

1 **January 22, 2019**

2 **REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF**
3 **THE NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

4 President Luevano called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

5 **THE INVOCATION GIVEN BY DEPUTY CHIEF MAROVICH.**

6 **ALL RECITED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

7 **ROLL CALL:**

8 **Present:** Directors Harris, Hoffman, Luevano, Munson and Van Doorn.

9 **Absent:** None.

10 **Staff Present:** Fire Chief/CEO Abbott, Attorney James and Board Secretary Stephen-
11 Porter. In the audience were: DFC Marovich, D/C Mahr, B/Cs Krumwiede, McReynolds,
12 and Schoenheit, FM Koch and members of the public and Association.

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14 **PUBLIC ACTIVITIES AGENDA**

15 1. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** President Luevano addressed the audience and inquired whether
16 there were any public comments regarding items not on the Agenda. Audience Member
17 George Maverick appeared to request the Board take a position on fire bunkers. He
18 requested they either support or decline to support the installation of low cost private,
19 commercial or community fire bunkers. He informed the Board he had called the Fire
20 Marshal twice, leaving messages requesting a return call, but had not received one. He
21 opined that California needs fire bunkers and asked the Board to take a position on it. The
22 Board deferred their comments to Chief Abbott.

23 Chief Abbott provided background, noted he has been doing research on the issue;
24 especially concerned with the recent fires around the state. He has identified a recently
25 retired safety professional who is working in the private sector to develop these types of
26 structures. However, the State has not adopted the fire bunker as its method of fire
27 protection. Instead, the State has sponsored the "Ready, Set, Go" Program. Chief Abbott
28 gave a brief description of the program. He noted that the fire bunker is in direct contradiction

29 to the Ready, Set, Go Program adopted by the State. Chief Abbott gave an example of
30 where the fire bunker or “stay and defend” resulted in a great loss of life.

31 Chief Abbott also informed Mr. Maverick that as a small fire district, North County Fire
32 Protection District is not able to properly research or design a fire bunker, or implement such
33 a program, as it would at a minimum, require UL approval an involved process. Given all
34 those factors, the District would not be in a position to make a statement or commitment
35 regarding the fire bunker concept. Chief Abbott stated the place to put forward the idea
36 would be at the State level. Chief Abbott offered to provide Mr. Maverick with contacts at
37 that level, however, the District cannot take a position.

38 Mr. Maverick requested a copy of the minutes be sent to him when they are available. There
39 being no further comments, the Public Comment Section was closed.

40 2. **EMPLOYEE BADGE PINNING — CHIEF ABBOTT:** Chief Abbott presented the following
41 newly promoted employee: Tyler Ruiz, Engineer/PM. He was given an opportunity to
42 introduce family and friends available for the event. At the conclusion of the introductions,
43 he was pinned and congratulated by the Board.

44 3. **AWARDS FOR EXPLORERS FROM VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS — CHIEF ABBOTT:** Chief
45 Abbott informed the Board the District had received awards for Explorers who had
46 participated in the recent Veteran’s Day parade. He presented awards from the Veterans of
47 Foreign Wars to the following individuals: Connor McReynolds, Shea Bendykowski,
48 Morgan Donnelly, Brady Reynolds, Adam Webb, Mitch Vincent, Izaac Garcia, Andrei
49 Smith, Adam Rodarte, Jordan Chavez, Lucy Goode, Andrew Mitchell, Trevor Ziets, Nolan
50 Havens, Zach Jones. Their sponsor, FF/PM Rob Hager was present and thanked for his
51 hard work and leadership of the troop. All were congratulated by the Board.

52 4. **SELECT AWARDS FOR BOARD RECOGNITION PROGRAM — B/S STEPHEN-PORTER AND**
53 **CHIEF ABBOTT:** Chief Abbott presented the following individuals and crews to the Board for
54 consideration: **NOVEMBER 10, 2018 LETTER FROM TRUCKEE MEADOWS COMMUNITY COLLEGE**
55 **RE: Captain Mattarollo; NOVEMBER 2 AND OCTOBER 14, 2018 EMAIL AND LETTER RE: MEDICAL**
56 **RESCUE EFFORTS: Captain John Choi; UNDATED CARD RE: EFFORTS BEYOND MEDICAL**

57 **RESCUE**; Captain Rees, Engineer McInerney, FF/PM Moore, FF/PM Spencer, EMT
58 Castellano; **JULY 9, 2018 – EMAIL RE: RESCUE OFF-DUTY**: Engineer Pete August; **JUNE 6,**
59 **2018 THANK YOU NOTE: MA 111**: P Eugenia Hoch, EMT Nick Tusa; **UNDATED THANK YOU**
60 **CARD: Engine 111**: Captain Garing, Engineer Craven, FF/PM DeBrauwere, **MA 111**: FF/PM
61 Lian, EMT Pena. On a motion by Director Munson, seconded by Vice President Harris, the
62 Board unanimously selected Captain/PM Mattarollo, Captain/PM Choi and Captain/Pm
63 August to acknowledge. They will be invited to a future meeting to be acknowledged.

