



## CONTRA COSTA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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### MINUTES

December 7, 2020

The Advisory Fire Commission met at a regular meeting on Monday, December 7, 2020. Chair Galey called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### ROLL CALL

**Present:** Commissioners: Erel Betser – District I  
Richard “Tom” Chapman – At Large #2  
Michael Daugelli – District III  
Mike Egan – At Large #1  
Walter Fields – At Large Alternate #2  
Debra Galey – District IV  
Richard Nakano – District V

Fire Chief: Lewis T. Broschard III

**Absent:** Matthew Guichard – District II

### PUBLIC HEARINGS

#### A. Jeanny Wang / APN 430-200-020

Chair Galey opened the public hearing. Ms. Wang, joined by Ms. Kathy Rai (one of her contractors), presented her appeal to the Commission. Ms. Wang expressed that (1) the District gave her a deadline to complete the work but came back to inspect the property prior to the deadline; (2) the contractors she hired to abate her property did so sufficiently; (3) the contractors hired by the District took credit for work completed by Ms. Wang's contractors; (4) there were communication issues between her and District staff with regard to describing and explaining the abatement standards; and (5) she is not responsible for the abatement charges showing on her property tax bill. Specifically, Ms. Wang questions (1) the 'after' photos that were not taken at the same angles as the 'before' photos and are also not dated; and (2) whether the 2019 and 2020 abatement requirements are the same.

Furthermore, if the Commission determines that she will be required to reimburse the District for charges incurred to abate her property, Ms. Wang requested consideration for a hardship waiver as she is currently unemployed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and she and her family are struggling financially.

After insuring that Ms. Wang had the opportunity to be thoroughly heard and the Commissioners all had the opportunity to make comments and pose questions,

Chair Galey noted that the Commission did not have enough information to make a determination regarding Ms. Wang's appeal.

Chair Galey suggested that Assistant Chief / Fire Marshal Bachman and his staff work with Ms. Wang and her contractors to resolve this issue and requested that Chief Bachman:

- (1) pull all relevant information including contractor work logs, before and after photos, and all email correspondence;
- (2) clarify abatement standards;
- (3) determine the possibility of a hardship waiver; and
- (4) report back at the next Commission meeting as to whether or not the District's lien against Ms. Wang's property has been rescinded.

Chief Bachman indicated that he will also request that Ms. Wang provide him with the abatement standards she received from the Fire District that she believes have changed between 2019 and 2020.

Ms. Wang expressed her thanks to the Commission for hearing her appeal.

Chair Galey thanked Ms. Wang for presenting her appeal and closed the public hearing.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

A. October 12, 2020 Meeting Minutes

B. Accept and File Reports:

1. Personnel Report
2. Operating Budget
3. Fire Prevention Report
4. Monthly Activity Reports
5. Suppression Leave Summary
6. Correspondence

The Personnel Report, Operating Budget, and Fire Prevention Report were moved to Discussion.

Commissioner Fields made a motion to accept and file Items A and B.4 through B.6. Motion seconded by Commissioner Chapman. Motion passed (AYES: Betser, Chapman, Daugelli, Egan, Fields, Galey, Nakano; ABSENT: Guichard).

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **A. Personnel Report**

Commissioner Chapman asked about recruitment efforts to fill the Assistant Fire Chief position left vacant by Chief Pigeon. Chief Broschard indicated that the District is currently interviewing internal and external candidates.

### **B. Operating Budget**

Commissioner Chapman asked about Line 1013 – Temporary Salaries. Chief Broschard explained that this line is for temporary employees including those provided by personnel agencies.

### **C. Fire Prevention Report**

Commissioner Nakano noted that the Bureau did a great job on the Fire Prevention Report.

Commissioner Chapman made a motion to accept and file Consent Items B.1 through B.3. Motion seconded by Commissioner Egan. Motion passed (AYES: Betser, Chapman, Daugelli, Egan, Fields, Galey, Nakano; ABSENT: Guichard).

### **D. Advisory Fire Commission 2020 Annual Report**

Commissioner Chapman made a motion to accept and submit the 2020 Annual Report with the changes discussed. Motion seconded by Commissioner Nakano. Motion passed (AYES: Betser, Chapman, Daugelli, Egan, Fields, Galey, Nakano; ABSENT: Guichard).

### **E. Advisory Fire Commission 2021 Meeting Schedule**

Commissioner Fields made a motion to accept the Proposed 2021 Advisory Fire Commission meeting schedule. Motion seconded by Commissioner Daugelli. Motion passed (AYES: Betser, Chapman, Daugelli, Egan, Fields, Galey, Nakano; ABSENT: Guichard).

## **FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

Reviewed/discussed the December 7, 2020 Fire Chief's report.

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

Commissioner Chapman requested a report on the Reserve Program at the next meeting.

Commissioner Fields offered his assistance in researching grant opportunities for acquiring auto-load gurneys; and he will report back in the near future.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME**

The next meeting is scheduled for February 8, 2021, 7:00 p.m.



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Latonia Ellingberg, Recording Secretary