



FELTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

131 Kirby Street, Felton CA 95018 831 335-4422

Regular Meeting Minutes

Of The Board of Directors

November 07, 2022

Location: ZOOM meeting link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88224911338?pwd=WWluNIJReFhmaUpVT2ZyQllKdyt6QT09>

1.0 Convene Meeting:

1.1 Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Cyndi Foreman at 6:06 p.m.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

1.3 Roll Call: Directors C. Foreman, J. Anderson, N. Crandell, D. Ladd (joined 6:10)

Staff: Chief Gray, L. Dennis

Absent: R. Gelini

Guests: none

1.4 Approve meeting minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 03, 2022.

Regular meeting minutes approved as written on motion by Director Anderson and second by Director Crandell and passed.

Ayes: Directors Anderson, Ladd and Crandell, Foreman

Noes: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Gelini

1.5 Considerations of Additions to the Agenda: Director Crandell requested adding discussion regarding ERAF funding diversion, will be added as 7.3 under New Business to agenda.

2.0 Public Comment: none

3.0 Public Hearing: None

4.0 Directors Reports: Director Anderson reported that their LAFCO consultant will be reaching out and going out to all of the Fire Districts in person. He also stated Branciforte Fire District decided to hire the consultant to see what a parcel tax will cost.

5.0 Staff Report: Chief Gray reported that it's been a busy month for administrative staff. The IRS Audit continues and will result in costs to us in the end. We were told the process will last 6 months. They continue to request additional documentation. Some discussion followed regarding processing done at the County for our payroll. Chief suggested we may

want to contact a CPA or tax attorney to review the processes. Some additional discussion followed. No direction on further contact.

-Radio Infrastructure – working on county-wide study committee to build a new system, which has a \$32 million dollar price tag so far. Discussion followed. They are exploring different options and solutions. Also looking into funding options.

-LAFCO fire study- He met with AP Triton today and went through the station with the consultant. Chief thinks this is a very worthwhile exercises to shine a light on standards of service coverage. Director Anderson echoed Chiefs comments. General discussion followed.

-Have been working with Chief Bither of CalFire regarding our auto-aid agreements. This will enable updates to re-capture and clear up some existing confusions on responses and coverage areas.

- Completed Fire Prevention at SLE. It was the first time back in person in two years and was very well received.

- Fire Code adoption will have its first reading at the Board of Supervisors meeting next week. All of the Chiefs or Fire Prevention Officers in the County plan to attend.

- Paynight dinner will be December 10 at Brett Harte Hall beginning at 6:30. Chief spoke with Malani regarding Roaring Camp hosting and catering in exchange for the Thomas the Train standby services we provided. Director Foreman asked the Chief if members that have left during the year would be invited as it would be a good gesture for their service. Chief Gray replied that he feels current board, staff and volunteers are only appropriate and that it is a thank you to them. He added that all Board members plus one and squad plus one should let him know by Thanksgiving if they plan to attend. The event will begin at 6:30 and last until 10:00.

- Santa's Shelves is happening after a two-year break and will be the weekend of November 19 and 20. Director Ladd asked about the issue with sleepers in the squad room, to which Chief replied that it has been worked out. Chief Gray described the planned set-up. Director Ladd again questioned the reasoning and use of the sleeper trailer. Chief replied that this is a fire station first and foremost, but we are doing the best to accommodate the needs of this event. Director Foreman wanted her opinion heard that the public expects us, as in the past, to open our doors. The squad should suck it up and allow access to all areas for the public.

Director Anderson added that he felt we shouldn't have the appearance of the inmates running the asylum. He also added that we should meet as a group to discuss other options for the future and events. He feels the auxiliary generates a lot of funds over the years so it's worth considerations. General discussion followed regarding auxiliary members lack of any willingness to adapt or make changes discussed with them.

Director Foreman stated that there's been a change to the spaces we've all known, but implied use of the space is different and there's a struggle for everyone with changes that have happened. We need to have a formal policy for station use, which also separates meeting and facility use. Chief commented that he has been working on such a policy, and agreed that after the first of the year all should sit down and discuss. Director Ladd commented that he just wanted an update on the event changes, not to rearrange what is planned.

