



FELTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

131 Kirby Street, Felton CA 95018 831 335-4422

Regular Meeting Minutes

Of The Board of Directors

May 04, 2020

Location: Felton Fire Station meeting room and via Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95625671796> Meeting ID: 956 2567 1796

By Telephone: +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose) Meeting ID: 956 2567 1796

1.0 Convene Meeting:

1.1 Call to Order: Chairman Ladd requested Vice-Chairman Walters lead the meeting, as he was physically present in the meeting room. Meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Dan Walters at 7:04 p.m.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

1.3 Roll Call: Directors D. Ladd (via Zoom), R. Gelini (via Zoom), J. Anderson, D. Walters
Staff: Chief Gray, L. Dennis (via Zoom)

Absent: Director Richmond

Guests: None

Attendees noted as such were participating via Zoom audio and video.

1.4 Approve meeting minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 06, 2020. Regular meeting approved as written on motion by Director Anderson and second by Director Gelini and passed.

1.5 Considerations of Additions to the Agenda: None

2.0 Public Comment: None

3.0 Public Hearing: None

4.0 Directors Reports: None

5.0 Staff Report: Chief Gray gave an update on current operations during the ongoing COVID 19 situation. We continue to be well stocked on PPE. We have seen some suspect calls, but don't receive confirmation from the County. Overall, we are maintaining operations status quo. There are some reluctant feelings regarding the County's new loosening of procedures, and some public concerns have been expressed.

There are FEMA grants relative to COVID19. He's been researching and registering for some for reimbursement of related expenses we've incurred. So far our expenses have been under \$2,000.

We continue our Community Outreach program by going out to neighborhoods after Zoom drills. This has been well received and appreciated overall.

The Fire Academy began again tonight. The modified program will go forward with half of the participants here and half of them training at Central Fire.

As some of the business function have been allowed to reopen, he has been receiving many building related questions. Requests for inspections are once again coming in as projects are able to start up again.

6.0 Unfinished Business:

6.1 PERS Retirement healthcare benefits

Laurie provided an update from our attorney regarding the company, Bartel & Associates, that was referred to perform the required actuarial to amend our contract with CalPERS. They estimated the cost would be less than \$1,000 and the turnaround time for the report a matter of few weeks at the most. Chairman Ladd stated that he had emailed Tory and she had responded again that the MOU is still binding beyond the 1995 Resolution with CalPERS. Much discussion followed regarding terms of coverage, family members and other concerns of the board members. Director Anderson stated he felt the intent of the Resolution wasn't for lifetime medical benefits, rather only while employed by the fire district.

Director Gelini expressed some lack of confidence in our attorney and determinations so far. He was also concerned regarding additional expenses resulting from further communications. Some discussion followed regarding attorney costs. Director Anderson stated she is with a reputable firm who also represents the City of Santa Cruz and has confidence in their abilities.

Chairman Ladd recommended identifying options we want to do going forward and decide on a plan. Much discussion followed. Director Walters then restated the three options discussed-

Option 1: Cancel retiree insurance -really not a viable one, as legally we can't.

Option 2: Continue to table the resolution until next meeting. Have our attorney communicate with former Chief Rickabaugh's attorney. In the meantime, do the actuarial as necessary to make changes to the PERS Health contract. Revisit at the next meeting

Option 3: Continue to pay everything for retiree and spouse.

Director Anderson made a motion to proceed with Option 2, with the stipulation that communication be in writing from the attorney and to authorize the actuarial services. The motion was seconded by Director Ladd and approved by all board members present.

Director Gelini asked if we were going to set a limit on costs to pursue all of this. More discussion followed. Most board members concluded it will cost what it costs to complete.

7.0 New Business:

7.1 Fire Chief Review.

Chairman Ladd stated that he has been remiss and has not completed the review, and has not had a discussion with Chief Gray. He suggested that the merit increase for this period go forward as agreed to in the MOU. Discussion followed regarding members agreeing the Chief's performance warrants so.

Director Ladd moved to offer Chief Gray the increase, effective retroactively to the due date according to his MOU. The motion was seconded by Director Walters and passed unanimously. The effective date would have been April 17, 2020.

7.2 First Net cellular plan for District.

Chief Gray explained the initial research into switching to First Net which began as a result of the P G & E safety shuts offs last year, and the inability to communicate caused. The advantages to First Net are the priorities given for emergency response communications and the coverage he's experienced personally is better. The costs monthly for First Net will be the same as now with Verizon. The downside is we will need to purchase updated equipment to replace some existing. There will be discounts and rebates, but up front we would have about \$2,500 in costs to switch. The cradlepoints are now outdated and that represents 6 pieces of equipment. Director Gelini asked Chief Gray to send the costs to them in writing for review. Some discussion followed. The initial contract he believes is a two-year term. Director Gelini made a motion to approve the switch to First Net, it was seconded by Director Anderson and passed.

7.3 Declare WT-2350 as surplus.

Chief Gray stated that the new water tender is done. They are working out the details of the final inspection. It should be here and in service before the next meeting. Director Gelini made a motion to declare the old WT2350 surplus. The motion was seconded by Director Ladd and passed.

8.0 Approve paid vendor claims for the month of April 2020: Board members reviewed the vendor claims in the amount of \$21,191.79. Claims were approved as presented on motion by Director Ladd, seconded by Director Gelini and passed.

9.0 Closed Session: None.

10.0 Set date for the next meeting: The next Regular Meeting will be held on Monday, June 01, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.

11.0 Adjourn: Vice-Chairman Walters adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Dave Ladd, Chairman



Attest: Laurie Dennis, Secretary