

**NORTH CENTRAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2021
5:30 P.M.
MINUTES**

1. CALL TO ORDER

District Board Chair Mr. Ken Abrahamian called the meeting to order at 5:47 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Mr. Michael Foglio, Ms. Amanda Souza and Mr. Ken Abrahamian.

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 Jordan and the flag salute was led by Mr. Foglio.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

Mr. Price stated under the Brown Act it is permissible for an agency to amend its agenda when an item that requires immediate action has come to the attention of the agency since the posting of the agenda. The reason for this amendment of the agenda is the legislature recently passed Assembly Bill 361 which amends the Brown Act and allows agency Boards to have a member participate electronically or the entire board meeting could occur electronically. In order for this to take place, two things must exist. One is there is a state of emergency which was issued by the Governor due to COVID-19 and secondly, the County has either mandated or encouraged social distancing as a result of the state of emergency. One of our board members is unable to be here tonight due to matters related to the state of emergency and the need to participate telephonically has come to the attention of the District since the posting of the agenda.

Mr. Price stated, at this time I would ask the District Board to consider a motion to amend the agenda to allow for the adoption of an Assembly Bill 361 Resolution that would allow this board member to participate in the meeting telephonically.

Mr. Abrahamian asked if there were any questions, there were none so he called for a motion to amend the agenda.

Motion: To amend the agenda to add AB 361 Resolution No. 21-12 to be considered and adopted.

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

Mr. Abrahamian: Vacant: Mr. Foglio: Mr. Nonini: Ms. Souza: Vote:
Aye Aye Absent Aye 3/0

Mr. Price advised District Board Chair Abrahamian it is appropriate now that the agenda has been amended, to take this item into consideration and once this resolution is adopted, the District's fourth board member can participate telephonically.

4. RESOLUTION NO. 21-12 IN COMPLIANCE WITH ASSEMBLY BILL (AB) 361 WHICH ACKNOWLEDGES THE STATE OF EMERGENCY ISSUED BY THE GOVERNOR AND THE RECOMMENDATIOONS BY THE COUNTY HEALTH OFFICIALS

A) Action item – Consider and adopt Resolution No. 21-12 authorizing remote teleconferencing meetings for the District Board for the period from October 28, 2021, to November 27, 2021, pursuant to Brown Act provisions.

Mr. Price stated the resolution before you which is in compliance with AB 361 which acknowledges the state of emergency issued by the governor and the recommendations issued by the public health officials of Fresno County. This resolution is good for thirty (30) days, it applies to other legislative bodies like any committee meetings and it is conditioned on the public being allowed to participate live at the meeting.

There was some discussion and questions answered by Mr. Price. After all the questions, Mr. Abrahamian called for a motion.

B) Motion: To adopt Resolution No. 21-12 authorizing remote teleconferencing meetings for the District Board for the period from October 28, 2021, to November 27, 2021, pursuant to Brown Act provisions.

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

Mr. Abrahamian: Vacant: Mr. Foglio: Mr. Nonini: Ms. Souza: Vote:
Aye Aye Absent Aye 3/0

Mr. Nonini joined the meeting telephonically.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Consideration and Approval of Disbursements List for September 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. Nonini.

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

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A) Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 30, 2021.

There were no questions or comments.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 30, 2021 as presented.

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

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

6. FIRE CHIEF REPORT

A) Fire Incident/Fire Prevention Reports for September 2021

Chief Henry asked the District Board if they had any questions on the monthly incident and investigations report. There were no questions.

C) NCFPD/Hanford City combined Dispatch

Chief Henry stated the District has been working with the Fire Chief and City Manager with the City of Hanford. We are trying to find the most cost-effective way in dispatching and raising the current services to a higher level of safety in the field of communications. Currently at night with our current contract with County dispatch, for twelve (12) hours the District shares a dispatch console with about six to eight other agencies. All of these agencies are getting dispatched during these twelve (12) hours on the same channel from the same console which can get confusing at times.

Chief Henry stated through negotiating for an exchange of communications with the owner of American Ambulance as well as Fresno County Director of EMS, we landed on a proposal to share a console twenty-four (24) hours a day with Hanford City Fire Department. The proposal will improve communications for both agencies and is within the District's budget for dispatching services.

