

**NORTH CENTRAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2021
5:30 P.M.
MINUTES**

1. CALL TO ORDER

District Board Chair Mr. Ken Abrahamian called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Mr. Michael Golden, Mr. Michael Foglio, Ms. Amanda Souza and Mr. Ken Abrahamian. Mr. Rusty Nonini arrived a few minutes after roll call.

Also present were Fire Chief Tim Henry, Deputy Chief Jacob McAfee, Mr. Ken Price and Mr. Joe Barcelos.

2. INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE

The invocation was led by Pastor Arabian and the flag salute was led by Chief Henry.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Consideration and Approval of Disbursements List for October 2021

B. Review and Acceptance of Monthly Financial Reports

- 1) District Fund Balances – All Funds**
- 2) Budget Variance Report: YTD Expenses Compared to Budget**
- 3) Revenue and Reimbursement Report**
- 4) PG&E Report**

Mr. Abrahamian asked the District Board and members of the public if there were any items on the Consent Agenda they would like to pull from the agenda for discussion or questions.

There were no questions so Mr. Abrahamian called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion: To approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Moved by: Mr. Foglio, second by Mr. Golden.

Mr. Abrahamian:	Mr. Golden:	Mr. Foglio:	Mr. Nonini:	Ms. Souza:	Vote:
Aye	Aye	Aye	Absent	Aye	4/0

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A) Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 28, 2021.

There were no questions or comments.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 28, 2021 as presented.

Moved by: Ms. Souza, second by Mr. Foglio.

Mr. Abrahamian:	Mr. Golden:	Mr. Foglio:	Mr. Nonini:	Ms. Souza:	Vote:
Aye	Aye	Aye	Absent	Aye	4/0

6. FIRE CHIEF REPORT

A) Fire Incident/Fire Prevention Reports for October 2021

Chief Henry went through the summary reports for the October incident data and investigation report with the District Board and asked if the Board had any questions. There were no questions.

B) NCFPD/Hanford City Combined Dispatch

Chief Henry stated the City of Hanford City Council has approved a mutual contract for dispatch services with the District to share a console at Fresno County EMS. Chief Henry stated right now for twelve (12) hours during the night the District shares a console with six to eight different agencies which can make communications difficult at times with only one dispatcher handling multiple agencies. With this agreement, the number of agencies being handled by one dispatcher will be reduced to two agencies, the District and Hanford Fire Department. Hanford Fire has about the same number of calls each year as the District. This changeover will occur in March of 2022.

C) NCFPD Bylaws

Chief Henry called the District Board's attention to the draft sample of bylaws in their packet. He stated it came to District staff's attention that the Board policies have not been updated in a while, so I provided this sample for your review.

Ken Price stated it is not that the District has not adopted policies in some form or another, but the District hasn't adopted bylaws. The District is governed by their enabling act which is the Fire District Act of 1987, but it is very common for operational activities to have a set of bylaws to delineate the role of the chair and other officers with things like the length of their terms. The sample provided is an initial draft of the bylaws for your consideration which is a draft of standard governmental agency bylaws. It is typical to assign an Ad Hoc Committee to evaluate the bylaws and recommend to the board for a final approval.

Mr. Abrahamian stated he would like to serve on the Ad Hoc Committee and Mr. Golden agreed to join him as the second board member on the Ad Hoc Committee to evaluate and make recommendations to the Board on the District's Bylaws.

Chief Henry added the District has switched to a new website provider. He described some of the changes and benefits provided by the new web hosting company. The benefits will assist the District in providing a better service to fire prevention customers and help the District meet transparency and other current requirements as well as any future compliance requirements.

7. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE COMPOSITION AND BOUNDARIES OF THE DISTRICT'S ELECTION DISTRICTS

A) Conduct Public Hearing to invite public to provide input regarding the composition and boundaries of the districts.

Mr. Abrahamian stated the District is required to hold two public hearings, this being the first. The hearing is to invite the public to provide input regarding the composition and boundaries of the District. Mr. Abrahamian opened the public hearing and asked Mr. Price to provide some background on this item.

Mr. Price stated the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA) is a direct response to the federal voting rights act. It requires most government agencies that elect their boards in an at large capacity which means the top vote getters of the entire district are elected. At large elections have become a disapproved method in the sense of electing a board of directors. The standard now is to have each board member elected by division or district and there is a process to go through this transition from an at large to a by district based board. Mr. Price stated the District initially adopted a resolution announcing their intention to transition to a by district based board. One of the requirements in the transition is to conduct two public hearings before boundaries are considered and so this is the first hearing. After the two public hearings, the District will have a demographer using the input from the hearings put together three or four different options to analyze potential district boundaries. The District will then have ninety (90) days to consider the proposed boundary options and then adopt a preferred set of boundaries. This is a very standard process, Districts are doing this throughout the state of California. The purpose of this hearing is to open it up to have public and board member comments to state any thoughts with respect to the issue and then you close the hearing and have another hearing next month.

Mr. Price answered a few questions from the district board on what some of the factors are to determine the boundaries. Mr. Abrahamian discussed some of the factors that were used when the County of Fresno made boundary determinations for re-districting purposes.