ACTION AGENDA

CONSENT ITEMS:

5. REVIEW AND ACCEPT REGULAR BOARD MEETING FOR DECEMBER 11, 2018
6. REVIEW AND ACCEPT SPECIAL BOARD MEETING FOR JANUARY 14, 2019
7. REVIEW AND ACCEPT FINANCIAL REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2018
8. REVIEW AND ACCEPT POLICIES & PROCEDURES
9. REVIEW AND ACCEPT 2ND QUARTER OVERTIME TRACKING REPORT
10. REVIEW AND ACCEPT FOURTH QUARTER 2018 CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY
11. REVIEW AND ACCEPT ANNUAL FIRE PREVENTION REPORT

74 President Luevano inquired whether there were any questions on Consent Items 5-11.
75 There being no discussion, President Luevano asked for a motion to approve the Consent
76 Agenda. On a motion by Vice President Harris, seconded by Director Munson, the motion
77 to approve the Consent Agenda as presented passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS:

12. REVIEW AND APPROVE RESOLUTION 2019-03 AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN A JOINT FACILITIES
81 AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO FOR MEADOWOOD DEVELOPMENT – CHIEF
82 ABBOTT: Chief Abbott presented the Resolution 2019-03, which authorizes the Fire Chief to
83 execute a Joint Facilities Agreement (JFCA) with San Diego County for fire protection
84 services to the Meadowood Development. This was annexed into the District in 2013 and
85 the negotiation for property tax has been underway for some time. The JFCA stipulates that

86 a portion of the taxes collected by the CFD will be dedicated for fire protection services and
87 will be transferred to the Fire District on a regular basis. The Rate and Method of
88 Apportionment specifies that the Fire District will receive \$283 per single family home and
89 \$195 per multi-family home (condo) annually as its share of the CFD taxes. These fees will
90 be adjusted 2% annually to reflect increased costs of doing business. It is expected that at
91 build-out, the District will realize approximately \$202,500 per year to offset the costs of
92 servicing the new community. On a motion by Director Munson, seconded by Director
93 Hoffman, the motion to approve Resolution 2019-03 as presented and to authorize Chief
94 Abbott to execute the necessary documents passed unanimously.

95 13. **REVIEW AND TAKE ACTION ON RESULTS OF SRI SURVEY — CHIEF ABBOTT:** Dr. Gary
96 Manross presented the results of the recent survey to the Board noting an improvement in
97 the willingness of the community to support a funding measure. That recommendation
98 rested on the following parameters: [1] no more than a \$5.00 per month imposition; [2] a
99 sunset provision of no more than 20 years. He noted the community did not want a
100 consolidation; they wanted fire protection and emergency medical services to remain here
101 in the community. He recommended moving forward next year to place the item on the
102 ballot. In the meantime, he recommended not talking about a ballot or the District's problems
103 for a month. After that, begin to discuss the measure and provide information to the public
104 on the District's challenges and how the money will be used. Discussion ensued regarding
105 how well the public understand a bond issue and how much money the District will actually
106 realize. Board members were concerned that the amount we will ask for will not meet the
107 District's actual needs. President Luevano made a motion to accept the report, defer Board
108 action for 1 to 2 months, have Staff come back to the Board with recommendations on
109 moving forward, including a plan for whether it should be a mail ballot or general election.
110 By that time, the Association will have received their training and have a better feel if they
111 wish to support a measure. The motion was seconded by Director Van Doorn and the motion
112 to approve the report as presented and direction to Staff as outlined passed unanimously.

