding Performance - Chief Metcalf praised the three engine companies  
87 for their rescue work on a victim trapped in a burning vehicle. He noted extraordinary efforts  
88 were made to extinguish the fire and complete the complicated extrication; it was truly a team  
89 effort with certain individuals demonstrating extraordinary efforts, such as FF/PM Rob  
90 DeCamp.

91 **NEWS ARTICLES:** Chief Metcalf directed the Board's attention to several articles. Brief  
92 discussion ensued. Director Thuner inquired how the Vista/Oceanside conflict was affecting  
93 the border-drop process. Chief Metcalf noted although it does not appear to adversely affect  
94 the other parties, Vista and Oceanside are still not participating and a resolution for the  
95 situation does not seem to be forthcoming at this point. This is informational only, no action  
96 required.

97 **COMMENTS:**

98 1. **STAFF REPORTS/UPDATES:**

99 1.1. **CHIEF METCALF:** Chief Metcalf present a plaque the District received from Pala its  
100 contracted ambulance services. Chief Metcalf informed the Board he is working on several  
101 annexation issues, including a small electric "peak" power plant, noting the plant is only  
102 expected to be operation when demand is very high. Chief Metcalf discussed the road  
103 construction on Highway 76 and the impact this will have on the District, including new  
104 construction. Chief Metcalf informed the Board he will be going to Sacramento to present a  
105 request to be included for representation in the Mutual Aid Committee (MAC), as San Diego  
106 County is not represented. He informed the Board that there is a lot of history and  
107 explanations why the County has never been represented and noted this contributed to the  
108 District not being invited to attend a MAC meeting held in the Riverside. Chief Metcalf brought  
109 the Board up-to-date on the LAFCO reorganization process, noting that the proposal continues  
110 to move forward. He informed the Board that on March 24<sup>th</sup>, Supervisor Horn proposed  
111 several initiatives improve fire service in County. He has awarded a grant of \$80,000 for fire  
112 retardant gel to the Fire Safe Council. Chief Metcalf discussed the County's newest  
113 proposition of having a fire warden position, who would act as a liaison between County and  
114 rural fire departments. It is anticipated one of the current fire coordinators would be utilized.  
115 Director Thuner inquired what was the difference between the new proposal and last proposal  
116 last year and inquired why DPLU put together the proposal and has a fire coordinator with  
117 ensuing discussion. Chief Metcalf noted there is disagreement on the Board of Supervisors  
118 how to improve county fire services.

121 2. **CHIEF OFFICERS:**

122 2.1. **B/C Abbott:** B/C Abbott noted the initiation of the Safe Surrender Program is being  
123 postponed by the County until the beginning of April, including a media blitz to inform  
124 individuals of their option. PIO Buchanan is working to get the word out in the community.  
125 Signage is in Spanish. B/C Abbott reported the District is looking at ROC training through an  
126 international consortium, with Chris Scott, the first in county to go to the second phase of  
127 training, with the goal of improving resuscitation and the percent of CPR saves.

128 2.2. **D/C Morel:** D/C Morel noted that the District is interviewing for the Administrative  
129 Specialist position, with approximately 100 applicants. D/C Morel informed the Board that Fire  
130 Prevention had finally obtained the right plotter/printer in office.

131 2.3. **Deputy Chief Glasgow:** Deputy Chief Glasgow brought the Board current on the other  
132 District recruiting, noting there were 34 qualified FF/PM applicants. The District is currently  
133 conducting interviews and performing skill testing. The Deputy Chief position closed with five  
134 qualified applicants. Deputy Chief Glasgow informed the Board the District had its kick off  
135 meeting for the Standards of Cover (SOC) review and the data collection process is ongoing.  
136 Director Thuner asked for an overview of how complex the investigation would be. Deputy  
137 Chief Glasgow outlined the SOC process and agreed to send the sample report given for  
138 Vista.

