

**Woodside Fire Protection District
Board of Directors Meeting
Administration Building
808 Portola Rd.
Portola Valley, CA 94028
August 4th, 2021**

The Board of Director's meeting was called to order at 7:01 P.M. by Director Miller.

Directors Present: Miller, Holthaus, Cain

Directors Absent:

Staff: Chief Lindner, Finance Manager Edwards, Interim B/C Lambrechts, B/C Cuschieri, Fire Marshal Bullard

Other Attendees: Mike Wassermann – Capital Program Management

Public Comment Non-Agendized Topics:

Consent Agenda:

Items: Director Holthaus motioned to move items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7 to the consent agenda; 2nd by Director Cain. Motion passed 3-0.

Regular Agenda:

Item 6: Finance Manager Edwards advised District will be receiving a reimbursement of \$1.754 million. FM Edwards also advised District's assessed valuation has increased over 13% (was 5.61% last year).

Item 8: FY Budget 21-22 was discussed prior to vote of approval. Director Miller discussed increases in compensation, and all were in line with contracted agreement between District and WFPD Labor. Director Miller inquired about the 30% increase in clothing allowance and was advised this was due to the fact the District recently hired 4 individuals. I.T. budget went down. Director Miller inquired about Workman's Compensation decreased by 15% and was wondering if this would continue. FM Edwards advised this was in line with recent years. Last question from Director Miller was an increase in the education number. This is also in relation to the new hires with the increase in costs. There were no further comments from other Board members. Director Miller made the motion to approve the budget of the WFPD for Fiscal Year 21-22; 2nd by Director Cain. Motion passed 3-0.

Item 9: Resolution #301 Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Funds.

Fire Chief Lindner advised the Board this authorizes FM Edwards and Fire Chief Lindner to be able to sign documents on behalf of the District. This is repeated annually and has no change from the previous year. Motion was made by Director Cain to approve Resolution #301 Authorizing Transfer of Funds as drafted; 2nd by Director Holthaus. Motion passed 3-0.

Item 10: Resolution #302 Resolution Establishing Appropriation Limits for the Woodside Fire Protection District. There was no further discussion. Motion was made by Director Cain to approve Resolution #302 as drafted; 2nd by Director Holthaus. Motion passed 3-0.

Item 11: Items 11, 12, 13, and 14 all pertain to the requirements set forth by Cal Pers regarding employee contributions into the Cal Pers system. These resolutions and amendments are all done annually if there are changes in the contributions. Since the employee contribution increases by 1.5% for calendar year 2022, this needs to be amended in the Cal Pers system. This was the discussion among the Board members. There were no further questions from the Board. Director Cain made a motion to approve the Amendment to Contract between the Board of Administration Cal Pers and the BOD WFPD; 2nd by Director Holthaus. Motion passed 3-0.

Item 12: Certification of final Action of Governing Body (PERS-CON5)

There was no further discussion on this. No motion was needed.

Item 13: Resolution #303 Authorizing an Amendment to the Contract.

There was no further discussion. Motion was made by director Cain to approve Resolution #303 as drafted; 2nd by Director Holthaus. Motion passed 3-0.

Item 14: Resolution #304 Fixing the Employer Contribution under the Public Employees' Medical and Hospital Care Act at an Equal Amount for Employees and Annuitants.

Fire Chief Lindner advised the Board this was an amendment to Resolution #300. A specific dollar amount was needed (the maximum amount the district would contribute into the employee's health care. 2022 will max at \$2250. There was no further discussion. Motion was made by Director Cain to approve the resolution as drafted; 2nd by Director Holthaus. Motion passed 3-0.

Item 15: Station 7 and Station 8 Project updates – Wassermann (Capital Program Management)

Mike Wassermann gave a PowerPoint presentation on the updates to the Station 7, interim Station 7, and Station 8 projects. The interim Station 7 needs to be occupied before demolition and construction can begin on the new Station 7. The interim site has been secured and work has begun at the SLAC site, with the station being at the far west end of the linear accelerator. Occupancy is tentatively scheduled for early 2022. The anonymous donor has agreed to have their design/build team construct the temp facility on a cost-plus basis. Director Miller raised the question of soil and potential radiation on site and was advised of the safety/security measures already on the entire property and monitoring will also be continuous to confirm the area is clean. Station 7 remains on pause so permits do not lapse. The plan was conditionally approved on 10/21/2020. Construction is estimated to begin in early Spring 2022. The Station 8 project received Portola Valley Planning approval on 8/11/2021. The anonymous donor's architect, engineers, and contractor are working on engineered/building permit set of plans. CJW architects have been retained by the District as consultants. The project is tentatively scheduled to be constructed from 2/2022 thru 3/2023.

Fire Chief's Report:

Covid-19 Pandemic/Vaccination Update – The discussion of mandatory vaccinations is now the focus within private and public companies. WFPD is currently not mandating vaccinations but is keeping a close watch on what is going on at the federal, state, and local levels. Over 90% of WFPD personnel are fully vaccinated. San Mateo County firefighters Local 2400 has submitted a letter to the County Fire Chiefs opposing mandatory vaccinations but supports the collective bargaining of each agency to discuss this issue. Director Miller commented and advised we, as a District, need to be prepared for the possibility of mandatory vaccinations as this escalates throughout the country and will be a significant topic among residents. There was discussion on those who are opposed due to medical or religious reasons and the possibility of periodic testing, if not vaccinated. This appears to be an option that is acceptable throughout the public and private sector. There was no action taken by the Board on this topic.

Promotional Exams – Battalion Chief assessment center is scheduled for 9/10/21. Interviews with command staff are scheduled for 9/14/21. Fire Captains assessment center is scheduled for the first week of October, with command staff interviews to occur shortly thereafter.

4 individuals have been hired and will start the San Mateo County Fire Academy next week (9/1/21).

Statewide Fire Report: Chief Lindner gave an update on the fires burning across the state. WFPD personnel are currently assigned to the Caldor Fire. They were reassigned from the Dixie Fire to the Caldor Fire 2 days ago. Chief Lindner advised the Board that WFPD crews have been continuously assigned to fires since 7/20/21. Crews are rotated every 14 days and the third crew exchange is upcoming. Although the Dixie Fire is showing signs of stabilizing, the Caldor Fire is threatening to burn into the South Lake Tahoe area. There are requests from Cal OES for multiple resources to keep this threat minimized.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

Multiple written communications, letters of thanks, etc. were handed to the Board Members for them to read. One letter of focus was written by the Incident Commander of the Dixie Fire and was thanking one member of WFPD

who was assigned to that fire as a single resource (Fireline Paramedic). While on his day off, he assisted multiple other agencies in the resuscitation of a child who was rescued out of a pool, victim of a near drowning.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:02 P.M. and entered closed session.

Closed Session:

Chief Lindner advised the Board of personnel issues regarding time off on work-related and unrelated issues. No action was taken by the Board.

Chief Lindner updated the Board on the progress of the contracts needing to be completed regarding the Station 7 and Station 8 build, as well as the interim fire station. Chief Lindner felt this should be the last meeting there would be any need for closed session discussion as all contract and agreements should be finalized. All further discussion and updates will be in open session.

Return from Closed Session: The Board returned from closed session at 8:15 P.M.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 P.M.

The next scheduled meeting will be held September 27th, 2021 at 7:00 P.M at the WFPD Administration Building, 808 Portola Rd. Portola Valley, CA 94028. (Or virtual or a combination of both depending on Covid-19 related concerns).

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Cain – Board Secretary