

**DEER SPRINGS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Thursday, 3:00 P.M.  
February 10, 2009**

**MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL**

3:00 pm

President Frey – present  
Vice-President Slaughter – present  
Secretary/Treasurer Donnelly – present  
Director Tebbs – present  
Director Geiser – present

Also present: Chief Marugg, Fire Marshal Magdaleno, Captain Heidmann, Liz Heaton, and Lisa Lozano.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by President Frey

**3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Director Donnelly moved to adopt the Agenda.

**Motion Approved 5-0. 5 AYES; 0 NOES; 0 ABSENT; 0 ABSTAIN**

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS PERIOD**

No Comments

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR**

- a. Approval of Minutes – January 8, 2009  
Approved with corrections to items 4 and 7d.
- b. Acceptance of Finance Report
- c. Acceptance of Monthly Activity Report  
Chief Marugg reported on incidents activity for the month of January '09.
- d. Acceptance of Fire Marshal's Report  
Fire Marshal Magdaleno reported on new projects and miscellaneous activity in the district.

Director Slaughter moved to approve the consent calendar. Director Geiser seconded the motion.

**Motion approved 5-0. 5 AYES; 0 NOES; 0 ABSENT; 0 ABSTAIN.**

**6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a. Annual review of by-laws cont.  
Director Slaughter recommended placing the public comments towards the end of the agenda. The board discussed the pros and cons of the placement of the public comments section and decided to keep it at the beginning of the meeting on a trial basis.

President Frey requested that all questions be directed to the president/chairman in order to manage the meetings more effectively.

b. Mission statement

A mission statement was created in 2001 within a Deer Springs Fire District Master Plan.

## 7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Assistance to Firefighters Grant Purchases – Presentation by FAE Brown

In that last 8-10 months DSFPD has received a few grants. The first grant was from The McCormick Foundation donated by Garth Brooks in the amount of 30,000 to purchase wildland firefighting equipment. The next grant was from FEMA/Department of Homeland Security for \$48,000 with a stipulation that the District match the funds with 5%, equaling \$2,400. Another stipulation is the money should only be used to purchase HT Radios and EMS Jackets. The equipment will be purchased by the District and the receipts then submitted to the FEMA Department for reimbursement.

Director Geiser expressed his concerns in regards to the budget. In the last budget no monies were allocated for the purchase of firefighting equipment. He suggested a line item be added to the budget.

Director Geiser moved to match the funds required to receive the grant. Director Slaughter seconded the motion.

**Motion approved 5-0. 5 AYES; 0 NOES; 0 ABSENT; 0 ABSTAIN.**

Director Tebbs moved to expend the \$48,000 to purchase the equipment. This amount will be reimbursed to the district.

**Motion approved 5-0. 5 AYES; 0 NOES; 0 ABSENT; 0 ABSTAIN.**

President Frey asked Chief Marugg if he thought the board should be apprised ahead of time on grants that require matching funds. Director Geiser suggested that a line item be added to the budget for these types of expenses. Chief Marugg agreed to notify the board of any grants that require matching funds.

Director Tebbs requested that the personnel involved in acquiring the District supplemental funds for fire protection be recognized by the board and a record kept in their personnel file for consideration at evaluation.

b. San Diego LAFCO – Call for Regular and Special District Advisory Committee Nominations.

LAFCO has requested that the DSFPD respond to an annexation proposal of 2 parcels that are part of a new development called Rincon Oaks Estates, total of approximately 15 acres of land within the Deer Springs Fire District.

Director Tebbs moved to nominate Director Geiser for alternate position candidacy. Director Slaughter seconded the motion.

**Motion approved 5-0. 5 AYES; 0 NOES; 0 ABSENT; 0 ABSTAIN.**

Director Slaughter moved to nominate President Frey for the Special Districts Advisory Committee. Director Donnelly seconded the motion.

**Motion approved 5-0. 5 AYES; 0 NOES; 0 ABSENT; 0 ABSTAIN.**

President Frey will file the nominations.

The board discussed the annexation proposal.

c. Fire Safe Council request for matching funds

Craig Cook requested that the board support the Moosa Canyon Weed Abatement efforts by matching the funds required for a grant to be used for chipping and harvesting brush posing a fire hazard to the District. The grant application for \$80,000 along with the Wildfire Protection

Plan will be submitted to the US Forest Service by Feb 20, 2009. The Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) includes:

Phase 1 – Moosa Canyon Ridge. Fire Safe Council currently working on the North and South end of Moosa Canyon Ridge.

Phase 2 – West Lilac

Phase 3 – Jesmond Dean/ North Broadway

President Frey disclosed that he is the primary grant writer and also that this project will work around the area where Director Tebbs lives. He asked for feedback from the board and the public over possible concerns pertaining to a conflict of interest.

Director Geiser moved to approve a contribution of \$13,500 for the harvesting and chipping of brush. Director Donnelly seconded the motion.

