

Rancho Adobe Fire Protection District

11000 Main Street
P. O. Box 1029
Penngrove, California 94951

Telephone: (707) 795-6011
Fax: (707) 795-5177
www.ranchofire.com

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MARCH 20, 2019 — 7:00 P.M.
COTATI FIRE STATION - #1 EAST COTATI AVE.
COTATI, CALIFORNIA**

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President, Brian Proteau, called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The agenda for this meeting was posted on March 15, 2019.

Roll Call:

Directors Present: Mark Hemmendinger, Brian Proteau, Carla Grube, Leslie Cozad, Nole Pacheco, Harold Griffith, Michael Gadoua

Minutes Conducted by: Jennifer Bechtold

II. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A. Citizen Business/Public Comments on Items not appearing on Agenda

There was no comment from the Public.

B. Correspondence and/or Presentations

There were items of correspondence in Board packets.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting of February 20, 2019

Motion moved by Mr. Gadoua and seconded by Mr. Hemmendinger.
Motion Carried: Aye 7 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent 0

IV. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Ratification of Claims and Journal Vouchers

Motion moved by Mr. Hemmendinger and seconded by Mrs. Cozad.
Motion Carried: Aye 7 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent 0

V. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

A. Chief's Report

Chief Thompson reported the following items in his report:

- 196 responses last month with 94 being EMS (47.95%).
- EMT refresher was completed last month and included the expanded scope items.
- Multiple water entries for training last month as well as actual rescues during the storms.
- Live fire training at Chevron Refinery in Richmond involving gas and flammable liquid fires.
- Chevron Fire then used our facility for live fire training for 12 members of their personnel.
- Multiple roof leaks were found at station #2 during the recent storms. We are determining the source of these leaks.
- We have nine participants for tomorrow's Captain's assessment center. One candidate pulled out.
- The Motorola man down button is close to completion.
- We have signed a contract for reimbursement costs of vegetation management with the County. BC Weihman is looking to host a meeting next month for citizens regarding the inspection and abatement process. We will be hiring one part-time employee in April and May to focus on inspections in high-risk areas in the district.
- BC Weihman is working on designing a ring down system for station 1 and Chief is waiting on a proposal to Petaluma, which will also be considered for our needs.
- BC Weihman is also working on disaster planning quarterly with the COPE program and Petaluma, and he is drafting a countywide consortium process for the juvenile fire starter program.
- Chiefs' inspection will be upcoming in May.
- Chief Thompson also noted that he met with Senator Mike Thompson about funding large capital projects in the state, though the projects he was looking to fund were much higher dollar.

B. Director Reports

Mr. Gadoua mentioned he receives correspondence from the Congressional Fire Institute, and noted President Trump is looking to decrease funding for firefighting in the future.

C. Committee Reports

a. Finance/Budget

There was no meeting this month, but Mr. Proteau said we would be working on preliminary budget soon. We need to determine our long range plan soon so this can be drawn into the budget.

b. Negotiations

Mr. Pacheco commented that he feels with the changes coming to RAFD, and the similarities to his own district, that it is prudent for him to step down from the negotiations committee. He has offered his support to whoever takes his place and will forward the information the committee has received to date. Mrs. Grube has offered to take Mr. Pacheco's place.

c. Equipment

No report filed.

d. Legislative

No report filed.

e. Chief's Evaluation

No report filed.

f. Long Range Planning

Mr. Hemmendinger commented that the committee met this month but did not accomplish too much. We are still waiting on the subcommittee to come back with the operational needs. The intent when we asked for the operational needs was to keep the staffing requisites within the LRPC, so the committee will review BC Taylor's staff report at their next meeting. Mr. Hemmendinger will put out an email arranging the next meeting so we can start planning the budget process.