After the discussions and questions, Mr. Abrahamian asked if anyone from the public would like to make a comment but there were none. Mr. Abrahamian closed the public hearing.

8. TYPE I FIRE ENGINE APPARATUS PROPOSAL

A) Action item – Consider and authorize Chief Henry to accept the apparatus proposal from Fire Apparatus Solutions for the purchase of a new Type I Fire Engine.

Chief Henry called the District Board's attention to the apparatus replacement schedule in their packet which was approved in August. On the schedule for the 2022-2023 fiscal year is the purchase of a Type I Fire Engine. The process of ordering a fire engine usually takes twelve (12) to eighteen (18) months in build time. To make this happen in the 2022-2023 fiscal year, now is the time to enter into an agreement to purchase the new engine.

Chief Henry stated currently three of the District's first-line engines were purchased in 2018 so they are only a few years old. But the first-line engine at station 58 is a 2003 and is eighteen (18) years old and one of the District's reserve engines is a 2003 model and the other two reserves are 2001 models and are twenty (20) years old.

Chief Henry stated, due to the fact we are re-opening station 59 and station 54 two of these reserve engines are going to become first-line engines so it's important we get this replacement engine ordered as quickly as we can. Mr. Nonini asked if this new fire engine will replace one of the reserve engines. Chief Henry stated we ordered a Type III fire engine for station 57 in Biola, so that will replace one of the reserves. This new order of a Type I will replace another one of the reserve engines. But we will need a third new engine which we have on the schedule to order in a couple years. Chief Henry stated the District was granted CDBG grant funds of \$245,000 for the type III engine we ordered for Biola. When this Type III engine is completed, the current 2018 engine that is at Biola will be moved to operate out of station 59.

Chief Henry called the district board's attention to repair costs listed on the memo. Engine 58 had \$31,000 in repairs which is not unusual when you have an older engine being used as a first-line engine. The newer engines at stations 55, 56, and 57 show about \$5,000 to \$9,000 dollars of repairs for the same time period.

Chief Henry stated the proposal for the purchase in your packet for a Spartan type pumper shows final costs at \$915,000 which includes being fully equipped, taxes and licenses. There was some questions and discussion about the engines, some of the specifications, and how they are similar to current engines as well as some of the differences. Mr. Price and Mr. Barcelos answered some questions about the lease financing the district is going to use to purchase the new fire engine. There was a question which Chief Henry and Mr. Price answered about the bid process or piggy-back used to obtain this proposal

After the discussion and the questions, Mr. Abrahamian called for a motion.

Motion: To authorize Chief Henry to accept the apparatus proposal from Fire Apparatus Solutions for the purchase of a new Type I Fire Engine.

Moved by: Mr. Nonini, second by Ms. Souza.

Mr. Abrahamian: Mr. Golden: Mr. Foglio: Mr. Nonini: Ms. Souza: Vote:
Aye Aye Aye Aye Aye 5/0

PUBLIC COMMENT - Before Closed Session. Mr. Abrahamian stated the District Board will be moving into closed session and asked if any members of the public would like to make a comment on the Closed Session item. There were no comments.

9. CLOSED SESSION

A) CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS – Government Code section 54957.6

Agency designated representatives: Chief Tim Henry and outside negotiator Che Johnson Liebert Cassidy Whitmore

Employee organization: North Central Professional Firefighters Association

Report from Closed Session: No action to report from this Closed Session item.

B) CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: Number of cases: 1

Report from Closed Session: No action to report from this Closed Session item.

10. SIDE LETTER OF AGREEMENT

A) **Action item – Consider and authorize District legal counsel Che Johnson to execute a “side letter” with the North Central Professional Firefighters’ Association amending the District’s contribution to PARS to an amount equal to one-half of the total normal costs as determined by the PARS certified actuarial valuation.**

Mr. Abrahamian asked the District Board and members of the public if they had any questions on this item. There were no questions so he called for a motion.

Motion: To authorize District Legal Counsel Che Johnson to execute a “side letter” of agreement with the North Central Professional Firefighters’ Association amending the District’s contribution to PARS to an amount equal to one-half of the total normal costs as determined by the PARS certified actuarial valuation.

Moved by: Mr. Nonini, second by Mr. Golden.

Mr. Abrahamian: Mr. Golden: Mr. Foglio: Mr. Nonini: Ms. Souza: Vote:
Aye Aye Aye Aye Aye 5/0

11. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/REPORTS

Mr. Nonini welcomed Mr. Golden to the District Board.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A) Next Regular Board Meeting: Thursday, December 16, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

Chief Henry stated the December board meeting will be moved to Thursday, December 9th and the meeting scheduled for the 16th will be canceled.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Moved by: Mr. Nonini, second by Mr. Foglio

Mr. Abrahamian: Mr. Golden: Mr. Foglio: Mr. Nonini: Ms. Souza: Vote:
Aye Aye Aye Aye Aye 5/0

Amanda Souza, Board Secretary
North Central Fire Protection District

Date