6.0 Unfinished Business:

6.1 LAFCO sphere of influence annexation- Gray / Anderson- update on progress

Chief Gray stated this was discussed previously in staff report. Director Anderson shared that today he and Chief has lunch with John Laird, Jimmy Panetta, Gail Pellerin and several others. He felt Chief Gray represented Felton Fire well. They talked a lot about grant funding. Director Foreman stated she attended the FDAC conference and there were only 3 or 4 various fire district board members there. She would really like to encourage us to budget for this conference and for our board members to attend next time as the information is valuable. There was also much discussion about grant funds at the conference, along with staffing obstacles they are all facing.

6.2 PERS CEPPT pension prefunding trust and current unfunded accrued liability

Chief Gray stated the Laurie was successful in transmitting the initial \$100,000 UAL payment, and the second payment of \$75,000 has also posted. The \$25,000 contribution to our CEPPT account was also completed.

Director Crandell stated we have successfully decreased our UAL balance to roughly \$30,000 or \$40,000, and are in a much better position. He would like to see a commitment as a board to budget \$40,000 to the retirement GL. This amount would be in addition to our normally required CalPERS UAL amount. After the budget is in place for the year, we can then determine how much to contribute to CEPPT or pay down on our UAL. A short discussion followed. Director Crandell also suggested we review our position quarterly, at least for the first year, and Chief agreed it should be agendized and on a calendar. Director Crandell made a motion to fund up to \$40,000 in our annual budget for the retirement line item, with the intent to pay toward CEPPT and/or UAL. The motion was seconded by Director Anderson

Ayes: Directors Anderson, Crandell, Ladd and Foreman

Noes: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Gelini

Motion carried.

Chief Gray asked if he should get cost information from Weiss to provide us an annual update analysis service on our position and market conditions. Directors Anderson and Crandell said to get the cost and then decide if we'd have them do it. Additional discussion regarding market position and financial analysis. Director Anderson stated that he could do this and provide information to the board. Director Crandell felt getting the costs would still be good, which would enable us to show the public what we're saving by doing this ourselves in-house.

6.3 Strategic planning process update- Gray/ Crandell- currently reviewing

Chief Gray stated there is no update.

7.0 New Business:

7.1 Resolution 16-2022 to continue supporting AB 361- *Conducting virtual board meetings during a declared state of emergency*- Gray- discussion regarding commencing in-person meetings, and possible action

Director Anderson stated Governor Newsome said he will rescind this bill as of March 1, 2023.

Director Crandell made a motion to adopt the resolution to continue virtual meetings and Director Anderson seconded.

Ayes: Directors Anderson, Crandell, Ladd and Foreman

Noes: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Gelini

Motion carried.

7.2 Review Volunteer Life/AD&D coverage amounts- discussion & possible action.

Chief Gray stated that this was identified in the IRS Audit. Any fringe benefit over \$50,000 is reportable and taxable, and our current amount per volunteer is \$100,000. He suggested we consider reducing the amount below the \$50,000 threshold. Some discussion followed. Director Crandell asked the Chief to poll the squad to see what's important to them. Chief suggested researching some other options as alternatives. Director Crandell asked to table further discussion and action until next meeting. Director Anderson asked the Chief to look at the longer-term employees and their wants.

7.3 ERAF – funding diversion to education.

Chief Gray requested this be tabled until next meeting and he will bring back more information for discussion.

8.0 Approve paid vendor claims for the month of October 2022: Board members reviewed the vendor claims in the amount of \$19,718.60. Claims were approved as presented on motion by Director Crandell and seconded by Director Ladd.

Ayes: Directors Anderson, Ladd, Crandell and Foreman.

Noes: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Gelini

Motion carried.

9.0 Closed Session: None

10.0 Set date for the next meeting: The next Regular Meeting will be held on **Monday, December 05, 2022 at 6:00 P.M.** The meeting will be remotely via Zoom.

11.0 Adjourn: Director Foreman moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Cyndi Foreman

Cyndi Foreman, Chairman

Laurie Dennis

Attest: Laurie Dennis, Secretary