D. Firefighters' Association Report

Engineer Sweet reported that on June 7th we will host a free pasta feed at station 1 in conjunction with the movies in the park. This will be the first of three pasta feeds to thank the community for their support on Measure W. The next two dates and station locations will be decided upon soon. Engineer Sweet also noted that the pancake breakfast will be held July 6th and we will provide traffic control for the Penngrove parade on the 7th. The April Association meeting will be on the 1st Tuesday and the new assignments will be voted on at that time. The Fire and Suds event has been cancelled indefinitely.

E. Firefighter's Union Report

Captain Bernal said there are a couple union members working on securing a SAFER grant and we will have an answer in September. He would also like to set a date to continue negotiations. The Union would like to come up with a charter for each of the designated committees, which would spell out in writing the purpose and responsibility of each Board committee. Mr. Hemmendinger feels the Board should be setting the charters for each committee since the fall under the Board. It was agreed that each committee would come up with these regulations by next month.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Discussion on Replacing Roof at Liberty Fire Station

Mr. Proteau commented there is no new information on the warranty. He is still trying to follow through with the contractor and we continue to hold the final payment.

B. Discussion of Sonoma State Funding

Mr. Gadoua mentioned that he is trying to connect with Paul Gullixon to set up another meeting. Their first meeting was very positive and he seems to be open to

further talks about providing some type of funding to the fire district. Mr. Gadoua reported that part of the contract terms with Humboldt State is that the fire department does work around the campus. The funding is then given as a donation. Mr. Hemmendinger said we still have the ability to ask LAFCO to redraw boundaries around SSU if need be. It is not assured LAFCO would approve this but we could resume talks with them.

C. Discussion on Proposal for Sonoma County Fire Contract

Chief Thompson reported to the Board that there was never a hostile takeover on our end of the south county proposal. A year ago, the County decided to disband the fire services under them and asked for a proposal from us at that time. Chief Thompson decided not to make a proposal then because of all the discord within the districts. This past November, Chief Thompson was again asked to create a proposal, which he worked on and submitted in December. During the time between November and January, it was decided by the SLG to look at and push through North Bay Fire's proposal instead. While the Board of Supervisors (BOS) liked our proposal better, and we had the votes in our favor, they wanted a district to take all the volunteer fire companies in the county. The Union eventually came to some agreement with the sub-committee of the SLG and BOS. The issue Chief Thompson sees is that this is one-time money, for a two-year period with the idea of increasing the county sales tax rate to help financially after that period, which seems unlikely.

Mr. Hemmendinger stated that Chief's proposal started with four VFCs and then Bodega Bay Fire District came to us asking to include them, which would stretch the ambulance service further out. There is still some interest in talking about this model with Bodega Bay, even though they got some one-time money. The ambulance contract is something to continue looking at due to the revenue. The North Bay Fire contract still needs LAFCO approval. At the end of two years, the money runs out and if they have not secured funding at that time, then they are out of service. We did have the votes to secure our proposal, but Chief Thompson did not want to see that divide happen within the BOS and fire districts. We still need to come up with consolidation ideas that will not cause so much divide. Mr. Proteau asked how much was saved on the proposal the BOS approved and the answer is none. The North Bay proposal was a more costly proposal than ours was, not to mention there is not as much of a service increase. The Union thanked the Chief and Board for all the hard work on this.

VII. DIRECTION ON FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No new items were proposed for April.

Closed Session was postponed until next month.

VIII. CLOSED SESSION

- A. Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6, the Board will hold a closed session for the following reason: CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS. District Subcommittee: Nole Pacheco, Michael Gadoua and Leslie Cozad
Employee Organization: Paid Firefighters Union
- B. Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6, the Board will hold a closed session for the following reason: CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS. District Subcommittee: Nole Pacheco, Michael Gadoua and Leslie Cozad
Employee Organization: Administrative Manager

Closed Session Continued:

C. Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6, the Board will hold a closed session for the following reason: CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS. District Subcommittee: Nole Pacheco, Michael Gadoua and Leslie Cozad Employee Organization: Battalion Chief's

IX. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the Regular Board meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Motion moved by Mr. Hemmendinger and seconded by Mr. Gadoua.
Motion Carried: Aye 7 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent 0

Date Approved: 4/17/19