139 **BOARD:** **Director Thuner:** Director Thuner gave the Board a report on a Board training  
140 seminar she had attended in the first week of March and presented two items to the Board for  
141 consideration. The first was a resolution which designates specific accounts. She asked the  
142 District to compare the resolution to our accounts/resolutions to see if the District had the same  
143 in effect. In addition, she presented a survey that Board members would take to ascertain the  
144 quality of Board performance. She asked if the Board would be interested in such a concept,  
145 which was affirmed. She asked for an individual to work with her and Director Olson  
146 volunteered. Director Thuner offered to bring a product back to the May meeting for  
147 consideration. **Director Olson:** Director Olson inquired on the open house for Station 3.  
148 Deputy Chief Glasgow asked each director to provide a time that would be convenient for a  
149 walk through and he will make the arrangements. **President Harris:** President Harris  
150 complimented B/C Lane on a recent rescue event, which was very hectic and involved  
151 numerous resources. She lauded his effort and organization.

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

153 4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**: A member of the audience inquired whether the District would be  
154 sending anyone to the Padres Firefighter's event, with it being noted the District participates  
155 each year.

## 156 **CLOSED SESSION**

### 157 **ENTERING CLOSED SESSION:**

158 At 6:02 p.m., President Harris inquired whether there was a motion to adjourn to closed  
159 session. Director Olson moved to go to closed session, which was seconded by Director  
160 Thuner, which motion was passed unanimously. At 6:08 p.m., the Board entered Closed  
161 Session to hear:  
162

163 1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – Government Code § 54957.6 –  
164 Management Group Negotiations – Chief Metcalf

165 Management Group Negotiators: NCFPD Management Group

166 District Negotiators: Chief Metcalf and District Counsel James

167 2. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – Government Code § 54957.6 – Non-  
168 Safety Group Negotiations – Chief Metcalf

169 Non-Safety Group Negotiators: Fallbrook Firefighters Association

170 District Negotiators: Chief Metcalf and District Counsel James

171 3. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – Government Code § 54957.6 Safety  
172 Group Negotiations – Chief Metcalf

173 Safety Group Negotiators: Fallbrook Firefighters Association

174 District Negotiators: Chief Metcalf and District Counsel James

175 4. PERFORMANCE REVIEW – Government Code § 54957 – Chief Metcalf

### 176 **REOPENING OPEN SESSION:**

177 On a motion by Director Thuner, which was seconded by Director Olson and which passed  
178 unanimously, the Board returned open session at 6:58 p.m. The following items were reported  
179 out to the public:

- 180 1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – Government Code § 54957.6 –  
181 Management Group Negotiations – Chief Metcalf  
182 Management Group Negotiators: NCFPD Management Group  
183 District Negotiators: Chief Metcalf and District Counsel James  
184 No reportable action.
- 185 2. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – Government Code § 54957.6 – Non-  
186 Safety Group Negotiations – Chief Metcalf  
187 Non-Safety Group Negotiators: Fallbrook Firefighters Association  
188 District Negotiators: Chief Metcalf and District Counsel James  
189 No reportable action.
- 190 3. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – Government Code § 54957.6 Safety  
191 Group Negotiations – Chief Metcalf  
192 Safety Group Negotiators: Fallbrook Firefighters Association  
193 District Negotiators: Chief Metcalf and District Counsel James  
194 No reportable action.
- 195 4. PERFORMANCE REVIEW – Government Code § 54957 – Chief Metcalf  
196 The Board provided direction to Staff regarding Chief Metcalf's evaluation.  
197

## 198 **ADJOURNMENT**

199  
200 A motion was made at 6:59 p.m. by Director Thuner and seconded by Director Olson, to  
201 adjourn the meeting and reconvene on, April 22, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. The motion carried  
202 unanimously.

203 Respectfully submitted,

204   
205

206 Loren Stephen-Porter

207 Board Secretary

208 Minutes approved at the Board of Director's Meeting on: April 30, 2008  
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