113 14. **TRANSITION TO DISTRICT BASED ELECTION SYSTEM — CHIEF ABBOTT:** Chief Abbott
114 presented the Resolution 2019-01, an Embracement Resolution, to begin the process of

115 converting from "at-large" to "District-Based" elections. He provided the Board with
116 background on the California Voting Rights Act ("CVRA"), which prohibits the use of at-large
117 elections of board members for publicly elected governing bodies if it "impairs the ability of
118 a protected class to elect candidates of its choice or its ability to influence the outcome of
119 an election...." Chief Abbott outlined the process of moving toward District-Based elections,
120 noting the public hearing, demography and mapping process. He opined transitioning to a
121 District-based election system will allow the District to ensure it is complying with the
122 legislative intent of the CVRA and minimize exposure to legal expenses. Discussion ensued
123 regarding the costs associated with this process and how this might affect seated Board
124 Members. On a motion by Vice President Harris, seconded by Director Munson, the motion
125 to approve Resolution 2019-01 as presented passed unanimously.

126 15. **REVIEW AND APPROVE CONTRACT FOR MEDICAL STANDBYS WITHIN DISTRICT EOA AND**
127 **APPROVE RESOLUTION 2019-02 — D/C MAHR AND CHIEF ABBOTT:** D/C Mahr presented
128 Resolution 2019-02 to the Board, noting this is a new contract with Mercy Medical for
129 provision of BLS level services at the San Luis Rey Down Track & Training Center. Last year
130 was the last permissible extension on the previous contract. He noted the agreement has
131 been without issues and the District is not considering providing this service to the Center at
132 this time. On a motion by Director Munson, seconded by Director Hoffman, the motion to
133 approve Resolution 2019-02 and the contract passed unanimously.

134 16. **REVIEW AND APPROVE EMERGENCY RESPONSE TIME STANDARDS — D/C MAHR AND CHIEF**
135 **ABBOTT:** D/C Mahr presented the emergency response times for the District to the Board,
136 asking them to reconsider a realistic and attainable standard based on updated Urban,
137 Suburban and Outlying population densities. The previous standards were developed in
138 2008. As a San Diego County EMS agency that provides Advanced Life Support (ALS)
139 services under an Exclusive Operating Area (EOA) contract we are bound to a response
140 time measurement that states we must respond to emergency incidents in < 10 minutes
141 within the urban population zones and < 15 minutes within the Rural/Suburban population
142 zones. It does not provide a measurement for Outlying areas. D/C Mahr proposed 9:00 or
143 Urban, 13:00 for Suburban and 18:00 for Outlying. The recommended emergency response

144 time standard utilizes an updated population density perimeter that is in accordance with the
145 San Diego County General Plan, the USA Plan and is also more in line with what our 2008
146 Standard of Cover report suggested. On a motion by Director Munson, seconded by Director
147 Hoffman, the motion to approve the revised response times as presented passed
148 unanimously.

149 **17. REVIEW AND APPROVE PROPOSAL TO ENACT FRESH START UNFUNDED LIABILITY OVER**
150 **TEN YEARS — DEPUTY CHIEF MAROVICH AND CHIEF ABBOTT:** Deputy Chief Marovich noted as
151 a component of recent contract negotiations with each of the bargaining units, it was agreed
152 to accelerate the pay down of the CalPERS Miscellaneous or “Non-Safety” retirement plan
153 unfunded actuarial liabilities (UAL). This will reduce the amortization period from 30 to 10
154 years, resulting in approximately 1 million dollars interest savings. Chief Abbott has
155 consulted with the affected labor groups and they are in agreement. It has already been
156 accounted for in the Budget. On a motion by Director Munson, seconded by Vice President
157 Harris, the motion to approve the CalPERS UAL Fresh Start documents passed
158 unanimously.

159 **DISCUSSION AGENDA**

160 18. There are no Discussion Agenda Items for the January 22, 2019 meeting.

161 **STANDING DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

162 ● **LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT:** Counsel James presented his report “*Strategies to*
163 *Manage Increasing Pension Costs.*” Brief discussion ensued. This is informational only, no
164 action required.

165 ● **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:** Brief discussion ensued regarding the ISO survey
166 and how it will affect the community. Chief Abbott noted our rating is 3-3x. Discussion
167 ensued regarding how District changes will affect the rating. Informational only, no action
168 required.

169 ● **BOARD RECOGNITION PROGRAM:** See Item #4.

170 ● **NEWS ARTICLES:** No discussion regarding articles. This is informational only, no
171 action required.

