

Rancho Adobe Fire Protection District

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

Telephone: (707) 795-6011
Fax: (707) 795-5177
www.rancho-adobe-fire.org

**NOTICE & AGENDA OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
APRIL 15, 2009 — 7:00 P.M.
COTATI FIRE STATION - #1 EAST COTATI AVE.
COTATI, CALIFORNIA**

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

Chairman, Ed Gee, called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
The agenda for this meeting was posted on April 10, 2009.

Roll Call:

Directors Present: Robert Rippin, Bob Dunne, Mark Hemmendinger, Ed Gee, Harold Griffith

Directors Absent: Brian Proteau, Michael Caruana

Conducting the Minutes: Jennifer Ober

Pledge of Allegiance said.

II. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

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

There were no comments from the Public.

B. Correspondence and/or Presentations

Items of correspondence were located in Board packets.

C. Presentation on Downtown Cotati EIR (Presentation by Marsha Sue Lustig With Comments From Chief Treanor)

The presentation on the Cotati EIR has been postponed to a later date.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting of March 18, 2009

Motion moved by Mr. Dunne and seconded by Mr. Griffith.

Motion Carried: Aye 4 No 0 Abstain 1(Hemmendinger) Absent 2

IV. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Ratification of Claims and Journal Vouchers

Motion moved by Mr. Dunne and seconded by Mr. Griffith.

Motion Carried: Aye 5 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent 2

V. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

A. Chief's Report

Chief Treanor read from his written report provided to the Board and the Public. He also paid special thanks to the staff for recent station repair projects completed which saved the District a great deal of money.

Chief Treanor announced the next Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) meeting will be held on May 6 at 1600 hours at station 2.

Mr. Dunne gave additional thanks to the staff for their recent work at station 3.

Mr. Hemmendinger asked if the 19% increase in County fees were included in the preliminary budget, and Chief Treanor responded yes, it is included. Mr. Rippin asked where the City of Cotati thought Rancho Adobe would come up with the funds to keep the weed abatement program running if they couldn't. Chief Treanor was unsure where they thought this would happen; however he will ask the City if they would contribute funding to work with us and the Conservation Corps to provide this service.

B. Director Reports

Mr. Hemmendinger commented the LRPC met and discussed both long and short term budget issues. They discussed other options in the future including a tax increase and he feels this is a necessary item. He does not think we'll see the property values rise to the levels we were seeing in past years. Chief Treanor still believes that public education is key to asking for help. The District needs to figure out exactly what funding we need for future years so we don't have to go back on the ballot at a later time.

C. Budget Report

The budget committee met prior to the Board meeting and noted that at the last budget meeting we were looking at a deficit of \$66K in FY 09/10. After successful collaboration from the staff, Chief Treanor commented we have come to a budget where we are \$3800 to the good. This includes the increased costs of Redcom, the County and other areas.

Chief Treanor cited that we have 25% of the fiscal year remaining, and 24% of the budget remaining. We are sitting in a good position due to the fact that we still have outstanding money to collect from strike teams. Budget category 6022, safety clothing, for instance has a large balance remaining due to the fact that we received a grant purchasing new turnouts.

D. Firefighters' Association Report

Captain Ray Paula noted that April 25 is the Butter and Egg Day Parade and the Indiana has been entered. CPR training will be held on May 9th at station 1 and friends and family of the District are invited as well as Community members. A banner will be hung advertising this event.

E. Support Volunteers

Ms. Dawn Davis commented the Support Volunteers practiced driving last night and will do so again next week.

F. Firefighter's Union Report

Captain Paula noted that the Awards Dinner will be held on May 9th at 6:30 p.m. at the Cotati Room.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Discussion on Status of Rohnert Park Truck

Chief Treanor stated that the contract is currently being reviewed by the attorney from Rohnert Park. The Administration of Rohnert Park is agreeing to allow Rancho Adobe to determine how long training will last. Mr. Hemmendinger asked what costs are involved in bringing the truck to Rancho. Chief Treanor replied approximately \$2K a year for insurance.

Mr. Rippin asked about the truck weight that was a problem in the past. Chief Treanor responded that equipment had been removed and the truck has been weighed and certified. Mr. Hemmendinger asked if this was an item that is coming forward for Board approval and Chief Treanor responded this agreement is simply informational. The Board never cancelled the agreement, therefore we took the opportunity to try and make this work again. Mr. Dunne noted that a vote was taken in the past in support of the truck. Mr. Hemmendinger commented that budgetary issues have changed a bit since the last vote and he is concerned, even though this is a soft cost. He is not convinced, as a Board member that we need to use the truck. Mr. Rippin would like to see this item placed on the agenda for May.

BC Wandel asked the Board if a list of benefits to having a truck company would be of interest to the group for discussion next month. Mr. Hemmendinger stated yes, this would help plead the case.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion on Downtown Cotati Specific Plan

Chief Treanor has found several items in the Downtown Cotati Specific Plan that he is concerned about. He has listed these concerns in a letter drafted to the City, which was also enclosed in Board packets.

The purpose of writing the letter is to get our concerns document by April 13th and to speak about a remedy. Mr. Hemmendinger asked if there was any reaction to the letter and Chief Treanor responded the only communication was that the City had received the letter. Mr. Rippin asked about how staff would get a truck through La Plaza to go south. Chief Treanor commented they would have to go all the way around the roundabout.

B. Discussion on Redevelopment Funding Use

Chief Treanor did some research on capital improvements to the fire station that would be paid for with use of redevelopment funds. These funds legally can be used to assist the fire department. The City of Cotati is actually in violation of redevelopment funding because they are supposed to provide and updated 5-year plan every year, and their last plan expired in 2004. Mr. Griffith noted that we used to get these funds back and somewhere along the way this stopped.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the Regular Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Motion moved by Mr. Dunne and seconded by Mr. Griffith.

Motion Carried: Aye 5 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent 2

Date Approved: 5/20/09

