

**Woodside Fire Protection District
Board of Directors Meeting
Administration Building
808 Portola Rd.
Portola Valley, CA 94028
September 27th, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Director Holthaus.

Directors Present: Holthaus, Miller, Cain

Directors Absent: None

Staff: Chief Lindner, Deputy Chief Cuschieri, Finance Manager Edwards, Battalion Chief Dagenais, Battalion Chief Smith, Battalion Chief K. Hird, Interim Battalion Chief Zabala

Other Attendees: Mike Wassermann – Capital Program Management (CPM)

Public Comment Non-Agendized Topics:

Consent Agenda:

Director Miller motioned to move items 1 and 5 to the consent agenda, 2nd by Director Cain. Motion passed 3-0.

Item 6: Station 7 and Station 8 Projects

Mike Wassermann from Capital Program Management (CPM) gave the Board an update on the fire station projects. He advised progress is being made on all projects. The total program budget has not changed since the last update. He gave a recap that the total project budgets are: Interim Station 7 - \$4,676,409; Station 7 - \$30,997,846; Station 8 - \$8,475,050. Director Miller asked if there was anything on his radar to indicate any cost increases expected with the overall budget and, if so, to let the board know as soon as it is known. Mr. Wassermann advised the board there have been some change orders, but there are contingencies built into all the budgets and so far, everything is well within those contingencies.

Interim Station 7 Update: The station is currently occupied. Director Holthaus asked if the district has obtained the certificate of occupancy yet. Mr. Wassermann advised SLAC has delayed this, pending warranty items as well as some issues with the ingress/egress gate at Sand Hill Road. He also advised SLAC needed to install radiologic monitors on site. There are hopes the COO should be received soon.

Station 7 Update: The entire lot has now been leveled. Coordination with T-Mobile is still ongoing. The temporary trailer to provide cellular service is now in place and is operational. PG&E has now provided temporary power to the site. The building permit was received on 9/22/22. On site, the construction company is currently working on winterization and erosion control. Excavation is expected to start in early October. Coordination with PG&E to start new services is separate from the temporary power. This usually a long process. There is hope the project is not delayed in completing this. The project is scheduled to be completed in August of 2023.

Station 8 Update: Mr. Wassermann updated the board that the district obtained the building permit through the Town of Portola Valley on 8/22/22. Tree protection and erosion control have been installed. Tree removal on the property has been completed. Neighbor fences have been replaced. Site clearing is mostly complete. Building pads and demolition is in progress. PG&E is an issue at Station 8 and was not expected. Gas and power lines were found under areas that are being built so they need to be relocated. There is coordination with all parties to try to expedite this process. The project is expected to be completed in October of 2023. Mr. Wassermann showed a picture of one of the biggest logs removed from the site. He advised the board that logs were sent to a sawyer in La Honda. Agreement was made to store some lumber for the fire district for future use. The remaining logs were given to the sawyer. There was no increase in cost for this. Director Cain asked if there was any public feedback during the removal process. Mr. Wassermann advised the board there were a few residents who stopped and did not like the fact the large tree in the front was being removed. Mr. Wassermann reiterated the tree was in poor condition. This was documented prior by a professional arborist and was confirmed during removal. The tree showed negative effects from the recent heatwave, and also had a co-dominant top. (There were two tops to the tree). The tree was also growing over the district's sewer line, which aided in an unhealthy growth.

There were no further questions/comments from board members.

Item 7: Amendment #3 Agreement Between Woodside Fire Protection District and Vance Brown, Inc.

Mr. Wassermann updated the board that because the donor had already issued funds to the district, there needed to be an amendment. Previously, the builder was to bill the donor directly, and the donor would receive and pay those invoices. Since the district now had the funds, the agreement needed to show these invoices/payments would now be going through the district. Director Miller asked if there were any other changes within the amendment and Mr. Wassermann advised there were no other edits made.

There were no further questions/comments from board members. Director Miller made a motion to approve Amendment #3 as written, 2nd by Director Cain. Motion passed 3-0.

Staff Reports:

Directors expressed appreciation for some of the photos in the training portion of the staff reports, especially the extrication tools, as well as the visuals of crews performing rescue training from a water tower. They also expressed appreciation all probationary training was going well.

Fire Chief's Report:

Chief Lindner advised the Board on the pandemic as well as monkeypox. He advised that local and state numbers have been on the decline as far as monkeypox. He also expressed that Covid-19 numbers have been stable in San Mateo County with low numbers in acute care/ICU within the county.

Chief Lindner advised the board there has still been no release as to the cause of the Edgewood Fire (started 6/21/22).

Chief Lindner gave an update on statewide fires. He stated all the larger fires in the state have made significant progress with all reported fires having at least 85% containment. Recent rains really assisted in the progress of containing most of the fires. He also reiterated we are still in fire season and warming temperatures will increase the possibilities of new starts. All SM County resources have been released from statewide fires.

Chief Lindner advised the board WFPD personnel currently on the FEMA Urban Search and Rescue Task Force 3 have been placed on alert for Hurricane Ian (East Coast). Teams within the US have already been deployed. No West Coast teams have as of yet.

New Business:

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

Chief Lindner distributed multiple thank you letters from citizens to the district.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:27 P.M. and entered closed session.

Closed Session:

Chief Lindner gave an update to the Board on personnel issues. There was no further action taken by the Board.

Chief Lindner advised the Board of the ongoing legal issue with the cell tower at Fire Station 7 and the provider operating on site. Progress continues to be made. There was no request of Board action at this time.

There were no new negotiations between WFPD Local 2400 District 9 (Woodside Professional Firefighters) and the Woodside Fire Protection District on the labor contract ending 12/31/2022.

Return from Closed Session: The Board returned from closed session at 8:02 P.M.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 P.M.

The next scheduled meeting will be held October 25th, 2022, 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,

Matt Miller – Board Secretary