



Russian River Fire District Board of Directors

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2020

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Fire Station 1

14100 Armstrong Woods Rd., Guerneville, CA 95446

CALL TO ORDER

Weaver called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present for Staff: Chief Heine, Flowers

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of allegiance was led by Limbert.

ROLL CALL

President Weaver- Present

Director Butts-Present

Director Jackson-Present

Director Limbert-Present

Director Symmonds-Present

OPEN TIME FOR PUBLIC EXPRESSION

Lois Lebovitch- Special procedures/protocol for fire personnel during coronavirus? How will fire season/evacuations be handled if the coronavirus is still active/present during that time?

Chief Heine will cover this information under Chief's report.

AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS

None.

PRESENTATION

None.

RUSSIAN RIVER PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S REPORT

All hands staff meeting was held March 10th, staff is very positive heading towards annexation.

DIRECTOR REPORTS

Director Weaver reported on the February 26th meeting with Friends of Rio Nido regarding the post office, USPS will be discussing, next meeting set for next week. Director Weaver met with Jimmy Cheatham, JR regarding his high school senior project, "Why Fire Districts need more funding".

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Heine requested the April board meeting to be moved to April 15th; board agreed.

Measure G is at 63.32% but is not finalized yet.



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Coronavirus – much stronger than the past flu viruses, public health is likely to issue an advisory of no community events over 50 people. Emergency operation centers focus right now is to increase supplies to hospitals, need for ventilators will increase dramatically. The District is increasing station decontamination, increase staff safety awareness and procedures. Fire season with coronavirus still active has not been discussed at length at this time.

Monte Rio Fire has invited Chief Heine to their board meeting to discuss annexation.

LAFCO meeting (3/4) – LAFCO commission accepted the application for Sonoma County Fire District to annex Russian River Fire. The public hearing is set for May 6, 2 pm, to certify the protest period either unsuccessful or successful. Protest period officially starts on March 12, property owners will be notified by LAFCO via mail and registered voters will be notified by LAFCO via a legal notice in the newspaper. Post certification on May 6th, the annexation will be certified with the County, State Board of Equalization, etc. prior to a go live date. Work has begun regarding apparatus/station re-branding. The first piece of equipment that will be re-branded will be the reserve ambulance which will be used for training.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

A motion by Butts, seconded by Jackson, approved the minutes of February 12, 2020 Regular Board meeting and February 2020 financial information. 5-0-0.

ACTION ITEMS

1. AMBULANCE BILL HARDSHIP REQUEST

The Board will consider the ambulance bill hardship request received.

Chief Heine explained the hardship process and factors surrounding request.

A motion by Butts, seconded by Symmonds, approved the ambulance bill write off up to the cap of \$10,000.00 due to hardship. 5-0-0.

2. REVIEW OF DRAFT TRANSPORT BILLING HARDSHIP POLICY

The Board will review the draft transport billing hardship policy.

Chief Heine reviewed the transport billing hardship policy. 138% of the current HHS Poverty Guidelines as a guideline in granting a hardship waiver. Policy pertains to all residents of the Russian River Fire Protection District; application and required documentation must be submitted for review, approval/denial. If hardship request is denied, requestor can appeal to the Board of Directors.

A motion by Limbert, seconded by Butts, approved the transport billing hardship policy with addendum to number 7, change from 200% to 138%. 5-0-0.

COMMITTEE REPORT

- 1. FINANCE-** Director Jackson reported on the following: ambulance billing is higher due to increased rates, some compensation from the Kincade Fire will be credited to the overtime category, budget is tracking very close to projections, medical director



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agreement is under review and the Chief hopes to bring it to the Board for approval at the April meeting.

2. **STRATEGIC PLANNING-** Did not meet.
3. **EVACUATION PLANNING-** Did not meet.
4. **LABOR NEGOTIATIONS-** Did not meet.

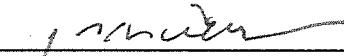
COMMUNICATIONS

None.


ADJOURNMENT

Lois Lebovitch: Supervisor Gorin and Chris Godley will be hosting a live discussion regarding the coronavirus.

A motion by Symmonds, seconded by Jackson adjourned the meeting at 6:49 p.m.

/s/ 

Jason Weaver, Board President

/s/ 

Heidi Flowers, Board Clerk