

# LAKE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

14815 OLYMPIC DRIVE, CLEARLAKE,  
CALIFORNIA 95422  
707-994-2170 PHONE 707-994-4861 FAX

## Board of Directors Regular Meeting

March 23, 2022  
Located at Small Town Ceramics  
16189 Main St  
Lower Lake, CA 95457

Chairperson Snyder called the meeting to order at 1730 hours.

Directors present: Director Ballard, Director Dean, Director Fults, Director Loustalot (1733), Director Moore, Chairperson Snyder.

Employees present: Fire Chief Sapeta, Financial Analyst Rivas, Finance Assistant Franklin, Fire Marshal Smith, Captain Pindell, EMT Lai, Engineer Shields.

Others present: Member at Large Adam Clanton

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

**A moment of silence for our brother and sister fallen firefighters.**

### **Special Agenda Items:**

- Citizen's input – None.

### **Consent Items:**

- Director Moore made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 23, 2022 regular meeting. Director Ballard seconded the motion.  
Motion passed.  
Ayes: 5  
Noes: 0  
Absent: 2
- Director Moore made a motion to approve the warrant register and pay the bills for February 2022. Director Dean seconded the motion.  
Motion passed.  
Ayes: 5  
Noes: 0  
Absent: 2

### **Chief's Report:**

- Fire Chief Sapeta provided an update on recent calls for service, which have increased. The District responded to multiple fires, including a fatal fire. That same night they responded to another structure fire where the crew and property owner were able to save 3 puppies.
- Fire Chief Sapeta reported that Paramedic Sarris was the first of the EMS staff to complete the in-house Firefighter I training. He now has the possibility of being promoted to Firefighter/Paramedic. Fire chief Sapeta added that because the firefighter training is in-house, other fire departments may not accept our Firefighter I certificate.

- Fire Chief Sapeta provided an update on REACH 80. They have been delayed until May or June 2022. The Fire Chiefs have all agreed to keep the use of REACH 80 to strictly medical for now.
- Fire Chief Sapeta provided an update on the ambulance agreement for IFTs. The recent issues regarding IFTs have all been resolved.
- Fire Chief Sapeta reported that at the LCFCA meeting they discussed the nationwide shortage on medical supplies. Public Health and the Medical Health Officer Area Coordinator (MHOAC) have taken the lead on trying to help with the shortages.
- Fire Chief Sapeta reported that the Fire Chiefs are looking into a program called ReddiNet. It shows all bed availability for the State of California.
- Fire Chief Sapeta provided an update on COVID-19. The District made revisions to the Coronavirus Prevention Plan to ensure they are following all of the new guidelines.
- Fire Chief Sapeta reported that he and Engineer Shields will be going to do the final inspection on the new water tender.
- Fire Chief Sapeta reported that the new CALFIRE director comes from a prevention background. He is very knowledgeable in fuel reduction.

#### **Fire Marshal's Report:**

- Fire Marshal Smith provided an update on Tribal Health. They are completely signed off on their permits. They can now apply for their licenses and start the hiring process.
- Fire Marshal Smith reported that the new R-2 apartment complex on Old Hwy 53 broke ground. He will be spending a lot of time walking the site to make sure it is fire safe.
- Fire Marshal Smith reported that a proposed apartment complex on 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue withdrew their plans and are hoping to reapply in June.
- Fire Marshal Smith reported that a project for Adventist Health Clearlake, located in the Hilltop Professional Center, was not permitted and was shut down.

#### **Chaplain's Report:**

- None.

#### **Volunteer Association Input and Comments:**

- Engineer Shields reported that the Volunteer Association will be holding their awards banquet April 23<sup>rd</sup>. It will be held in the Association building.

#### **Employee Input and Comments:**

- None.

#### **Communications:**

- Chairperson Snyder opened discussion on the letter from the Lake County Volunteer Firefighters Association regarding annual physical requirements. Chairperson Snyder questioned if the physical was a requirement from insurance. Chief Sapeta replied that they were following NFPA 1582 standards, which are health and safety standards for firefighters.

Chairperson Snyder questioned if the physicals could be done on the weekends. Financial Analyst Rivas replied that neither Occu-Med nor the mobile company can do it on weekends.

Director Fults questioned how many volunteers were affected by the physicals. Financial Analyst Rivas replied that there are about 10 volunteers. Financial Analyst Rivas states she gives notice about 2 months ahead of time. She sent out emails and followed up to see if there were any requests for changes and received no requests back.

Director Loustalot also questioned if the physicals are required by insurance. Financial Analyst Rivas answered that they are highly recommended because of risk management and liability. Director Loustalot asked how long the volunteers have been asked to do the physicals. Financial Analyst Rivas answered that this is the 3<sup>rd</sup> year.

Director Moore stated that the volunteers have to take a day off work, drive to another city, and pay for their exam to be a volunteer. Chief Sapeta explained that the District pays for everything except their time away from work. They provide a District vehicle and cover the cost of the exam. Director Moore wants to know if there is a way to make it less inconvenient for the volunteers. Financial Analyst Rivas replied that she is doing her best to minimize the amount of time the volunteers need to take off of work for the exams.

Director Fults requested a copy of the physicals so he can find something more accommodating for next year.

Member At Large Adam Clanton commented on how the Volunteer Association would like to set up an Ad Hoc committee and asked if doing commercial DMV physicals would suffice. Financial Analyst responded that the DMV commercial physicals don't do all of the major components such as chest x-rays or stress tests.

#### **AD HOC Committee Reports:**

- None.

#### **Regular Agenda Items:**

- Chairperson Snyder swore in EMT Ronny Lai.
- Director Loustalot made a motion to consider and adopt revisions to the Lake County Fire Protection District Coronavirus Prevention Plan.  
Director Dean seconded the motion.  
Motion passed  
Ayes: 6  
Noes: 0  
Absent: 1
- Director Ballard made a motion to consider and adopt Resolution No. 22-0301 Making Findings and Requesting the County of Lake to Implement Fire Mitigation Fees Pursuant to the Lake County Fire Mitigation Fee Ordinance.  
Director Dean seconded the motion.  
Motion passed by roll call vote.  
Ayes: Ballard, Dean, Fults, Loustalot, Moore, Snyder  
Noes: None  
Absent: Watson  
Abstain: None

#### **Old Business:**

- None.

#### **New Business:**

- None.

**Closed Session:**

- The Board convened into closed session at 1817 hours.
- The Board reconvened from closed session at 1938 hours.
- As per Government Code Sec. 54957.6, the Board of Directors met in closed session for conference regarding Safety labor negotiations for consultation with: Chief Sapeta and Financial Analyst Rivas. No action was taken.
- As per Government Code Sec. 54957.6, the Board of Directors met in closed session for Public Employee Evaluation. Title: Fire Chief. Evaluation was completed.

**Good of the Order:**

- None.

**Adjournment:**

- The regular meeting of the Board of Directors adjourned at 1938 hours.

**Attest:**

  
Miasha Rivas, Clerk of the Board