

Clarksburg Fire Protection District
52902 Clarksburg Avenue, P.O. Box 513
Clarksburg, CA 95612
Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
March 7, 2024, 2023, 4:30 p.m. (via In-Person and Zoom)
Meeting Minutes

Chairman Pruner called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

Members present:

Joe Gomes, Mark Pruner, Nancy Kirchhoff, Steve Pylman, and Bob Webber
Richard Bagby, Commission Secretary

Fire personnel present:

Chief Craig Hamblin, Assistant Chief Richard Bagby, Captain Peter Hunn, and Firefighter Joe Gomes.

Public present:

There were no members of the general public present.

Agenda approval:

It was moved by Commissioner Pylman and seconded by Commissioner Kirchhoff to approve the agenda as revised to exclude item #11 (Real Estate Acquisition). The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 1, 2024:

Following discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Gomes and seconded by Commissioner Webber to approve the Minutes of the February 1, 2024, Regular Meeting, as presented. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of February 26, 2024:

Following discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Pylman and seconded by Commissioner Gomes to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2024, Special Meeting, as presented. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Approval of the uses of expenditures for the month of January 2024 in the amount of \$7,809.73:

Following review and discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Kirchhoff and seconded by Commissioner Pylman to approve the uses of expenditures for the month of January 2024, in the amount of \$7,809.73. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Public Comment:

Captain Hunn reported that he has pursued the issue of deer crossing State Route 84 (Jefferson Boulevard) in the Arcade area. The captain reported that Cal Trans has taken his requests for warning signs seriously and has begun the "paperwork" to approve and place the appropriate *Deer Crossing* signs.

Reports from Commissioners:

There were no reports from Commissioners.

Closed Session:

It was moved by Commissioner Webber and seconded by Commissioner Kirchhoff to adjourn to Closed Session with the presence of Captain Hunn. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Following the Closed Session, Chairman Pruner reported that no action was taken during the closed session.

Grant/Allocation Application Status:

Chairman Pruner reported that the approved and signed Agriculture bill was somewhat difficult to navigate given the various sections, sub-sections, and projects. Notwithstanding, the Chair reported that our District received an allocation of \$432,291.00. Asst. Chief Bagby reported that, on February 15, 2024, we received information from the Yolo County Office of Emergency Services on applying for a State Homeland Security Grant. As the preliminary application was due on February 21st, he and Chief Hamblin completed a preliminary application for additional pagers to equip our newer firefighters with up-to-date pagers. In addition, the Chief reported that we are part of a Regional Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Aid to Firefighters Grant (AFG) application for multi-band portable radios. This grant, if funded, will expand our communications capabilities to include VHF, UHF, 700 MHz, and 800 MHz systems in one portable radio. A brief discussion ensued relating to multi-band equipment and the expanded interoperability the equipment will provide.

Consideration of a new Proposition 218 Benefit Assessment for the Clarksburg Fire Protection District:

Chairman Pruner reviewed his various communications with SCI Consulting regarding the questions and concerns raised at the last Regular Meeting. The Chairman expressed his concern regarding the consultant's reluctance to modify the Engineers report to more adequately reflect the unique distribution of agriculture vs. residential land in our District. The Chairman distributed several spreadsheets listing 3 levels of assessment and specific totals for a number of the larger landowners and businesses. Chairman Pruner focused the discussion to decide on a specific level of assessment to meet the projected needs of the District. Notwithstanding, an extended discussion took place regarding methodology behind the proposed Engineer's Report. The proposed Engineer's report and various individual parcel assessments were examined. Following discussion, the Board again focused on the need for an Engineer's report that addresses the unique needs of our District rather than a "cookie cutter" report intended to address the needs of all County fire districts. Chairman Pruner volunteered to communicate with John Bliss of SCI Consulting requesting an Engineers report and cost estimate for an Engineers Report that specifically addresses the characteristics of the Clarksburg Fire District. The complications associated with drafting an Engineers report for a small statistical sample were discussed. By consensus, the Board approved a draft letter to John Bliss requesting the aforementioned services.

At this point in the meeting, Commissioner Kirchhoff left due to a prior commitment.

Chairman Pruner quired the Board regarding communication with the public regarding the proposed assessment. It was the consensus of the Board that communication with the public regarding the proposed assessment be postponed pending additional information from SCI Consulting and, subsequently, a final proposal from this Board. Further discussion ensued regarding various communications strategies (pamphlet, bullet points, statistics, improved services, etc.) to be utilized to communicate information on the proposed assessment.

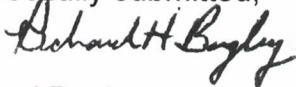
Also discussed was the current status of County Finance, State Finance and future commitments by both these entities that may impact our District.

Chief's Report:

Chief Hamblin reported that the Old Timers Dinner of March 2nd. went well. The Chief further reported that the Open House, held on Saturday, February 17th, also went well. In the Chief's opinion, the Open House was especially successful in that it gave the firefighters a chance to meet the public, explain the equipment, and relate, on a social basis, to the people they serve. The Chief noted that the "Boot Drive", which was part of the Open House, raised approximately one thousand dollars for the Firefighters Burn Institute. The Chief noted that the Association voted, unanimously, to make the Open House an annual event. The Chief reported on the structure fire of February 17th. Commissioner Gomes complimented the Chief on the minimally invasive fire attack. Chief Hamblin concluded his report by informing the Board that we have lost one our new recruits the U.S. Army.

With no further business before the Commission, it was moved by Commissioner Webber and seconded by Commissioner Gomes to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard Bagby
Secretary to the Commission