

## MINUTES

*Regular Board Meeting*

*June 14, 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, and Board Secretary Becky Schuette.

Prior to approval of the agenda, Chief McDonald requested that the Real Property Negotiation closed session be called early during the first closed session, in order to accommodate Attorney Plotz schedule.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved to approve the agenda with the exception of the Real Property Negotiations item to be called early.

**Motion:** Johnson; Second: Maynor

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

Motion Carries

### **SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Chief McDonald presented the 2021 Annual Award recipients, introducing Larry Wood, who was present, as the Volunteer of the Year. Not present, Engineer Manuel Burciaga was awarded Rookie of the Year, Fire Captain John Evenson, Employee of the Year and Dave White, Officer of the Year.

There were no comments from the Board and AVFA President Roy Willis spoke briefly about the award recipients, offering his thanks.

## **CLOSED SESSIONS**

### **Conference with Labor Negotiators (Gov. Code Section 54957.6)**

Employee Organization: *Senior Management Group*

Agency Designated Representative: *District Counsel Jack Hughes*

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

Property: *631 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Arcata*

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

President Mendosa adjourned to closed session at 5:39 pm.

The meeting resumed at 6:05 pm.

Report out of closed session by President Mendosa;

Item 1 – Consent Calendar Item 9 discussed, will be pulled for clarification.

Item 2 – The Board gave direction to staff and the attorney.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

President Mendosa called for public comments and the following member of the public commented:

George Green, Arcata

Senior Management Group – Nothing to report.

Local 4981 – Unavailable for a report.

Arcata Volunteer Firefighters Association (AVFA) – Roy Willis, President. In addition to reviewing his report, he advised he had just learned that the Knox grant was not approved by Coast Central.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Minutes from May 10, 2022, Regular Meeting
2. May 2022 Financial Report
3. 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
4. Adopt Resolution 22-264 and Exhibit A, Accepting the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Appropriations Limit for the Arcata Fire District
5. Adopt Resolution 22-265 Setting the Per Unit at \$22 for the 2006 Benefit Assessment for Fiscal Year 2022-23
6. Adopt Resolution 22-266 Amending the CAL-Card Credit Limits Adopted in Resolution 18-191
7. Adopt Resolution 22-267 with Exhibit A, Authorizing the Destruction of Certain Fire District Records
8. Authorize the Contract Agreement for Repairs to the Mad River Fire Station
9. Side Letter Agreement Between Arcata Fire Protection District and Arcata Fire District Senior Management Group

President Mendosa reviewed the consent items aloud. He removed item 9 from the consent calendar. There were no additional comments from the Board or the public. It was moved to approve items 1 through 8 of the consent calendar.

**Motion:** Loudenslager; Second: Johnson

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

Motion Carries

President Mendosa requested clarification be provided to consent Item 9 and Chief McDonald reviewed its purpose and pointed out that there was an error on the fourth "Whereas" on the first page of the document. The end of the sentence read "...reduced from ten years to three." The last word in the sentence "three" should have read "four."

With no further discussion or comments a motion was made.

It was moved to approve consent item 9 with the noted correction.

**Motion:** Maynor; 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 Committee (*Mendosa, Maynor*) – Nothing to report.

b. Arcata General Plan & Gateway Area Plan Committee (*Loudenslager, Mendosa*) – Director Loudenslager advised the District is waiting on the EIR and queried Chief McDonald regarding if he had been contacted by anyone from the City. Chief McDonald advised he had not.

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

4. Director Matters – President Mendosa reported he had a check in meeting with a couple of the crews recently, receiving their thoughts and views. He encourages other Directors to do the same. There were no comments from any of the other Directors.

## **DISTRICT BUSINESS**

**1. Consider Appointment of Kevin Jenkins to the Measure F Citizen Advisory**

**Committee:** Chief McDonald reviewed his staff report aloud and made his recommendation.

There were no comments from the Board or the public.

It was moved to appoint Kevin Jenkins to the Measure F Citizen Advisory Committee.

**Motion:** Maynor; Second: Johnson

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

Motion Carries

**2. Schedule of Fees Update to Prevention Fees:** Chief McDonald reviewed his staff note aloud. He pointed out that the vast majority of apartment complexes are less than

10 units, and they will see a reduction in their fees, while a handful of the much larger complexes will see a triple-digit increase in their fees.

Based on a query, the Chief advised that the annual inspections are mandated by the state to inspect common areas and protect the privacy rights of the tenants. The self-evaluation door hangers are a “work-around” to assist with privacy and occasionally building managers or landlords participate in the inspections with Matt and many require their tenants receive 24-hour notice in advance of them occurring.

There were no comments from the Board or the public.

This item was for information only. The fee schedule will be updated later in the year.

**3. Consider Adoption of the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23:** Chief McDonald reviewed his staff report aloud and made his recommendation.

Following a query from President Mendosa, Chief McDonald provided clarification on the funded/underfunded meaning under budget contingency.

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

It was moved to:

1. Approve the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23 as presented,
2. Set the Public Hearing for final adoption of the budget at the September 13, 2022, Board Meeting
3. Authorize the Board Clerk/Secretary to publish a notice pursuant to HSC § 13893.

**Motion:** Loudenslager; Second: Rosen

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

Motion Carries

**4. Further Discussion and Consideration Regarding the Official Name Change for the Fire District:** Chief McDonald reviewed his staff report aloud.

The discussion among the Board was focused on the disconnect of the District and the community of McKinleyville. Comments and input included that many community residents do not know that Arcata Fire Protection District is their fire department, and that fact comes up a great deal. More McKinleyville outreach by the District should occur in order to receive input. Citizens need to engage with the Board, inform them of their thoughts and what is important and for them to know their fire department better.

A majority of the Board commented that they would be in support of station sign updates as a lower cost option. Both the Directors representing McKinleyville agreed that the signs at each of the stations are confusing as they don't clearly identify Arcata Fire, but the description of the stations instead.

President Mendosa also added that since Kevin Jenkins has now become a member of the Measure F committee, he may have ideas for ways to further engage the McKinleyville community.

The following member of the public commented:

Roy Willis, AVFA President

There were a few final comments about utilizing the McKinleyville Chamber of Commerce who is very good to the District. Directors plan to attend more mixers and the Local was joining the Chamber, which could help. The “buck a minute” at the mixers was also mentioned as an inexpensive engagement option. More social media interaction is another easy inexpensive method.

Although there was no official motion, the Board did direct staff to begin working on the station signage. Chief McDonald will work on a proposal for all three stations and present it to the Board at a later date.

### **CLOSED SESSIONS**

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

Title: *Acting Fire Chief*

President Mendosa adjourned to closed session at 7:10 pm.

The meeting resumed at 7:21 pm.

Report out of closed session by President Mendosa; the Board has agreed to appoint retired Fire Chief Dave White as a temporary Acting Fire Chief while Chief McDonald is out of the country on vacation. Chief McDonald requested the President Mendosa read into the minutes that he, President Mendosa, will be the liaison to the Board for Chief White.


### **ADJOURNMENT**

Following a motion, President Mendosa adjourned the meeting at 7:24pm.

**Motion:** Johnson; **Second:** Maynor

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for **July 12, 2022, at 5:30 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,



Becky Schuette,  
Clerk of the Board