Chief Henry added he had a visit from Brandon Herreman, the field representative for Congressman David Valadao. Mr. Herreman stopped by to discuss ways Congressman Valadao's office can help the District on the Federal level.

7. FILLING BOARD OF DIRECTORS VACANCY

A) Action item – Appoint candidate Michael Golden, resident of the District to fill the vacant District Board position.

Mr. Price stated there is a process to fill a vacancy on the District Board. Mr. Price outlined the process and described how the District completed all the necessary requirements to fill the vacancy.

Chief Henry called the District Board’s attention to the notice mailed to the county elections office notifying them of the vacancy and the public notice posted in three conspicuous places in the District. Chief Henry stated the District posted the public notice in four different locations and listed the four different places the District posted the public notice. The notice gave interested candidates the opportunity to respond with a letter of interest to Chief Henry by mail or email.

There were some questions from the District Board and members of the public about the process of filling the vacancy which were answered by Mr. Price and Chief Henry.

Mr. Abrahamian stated a letter of interest was submitted by Mr. Michael Golden. He asked Mr. Golden to come forward to introduce himself and answer any questions from the District Board or members of the public. Mr. Golden introduced himself and gave the District Board some of his background, experiences, and reasons he is interested in the opportunity to serve on the District Board.

After some more discussion and a few questions, Mr. Abrahamian called for a motion to appoint Mr. Golden to the board vacancy.

Motion: To appoint Michael Golden to fill the vacant District Board position.

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

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

Chief Henry administered the oath of office to Mr. Golden and he took his place on the District Board.

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.

8. 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 REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS

Property: 3031 N Nielsen Avenue, Fresno.

Negotiating Parties: Chief Tim Henry and John Nipp

Under Negotiation: Price and Terms

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

C) 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.

9. LEASE AGREEMENT WITH JOHN AND NATALIA NIPP TRUSTEES OF THE NIPP FAMILY TRUST

A) Action item – Authorize Chief Henry to execute a lease agreement with John and Natalia Nipp Trustees of the Nipp Family Trust for property at 3031 N Nielsen Avenue in Fresno.

Chief Henry stated taking the steps to transition from the service agreement with the City of Fresno and the re-staffing of District Station 59, we reviewed our current call data and response times for the last couple of years. When the service agreement ends on July 1, 2021, the District will have the Metro area covered by the re-staffing of District Station 59. But in the area of the District west of the 99 where we have an auto aid agreement with the City of Fresno, there is an average of 800 calls covered by the City of Fresno that the District will have to cover.

Chief Henry stated, to add these 800 calls to station 58 and station 56 would be taxing and result in some long response times. It is my recommendation that the board authorize me to enter into a lease agreement with John Nipp who is now the current owner of North Central Fire Station number 6 which was built in 1953. This lease agreement would allow the District to occupy this station again and put an engine company there to respond to the 800 calls in this area. This would effectively reduce response times and increase an effective firefighting force which would take us to twenty-three (23) on-duty firefighters on an average day.

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

Motion: To authorize Chief Henry to execute a lease agreement with John and Natalia Nipp Trustees of the Nipp Family Trust for property at 3031 N Nielsen Avenue in Fresno.

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

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

10. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/REPORTS

Mr. Foglio stated he has heard from multiple community members how much they love hearing the sirens and lights go off on the District Fire Engine when a touchdown is scored at the Pop Warner and High School football games. He wanted to thank the firefighters for doing this and making such a positive impact in the community.

Mr. Foglio also wanted to thank the firefighters on behalf of the Lanfranco family for fighting the fire at Reno's Place and how the firefighters on scene saved a lot of the memorabilia hanging on the wall in the bar. A lot of the items saved have been in the family for many years and the family is thankful for the fast action and effort of the firefighters to save the items.

Mr. Golden thanked the Board for appointing him to the District Board and that he looks forward to working with all of them.

Mr. Abrahamian welcomed Mr. Golden to the board and stated he looks forward to working with him.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A) Next Regular Board Meeting: Thursday, November 18, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m.

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

Amanda Souza, Board Secretary
North Central Fire Protection District

Date