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- 173 ● **COMMENTS:**
- 174 ● **STAFF REPORTS/UPDATES:**
- 175 ● **STEPHEN ABBOTT, FIRE CHIEF/CEO:** The Board raised questions regarding what the
176 District will do if the bond measure is not successful. Chief Abbott noted the Board and Staff
177 would work together to develop a fiscally healthy plan, including methods of reducing costs
178 and increasing revenue. He informed the Board during his community presentations, there
179 had been questions of why FRHD is not doing more to help the District out financially since
180 they allowed the hospital to be closed. He noted that the District Staff is currently working
181 with them in the background, including the fact that three of the FRHD Board members had
182 approached the District to inquire what they could do to assist us. He has requested that
183 Deputy Chief Marovich and D/C Mahr work with FRHD to consider options. Chief Abbott
184 informed the Board that FPUD is pursuing a community benefit district for the purpose of
185 providing a recreational facility. He is hoping the District may benefit from this also. Chief
186 Abbott noted that Station 6 has been renumbered to Station 3, since Station 3 has closed.
187 Discussion ensued regarding what could be done to improve community survivability, in view
188 of recent disastrous Camp Fire. He noted reverse 9-1-1 is in-place, Amber alerts for
189 emergency are being announced through the County, weed abatement is dramatically
190 improved in the District, CalFire has pre-positioned strike teams throughout the State and
191 fire-resistant building materials and sprinklers, all aid in reducing the danger from fires
192 locally. Informational only, no further action required.
- 193 ● **CHIEF OFFICERS AND OTHER STAFF: DEPUTY CHIEF MAROVICH:** Deputy Chief Marovich
194 informed the Board that the GEMT for years 2014 & 15 were audited and after discussion
195 with the consultant, our new numbers were accepted. **D/C MAHR:** D/C Mahr thanked the
196 Board for continuing the Board Recognition Program as it is appreciated by the staff. **B/C**
197 **McREYNOLDS:** B/C McReynolds informed the Board the District will provide a two-day
198 Engineer's and Captain's Academy. The Zone is planning for joint examinations, with 72
199 candidates now planning to attend. In the near future, he expects to have live fire training
200 in Fallbrook, Board members are invited to attend.
- 201 ● **BOARD: VICE PRESIDENT HARRIS:** Vice President Harris thanked the Finance Staff for

202 their work on the GEMT. She inquired whether staff was using Telestaff™ or Crewsense™
203 for staffing. D/C Mahr provided an update on the progress of the transition. **DIRECTOR**
204 **HOFFMAN**: Director Hoffman inquired if we are getting the most out of our relationship with
205 Camp Pendleton. D/C Mahr informed him we receive great assistance from them coming
206 into the District and that we assist them on the base also. **DIRECTOR MUNSON**: Director
207 Munson informed the Board that the Mitigation Committee left the fees the same this year,
208 at \$0.58. Every five years it is re-evaluated, so it will be re-examined next year. **DIRECTOR**
209 **VAN DOORN**: Director Van Doorn noted the District should be able to take advantage of the
210 increase in revenue from the commercial development east of the freeway.

211 ● **BARGAINING GROUPS**: No comments.

212 ● **PUBLIC COMMENT**: No comments.

214 **CLOSED SESSION**

215 ● **OPENING CLOSED SESSION**:

216 At 6:07 p.m., President Luevano inquired whether there was a motion to adjourn to Closed
217 Session. There being no objection, President Luevano read the items to be discussed in
218 Closed Session and the Open Session was closed. A short break ensued after the reading
219 of the Closed Session Items. At 6:17 p.m., and the Board entered Closed Session to hear:

220 CS-1. **ANNOUNCEMENT — PRESIDENT LUEVANO**:

221 An announcement regarding the items to be discussed in Closed Session will be made prior
222 to the commencement of Closed Session.

223 CS-2. **CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR — GOVERNMENT CODE**

224 **§ 54956.8 — CHIEF ABBOTT**:

225 PROPERTY LOCATION: 4157 Olive Hill Road – Station 3, Fallbrook, CA 92028;

226 PARTIES: North County Fire Protection District (Seller);

227 UNDER NEGOTIATION: Terms of Sale;

228 DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS: Chief Abbott, District Counsel James

229 CS-3. **REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION — PRESIDENT LUEVANO**

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- **REOPENING OPEN SESSION:**

On a motion by Director Munson, which was seconded by Director Hoffman and which passed unanimously, the Board returned Open Session at 6:31 p.m., the following items were reported out to the public:

CS-2. **CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR — GOVERNMENT CODE § 54956.8 — CHIEF ABBOTT:** No reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made at 6:32 p.m. by Vice President Harris and seconded by Director Munson to adjourn the meeting and reconvene on February 26, 2019, at 4:00 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Loren Stephen-Porter
Board Secretary

Minutes approved at the Board of Director's Meeting on: February 26, 2019

