



## CONTRA COSTA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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### MINUTES

August 12, 2019

The Advisory Fire Commission met at a regular meeting on Monday, August 12, 2019 at 7 p.m. Chair Galey called the meeting to order, and Fire Chief Broschard led the salute to the flag.

### ROLL CALL

**Present:** Commissioners: Lisa Bartley – At Large Alternate #1  
Richard “Tom” Chapman – At Large #2  
Walter Fields – At Large Alternate #2  
Debra Galey – District IV  
Matthew Guichard – District II

Fire Chief: Lewis T. Broschard III

**Absent:** Erel Betser – District I  
Mike Egan – At Large #1

### PRESENTATION OF SERVICE AWARDS

None

### PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Chair Galey opened the public hearing on the August 7, 2019 Report on the Cost of Abatement. Hearing no objections or protests to the August 7, 2019 Abatement Report, the hearing was closed. Chair Galey then asked for a motion to adopt the Resolution of Confirmation confirming the August 7, 2019 Abatement Report in the amount of \$6,142.00. Commissioner Chapman moved that the Commission adopt the Resolution of Confirmation confirming the Abatement Report, seconded by Commissioner Fields. Motion passed (AYES: Bartley, Chapman, Fields, Galey, Guichard; ABSENT: Betser, Egan).

Commissioner Chapman made an additional motion to have District staff adjust or modify any charges found to be incorrect because the charge was entered:

- a) more than once,
- b) through clerical error,
- c) through the error or mistake of a material fact, or
- d) illegally

Motion seconded by Commissioner Fields. Motion passed (AYES: Bartley, Chapman, Fields, Galey, Guichard; ABSENT: Betser, Egan).

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

## **CONSENT ITEMS**

A. June 10, 2019 Meeting Minutes

B. Accept and File Reports:

1. Personnel Report – Pulled from Consent and moved to Discussion
2. Operating Budget
3. Fire Prevention Reports – Pulled from Consent and moved to Discussion
4. Monthly Activity Reports
5. Suppression Leave Summary

Commissioner Fields made a motion to accept and file items A., B.2., B.4., and B.5. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bartley. Motion passed (AYES: Bartley, Chapman, Fields, Galey, Guichard; ABSENT: Betser, Egan).

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A. Personnel Report

Chief Broschard confirmed that it is still the District's policy to fill promotions as they occur.

B. Fire Prevention Report

Chief Broschard noted that (1) report totals are total mandated as opposed to total completed; (2) quite a few inspections are due in October, November, and December which will substantially increase the year-to-date figures; and (3) he is working with the Fire Marshal to improve this report.

After discussion, Commissioner Chapman made a motion to accept and file items B.1. and B.3. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bartley. Motion passed (AYES: Bartley, Chapman, Fields, Galey, Guichard; ABSENT: Betser, Egan).

### C. Helicopter Program Update

REACH approached the Fire District about a strategic partnership focusing on rescue and fire suppression capabilities. We came up with a partnership whereby CON Fire staffs the REACH helicopter with a Captain/Paramedic. The larger helicopter has room for a pilot, co-pilot, and nine fully outfitted troops. The smaller helicopter has room for a pilot, co-pilot, and three or four troops. In the civilian form, the helicopter can transport two patients, pilot, flight nurse, and Captain/Paramedic. The helicopter will be used and equipped for rescue with a hoist – we do not currently have one of these in the County – which can lift people up into the helicopter while it is in motion. This program is cost neutral to the Fire District. REACH will provide pilots and flight nurses and also pay the salary and benefits for three CON Fire Captain/Paramedics working shifts for this 24/7 operation. The helicopter will also be equipped with a 175 gallon capacity Bambi bucket for fire suppression. Presently, there is one helicopter at Buchanan Field Airport, but REACH intends to have two, and they will have CON Fire branding. The smaller helicopter will have a pilot, flight nurse, and REACH medic who will all perform traditional air ambulance roles. The larger helicopter will be a public safety helicopter with rescue and fire suppression capacity and will also have the capability of operating as an air ambulance. Training for our personnel will start in mid-September. This program will go live after the helicopter is delivered which will be sometime around the holidays. The rescue portion of the training is expected to be completed by the end of this year. Until then, our personnel will staff the smaller helicopter with REACH personnel. After the new helicopter is delivered, Fire District personnel will staff it, and REACH personnel will backfill the smaller one. Around the beginning of 2020, there will be two fully operational helicopters operating out of Buchanan Field Airport, and we are working toward other elements of the program.

In response to questions, Chief Broschard noted that (1) there may not be formal automatic aid arrangements, but a neighboring agency needing helicopter assistance can simply contact the District; (2) as needed, we may use the smaller helicopter for fire command; (3) cost to patients will be the same as it is now; (4) personnel time commitment to the program is three years; and our personnel in the program are some of the most experienced in the District, have been working on STARR for years, and understand the minimum requirements some of which are required on day one and others will be met through certification training.

### **FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

Reviewed/discussed the August 12, 2019 Fire Chief's report.

### **COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS / ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

Commissioner Guichard asked about the possibility of changing our Surplus equipment process, particularly for apparatus, so the District can potentially get better value for these items. Chief Broschard indicated that he has spoken with the County Administrator about this and efforts to improve this process are underway.

Commissioner Guichard asked about the Hazardous Materials program. Chief Broschard noted that there have been no substantial changes to our program. CON Fire and our County counterparts depend upon each other when incidents occur. The District will also be getting its own command vehicle in spring of 2020, and we are hoping to also keep the vehicle received from OES.

Commissioner Chapman asked if the District will occupy Fire Station 16 by September 9, the date of the push-in ceremony. Chief Broschard indicated that the District is optimistic about occupying by this date.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME**

The next meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2019, 7:00 p.m.

  
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Latonia Ellingberg, Recording Secretary