

MINUTES

Regular Board Meeting

May 10, 2022

5:30 p.m.

Location: Remote Via Zoom

Board of Directors

*Randy Mendosa (Division 3) - President, Blaine Maynor (Division 1) - Vice-President,
Nicole Johnson (Division 2) - Director, Eric Loudenslager (Division 4) - Director
David Rosen (Division 5) - Director*

CALL TO ORDER

The regular session of the Board of Directors for the Arcata Fire District was called to order by President Randy Mendosa at 5:30 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance has been suspended during Shelter in Place.

ATTENDANCE AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

The meeting continued with a quorum and the following were present remotely via zoom: President Randy Mendosa, Vice President Blaine Maynor, Director Nicole Johnson, Director Eric Loudenslager, and Director David Rosen.

Additional District administrative staff included Fire Chief Justin McDonald, Assistant Chief Sean Campbell, and Board Secretary Becky Schuette.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved to approve the agenda.

Motion: Johnson; Second: Maynor

Roll Call: Ayes; Johnson, Loudenslager, Maynor, Rosen, and Mendosa.

Motion Carries

PUBLIC COMMENT

President Mendosa called for public comments and there were none.

Senior Management Group – Nothing to report.

Local 4981 – Marcus Lillard, President reported that the Local is looking forward to the Captains portion of hiring and that the process is generating interest from some local firefighters.

Arcata Volunteer Firefighters Association (AVFA) – Rob Cannon, filling in for Roy Willis and Dave White. The addition to the report was that there are still ants at the Arcata Station.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Minutes from April 5, 2022, Special Meeting
2. Minutes from April 12, 2022, Regular Meeting
3. April 2022 Financial Report
4. Renewal of Adoption of Resolution 21-247 for an Additional 30 Days, Making Findings Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953, As Amended by Assembly Bill 361, and Authorizing the Continued Use of Virtual Meetings
5. Adoption of Resolution 22-259 Rescinding Resolution 20-219 and Removing the Surplus Property Designation for the Property Located at 1127 Old Arcata Road, Arcata, CA.
6. Adopt Resolution 22-263 with Exhibit A, Approving Disposal of Surplus Equipment and Supplies

President Mendosa reviewed the consent items aloud and there were no comments from the Board or members of the public.

It was moved to approve the consent calendar.

Motion: Loudenslager; Second: Johnson

Roll Call: Ayes; Johnson, Loudenslager, Maynor, Rosen, and Mendosa.

Motion Carries

CORRESPONDENCE & COMMUNICATIONS

1. Public Correspondence – President Mendosa reviewed the correspondence aloud. There were no additional comments from the Board or the public.

2. Committee Reports:

a. Arcata Station Rent Committee (*Mendosa, Maynor*) – Nothing to report at this time, but there will be a closed session later in the meeting.

b. Arcata General Plan & Gateway Area Plan Committee (*Loudenslager, Mendosa*) – Director Loudenslager reported that he had attended a meeting and made a comment during the public comment portion of the meeting. His comment involved advising that the Fire District is requesting interaction from the City regarding Fire District involvement in the processes and effects of the EIR to the District.

Chief McDonald advised that he has not received any contact from the City, however, he had been contacted by Council Member Matthews requesting to meet with the Chief to discuss the Gateway Project.

3. Fire Chief's Monthly Report – Chief McDonald reviewed his monthly report aloud.

Director Loudenslager requested clarification on the number of Captains needed to keep the third station open and if the closures were rotational. The Chief explained the District needs nine full-time Captains, and there are currently only six. The closures are rotational with each of the stations being closed two days at a time.

Director Maynor asked if there was an update on the engine purchase and the Chief advised that he has not heard anything recently, but that all of the documents were submitted on time. The District is simply in a queue.

President Mendosa asked for clarification on the auto aid for the ladder truck response in addition to potentially using the Friends of Measure F email list to seek out possible Measure F committee members.

4. Director Matters – There were none.

DISTRICT BUSINESS

1. Consider and Vote for Humboldt Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo)

Regular and Alternate Members: Chief McDonald reviewed his staff report aloud, offering his recommendation that the two incumbents, Troy Nicolini and David Couch, be the District's vote.

