

# Rancho Adobe Fire Protection District

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**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
OCTOBER 17, 2018 — 7:00 P.M.  
COTATI FIRE STATION - #1 EAST COTATI AVE.  
COTATI, CALIFORNIA**

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

President, Carla Grube, called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The agenda for this meeting was posted on October 12, 2018.

Roll Call:

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

Minutes Conducted by: Jennifer Bechtold

**II. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

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

There was no public comment.

B. Correspondence and/or Presentations

There was a notice for the next SCFDA meeting in November. Director's Gadoua and Hemmendinger will be in attendance.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Regular Meeting of September 19, 2018

Motion moved by Mr. Karraker and seconded by Mr. Griffith.  
Motion Carried: Aye   7   No   0   Abstain   0   Absent   0  

**IV. CONSENT CALENDAR**

A. Ratification of Claims and Journal Vouchers

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

## V. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

### A. Chief's Report

Chief Thompson commented on the following items:

- 1.) We have four new hire firefighters that have just started their initial training. 6, 9 and 12-month testing is on-going for those firefighters on probation.
- 2.) Captain Albini continues his work on weed abatement and Chief Thompson is working with the County of Sonoma to implement the forced abatement process.
- 3.) All policies have been scanned and exported to the Lexipol database. BC Weihman is working on web-based training to get started with editing and implementation.
- 4.) Fire and disaster safety sessions have been taught to a group on Hillsborough Rd. and another class will be taught to the Charles Street senior community. Chief Weihman will continue to assist Petaluma with teaching another COPE class on November 14.
- 5.) The Captains Assessment Center is still being worked on, with the announcement going on in the next week.
- 6.) Projects are being completed that were found through the last round of Chief's inspections.
- 7.) Station 2 office siding has been replaced and the entire office has been painted. Paint has been donated by Kelly Moore. Chief Thompson commended BC Wandel for all his hard work on this project.
- 8.) The engine crew and volunteers will be staffing the pumpkin patch this October 20 and 21.

Mr. Hemmendinger asked what we are doing to see that Rancho Adobe has a voice in the Chiefs strategic leadership group. Chief Thompson said that we can include a member from the district to the next meeting. He also mentioned that he's not happy with some of the decisions being made within the group, and that while we have a voice at the table, it's not always heard or taken into consideration. There was some discussion on how to move forward depending on the results of our election in November.

### B. Director Reports

There was no report.

### C. Committee Reports

#### a. Finance/Budget

Mr. Hemmendinger said he is drawing our attention to permanent positions where we are about \$50K to the good at this time. He also asked why CalPERS contributions are so high this early in the fiscal year. Mrs. Bechtold commented that we pay for the years' unfunded liability in July, which amounts to approximately \$235,000. We can choose to either pay this in one lump sum, or monthly, but that includes interest of around 7% of the total. We never know in advance what this is going to cost each year, so it becomes difficult to budget for PERS. Mr. Hemmendinger asked if we could place an item on the agenda for November to delve deeper into the CalPERS contributions. Mrs. Bechtold replied that she would prepare a staff report and review costs.

#### b. Negotiations

There was no report.

#### c. Equipment

There was no report.

d. Legislative

There was no report.

e. Chief's Evaluation

There was no report.

f. Long Range Planning

Mr. Karraker mentioned that his property is in escrow and he will be moving out of district as of October 31. Discussion was had about how we move forward with his replacement. Mrs. Bechtold will inquire with the County about how the remainder of his current term and the new term will coincide. She will also post the vacancy and notify the elections division of the vacancy once we receive Mr. Karraker's formal resignation. Interviews for a new Board member will take place at the next Board meeting and the appointment will happen in December.

D. Firefighters' Association Report

There was no report.

E. Firefighter's Union Report

Captain Bernal said the staff has been walking the district and we have about 90% of Cotati completed as well as about 40% of Liberty Valley. We will be focusing on Penngrove next. Captain Bernal thanked Mr. Pacheco and Mr. Hemmendinger for their help with walking. He also thanked Mr. Karraker for all his hard work on the ballot measure. The majority of the feedback has been very positive and most of the people have heard about this measure already. We do have some people saying no but most are positive. We have also been working with some of the sororities at SSU and we have been sharing the information with them. The fraternity groups and social clubs were not interested in working with the campaign.

**VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. Discussion on Ballot Measure for November 2018

Mr. Karraker noted that we have some of the ads displayed this evening as well as both mailers, the walk piece and door hangers. There is also a sample of what will be going into the Community Voice. We have just decided to spend the rest of our money on radio advertising in addition to what we have going now with the KRUSH, 100.9 and KSRO. We will be adding the commercial to KZST and the BULL with the remaining funds. Mr. Hemmendinger commented that Mr. Karraker has done a great job as has Captain Bernal and his leadership. Mr. Proteau also commented that Mr. Karraker and Captain Bernal have done an amazing job and this has been the best-run campaign he's been here for.

B. Discussion on Replacing Roof at Liberty Fire Station

Mr. Proteau said the roof is complete and we are waiting for some final documents before we remit payment. He and BC Wandel are setting up a punch list for the walkthrough Monday.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Discussion and Review of Healthcare Costs for 2019 (Staff Report by Jennifer Bechtold)

Mrs. Bechtold commented about the rates and reviewed the staff report. The district is staying on the current Kaiser plan and will see a 3% increase in premiums for the upcoming year. Mr. Hemmendinger asked to be sure we include the Board President on any future meetings for healthcare.

Motion moved by Mr. Gadoua and seconded by Mr. Karraker.

Motion Carried: Aye   7   No   0   Abstain   0   Absent   0  

**VIII. DIRECTION ON FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Budget report on CalPERS contributions
- New Board member interviews and possible appointment

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, the Regular Board meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Motion moved by Mr. Karraker and seconded by Mr. Gadoua.

Motion Carried: Aye   7   No   0   Abstain   0   Absent   0  

Date Approved:       11/14/18