**Motion approved 5-0. 5 AYES; 0 NOES; 0 ABSENT; 0 ABSTAIN.**

Richard Matz questioned the reasoning for choosing the Moosa Canyon for priority over Jesmond Dene. Chief Marugg responded by saying that he was asked to rate the District's highest fire risk areas. He rated Moosa Canyon as the highest fire risk in the District. He believes that this fire prevention method is excellent in helping to slow down a wildfire and/or protecting the residents in the District. Division Chief Bratton is working on possibly assigning the crews out of Rainbow Camp to assist in this effort. These crews are currently working on fuel reduction projects in Rancho Santa Fe, Vista, and San Marcos.

d. Standby Availability Fee Process Information/Draft Proposals

The San Diego Department of Public Works (DPW) will no longer be processing the stand-by availability fees. Fire Marshal Magdaleno has been working on alternative options for the processing of these assessments. Some of the possible options are:

1. The District can piggy-back on a contract through DPW,
2. Our District joined a group of Fire Districts in submitting requests for proposal to five different consultants. These consultants will have an opportunity to present their proposals to the Fire Districts on February 25<sup>th</sup>.
3. Deer Springs Fire District can contract with Bureau Veritas on an individual basis. One of the benefits of this option is that this consultant already processes the benefit assessment fees; therefore, we would be dealing with one company in processing both assessments.

Fire Marshal Magdaleno will provide more information on the details of all these options at the next board meeting.

- e. District Planning Process – President Frey reported on the attendance of a training seminar by Fire Districts Association of California. This seminar was attended by Directors Frey, Geiser and Donnelly, Chief Marugg, Liz Heaton and Lisa Lozano. Training included the recommendation of creating different Fire District planning documents. Some examples are; a strategic plan, mission statement, vision statement and a business plan. Since the training President Frey discovered that our District has a strategic plan that was created by a consultant in 2001. Within the plan there is a mission statement. President Frey read aloud the Deer Springs Fire Protection District Mission Statement. President Frey requested some more time to review the current strategic plan and determine what planning documents could be revised or created for the District. He will work with Director Geiser, Director Donnelly and Chief Marugg and will report further at the next board meeting.

- f. SDG&E De-Energization Proposal - SDG&E is proposing that under certain conditions, depending on wind velocity, humidity and time of the year that the power be shut off in certain high fire risk areas. This idea has been challenged by the water districts. A suit has been filed with the concern being that if they shut the power off they would not be able to use the water pumps, hence there would not be water available for fire suppression. Director Slaughter believes that the fire hydrants are gravity fed; the electricity should not affect the water availability. President Frey will contact Counsel Hagerty to request that he keep the board apprised of any relevant issues that might impact our district.

Joan Van Ingen expressed her concerns for those residents that depend on the electricity for medical reasons. Chief Marugg explained that this concern was taken into consideration by SDG&E.

## 8. CORRESPONDENCE

Form 700 filings are due in April.

## 9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Evacuation (Tebbs) – Director Tebbs met with Chief Johnson to discuss the different types of evacuations and possible educational material the District could distribute.  
Tom Francl asked the board if there was something in regards to evacuations from Hidden Meadow they would like to include in a request he will be submitting to the Department of Public Works.
- b. Revenue Resources (Frey) – President Frey is working with Counsel Hagerty to draw up an ordinance to charge non-residents for incidents on the I-15.  
Chief Marugg mentioned that he is sending Captain Heidmann to a finance training seminar and invited director Tebbs and Geiser to attend.
- c. Strategic Funding Ad Hoc (Tebbs/Geiser) – Director Tebbs reported on the progress of this committee. They have been working on getting real numbers for the budget expenses, specifically the CAL FIRE contract. Director Tebbs has requested from CAL FIRE the numbers for each of the employees included in the contract. Director Geiser discussed the budget planning for future engine replacement and fire equipment.
- d. Communications/Annual Report (Frey) President Frey is working on transferring to an alternative website.
- e. Policies and Procedures (Donnelly/Geiser) Directors Donnelly and Geiser are waiting on examples of policies and procedures from Counsel Hagerty.

## 10. DIRECTOR'S REPORTS/COMMENTS

None

## 10. CHIEFS REPORT

- President Frey received his director's badge from Chief Marugg.
- Chief Marugg reminded the board to see Firefighter Gamboa for ID cards.
- He reported on the significant incidents in the month of January.
- The DSFPD is receiving a reimbursement of \$5,754 from State OES for the Orange County Freeway Fire.
- Station 3 Plants for landscaping were donated by a local nursery. FAE Russell requested permission to seek donations for landscaping at station 3 and Liz followed up with a letter to a local nursery. Over \$10,000 in plants were donated to station 3, the landscaping was completed by the fire personnel at station 3. A plaque, pictures and a thank you letter will be presented to the business owner.

- Chief Marugg will look into a divider installed along I-15.
- The generator is set up and working at station 2.
- Chief Windsor, Unit Chief for San Diego, and Chief O’Leary, CAL FIRE Deputy Chief met with Chief Marugg, Chief Bratton and President Frey to introduce himself and discuss matters like service goals, strategic plans, business plans and furloughs. A reduction in contract costs should be a result of the furloughs. Staffing will remain the same. There will not be any reduction in services. The billing for coverage behind furloughs will be billed under a separate PCA Code.

**12. GENERAL COUNSEL’S REPORT**

No report

**13. CERT/FIRE SAFE COUNCIL REPORT**

No report

**14. CLOSED SESSION**

The board paused for a closed session to discuss personnel matters.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned during closed session.

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Frank Donnelly  
Secretary-Treasurer