

**NORTH CENTRAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2022, 5:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

District Board Chair Mr. Ken Abrahamian called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Mr. Michael Golden, Mr. Rusty Nonini, Mr. Ken Abrahamian, Ms. Amanda Souza

Board Members Absent: Mr. Michael Foglio

Also present were Fire Chief Tim Henry, Deputy Fire Chief Jacob McAbee and District Counsel Ken Price

2. INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE

The invocation was led by Paul Betancourt and the flag salute was led by Chief Henry.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Daniel Babshoff, 15837 W Monterey Lane, Kerman addressed the board and expressed gratitude to the firefighters, fire department and Chief Henry for efforts within the Kerman community.
- John Jansons, Kerman City Manager, updated the board on city council projects and expressed appreciation for the relationship between the city and district.
- John Krikorian, 4159 W Alluvial, Fresno, requested additional information on the service provider change. Chief Henry indicated he would be happy to meet with residents to provide additional information prior to the July 1st transition date.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- A) Consideration and Approval of Disbursements List for March 2022
- B) Review and Acceptance of Monthly Financial Reports
 - 1) District Fund Cash 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. Hearing none, Mr. Abrahamian called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

MOTION: To approve the consent agenda as presented.

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

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

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A) Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of March 24, 2022

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of March 24, 2022 as presented.

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

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

6. FIRE CHIEF REPORT

- A) Fire Incident/Fire Prevention Reports for March 2022 – Chief Henry presented the summary of calls for the month of March and noted an increase in fire related calls as the district enters the fire season.
- B) Fig Garden Fire Protection District Update – Chairman Abrahamian, with consensus of the board, will be preparing a written response to the chair of the Fig Garden Fire Protection District thanking the district for their reply and expressing North Central’s willingness to continue discussions on ways to serve the entire community with an automatic aid agreement.
- C) NCFPD Website Updates – Chief Henry noted the migration of the district website to the Streamline platform which is set-up to help maintain compliance with special district federal and state regulations.

7. WEED ABATEMENT CONTRACTOR AGREEMENT(S)

Information Only item – staff updated the board on the process of obtaining a contractor for weed abatement services. Staff to update the board at the May meeting.

8. DISTRICT BYLAWS - DESIGNATION OF DISTRICT TREASURER

District Counsel outlined the current code provisions in the Health and Safety code regarding the designation of a district treasurer. After discussion, the Board appointed the position of Business Manager as the district treasurer. Member Golden noted that the treasurer designation does require bonding and that the bonding goes with the individual.

MOTION: Designate a District Treasurer as provided for in the District Bylaws adopted on March 24, 2022 and pursuant to California Health and Safety section 13854(a) or section 13854(b) and designate the Business Manager to serve as Treasurer.

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

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Eric Fonseca, representing the North Central Professional Firefighters Association, Local 5260, expressed membership concerns and concerns as a resident of the district. There were no other public comments, and the Board adjourned into closed session at 6:15 p.m.

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

Back in open session 7.27 p.m. No action to report from Closed Session.

Chairman Abrahamian let the speakers know that the board hears their comments and thanks them for that. He also indicated that the Board authorized him to read the following:

“In past Board meetings, concerns were publicly expressed about the District’s grievance procedure and Chief Henry.

It has been the Board of Director’s practice and desire not to manage the day-to-day operations of the Fire Department. We operate this way because fire protection district boards, like other public boards, are policy making bodies. We hire the chief. We do not, cannot, and should not supervise the day-to-day activities of the District. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am re-affirming our position.

At this time, I want to make it clear that this Board has full confidence in Chief Henry and his abilities to manage, build and lead this department.

We’ve come a long way since the City of Fresno ended our multi-year agreement less than 4 years ago. We went from zero district employees to 48 in a very short period of time and now we stand ready to open two more stations in the coming months.

Chief Henry, his staff, and our District firefighters deserve all the credit in getting us to where we are today.

We realize that every organization has room for improvement. The Chief welcomes input from our employees. When employment policies go before the Board, we will consider them with input from the public, but there is a process we must follow.

With regards to the grievance procedures, let me be clear. This Board will not hear grievances brought by employees. We stand by the established policy where the Fire Chief's decision regarding employment matters is final and non-appealable. The Board will not have direct involvement in that process.

Thank you."

- 10. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/REPORTS** – Board member Golden commented on how well the ceremony went and thanked staff for putting it together. Board member Nonini complimented the training captain and his team for their work and how well the new training facility looked.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A) Regular Board Meeting: Thursday, May 26, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.
Moved by Mr. Nonini; second by Mr. Golden

Mr. Abrahamian:	Mr. Golden:	Mr. Foglio:	Mr. Nonini:	Ms. Souza:	Vote
Aye	Aye	Not Present	Aye	Aye	4/0


Amanda Souza, Board Secretary
North Central Fire Protection District

5-26-22
Date