There were no questions or comments from the public or the Board.

It was moved to consider casting a vote for Troy Nicolini as the Regular member and David Couch as the Alternate Member.

Motion: Johnson; Second: Maynor

Roll Call: Ayes; Johnson, Loudenslager, Maynor, Rosen, and Mendosa.

Motion Carries

2. Annual Performance Evaluation of the Fire Chief: Chief McDonald reviewed his staff note aloud.

There was a lengthy discussion about the delay in this past year's review, if the performance and tasks were up to date for this period and confusion about which dates the last evaluation covered.

The following member of the public commented:

Marcus Lillard, Local 4981 President

It was moved that the Board does not conduct an appraisal for FY 21/22 and carry over the goals to the FY 22/23 appraisal period.

Motion: Loudenslager; Second: Maynor

Roll Call: Ayes; Johnson, Loudenslager, Maynor, Rosen, and Mendosa.

Motion Carries

3. Consider Approval of Proposal by JJACPA, Inc. to Provide Audit Services for Fiscal Years 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24: Chief McDonald reviewed his staff report aloud and made his recommendation.

There was a question about the date listed on page 74 of the packet, specifying 2021. Based on the rest of the chart, it appears to have been a typo and should read 2022.

There was brief discussion about the use of the same auditor for another three years and if it was possible to only do a one-year contract. Chief McDonald explained that the RFP was for three years and that a new RFP would need to occur if it was only to be for one year. Upon a query to him directly, Director Rosen voiced that he had no concerns about using the same auditor for three more years.

It was moved to authorize the Fire Chief to execute a Professional Services Agreement based on the proposal submitted by JJACPA, Inc. to provide audit services for Fiscal Years 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24.

Motion: Rosen; Second: Johnson

Roll Call: Ayes; Johnson, Loudenslager, Maynor, Rosen, and Mendosa.

Motion Carries

4. Discussion and Consideration for the Boards Performance Goal for Chief McDonald to Pursue a Public Process for an Official Name Change for the District: Chief McDonald reviewed his staff report aloud.

There was a lengthy discussion with questions and input from most of the Directors. Several pointed out what their favorite one, or two name choices might be, as well as the desire to be speedy with this process and keeping the decision in-house or administrative.

Further discussion was added requesting the process be a robust public procedure for input from constituents, including a multi-meeting public hearing process, advertising, town hall meetings and a ballot measure.

Other, less expensive options for public notice included use of email, an existing survey monkey account and use of regular mail.

The following member of the public commented:

Marcus Lillard, Local 4981 President

There were a few final discussion points and questions from the Board about the reason for the name change in 2014, how it went, what names were floated and the ultimate decision.

There were no additional public comments.

It was moved to continue the item and resume discussion on at the next Board meeting, and perhaps beyond that, at which time the Board will decide the next steps.

Motion: Maynor; Second: Loudenslager

Roll Call: Ayes; Johnson, Loudenslager, Maynor, Rosen, and Mendosa.

Motion Carries

CLOSED SESSIONS

Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Gov. Code Section 54956.8)

Property: *APN: 021-041-002-000, 631 9th Street, Arcata*

Agency Negotiators: *Director Randy Mendosa and Director Blaine Maynor*

Under Negotiation: *Price and Terms of Payment*

Public Employee Appointment (Gov. Code Section 54957(b)(1))

Title: *Assistant Chief*

There were no public comments after President Mendosa reviewed the closed session topics.

President Mendosa adjourned to closed session at 6:56 pm.

The meeting resumed at 7:30 pm.

Report out of closed session by President Mendosa;

Item 1 – The Board directed staff to notify the Arcata Volunteer Firefighters Association that the District will no longer be pursuing the purchase of the 9th Street property.

Item 2 – There was nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT

Following a motion, President Mendosa adjourned the meeting at 7:30 pm.

Motion: Johnson; **Second:** Loudenslager

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for **June 14, 2022, at 5:30 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,



Becky Schuette,
Clerk of the Board