

LAKE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Board of Directors Regular Meeting

August 23, 2023
Lower Lake Town Hall
16195 Main Street
Lower Lake, CA 95457

Vice-Chairperson Watson called the meeting to order at 1730 hours.

Directors present: Director Benson, Director Dean, Director Moore, Director Scovel, Director Snyder, Vice-Chairperson Watson, Chairperson Loustalot (arrived at 1733)

Employees present: Fire Chief Sapeta, Battalion Chief Hill, Fire Marshal Lancaster, and Financial Analyst Rivas

Others present: Lakeport Fire Chief Reitz, Lakeport Board Director David Brown, Samantha Bond, Marcus Bond and LCOE (Lake County Office of Education) Brock Falkenberg (arrived at 1748)

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Board Director Requests for Teleconferencing:

- None.

Special Agenda Items:

- None.

Closed Session Items:

- As per Government Code Sec. 54956.9(d)(1), the Board of Directors convened into closed session at 1732 for Conference with Legal Counsel to discuss a claim filed against the District– Existing Litigation. Civil Rights Department Matter Number 202306-20925508 McCormick/California Public Employees' Retirement System et al.

The Board reconvened into public session at 1743.

Vice-Chairperson Watson announced that Director Watson made a motion to deny said claim.

Director Snyder seconded the motion.

Ayes: Benson, Dean, Moore, Watson, Scovel, Snyder, Loustalot

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Consent Items:

- Director Watson made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 26, 2023, regular meeting. Director Moore seconded the motion.
Motion passed.
Ayes: 7
Noes: 0
Absent: 0
Abstain: 0
- Director Watson made a motion to approve the warrant register and pay the bills for July 2023. Director Scovel seconded the motion.
Motion passed.
Ayes: 7

Noes: 0
Absent: 0
Abstain: 0

Chief's Report:

- Fire Chief Sapeta provided an update on recent calls for service. The fire incident on 3rd Street had potential but the crews did an amazing job. Medical calls are up.
- Fire Chief Sapeta provided an update on the LCFCA meeting. Public Health denied increasing the current EMS Liaison from part-time to full-time due to AARPA money. The BOS is asking Dr. Naomi Doohan if she will sign off on controlled medications for the fire districts.
- Fire Chief Sapeta reported that EMS Pathways committee met in August. They will look to start in the spring of 2024. They would like to offer the program to both kids and adults through Yuba College. It is free for kids. The program would look at students completing the prerequisites in 11th grade, their EMT in 12th grade and then be eligible for jobs/internships when they graduate.
- Fire Chief Sapeta provided an update on the Lake County Cannabis Task Force meetings. The county may choose to allow cannabis operations to be exempt from certain local ordinances, they cannot allow them to be exempt from the California Fire Code. Part of that code is for fire services to have safe access to properties. Some operations can only be accessed by bridges which are not engineered and are unsafe. These issues will need to be remedied before permits are granted.
- Fire Chief Sapeta reported that they completed the Insurance Service Organization (ISO) audit. The District has been rated a 4/4y. The lower the number, the better the rating.
- Fire Chief Sapeta reported that he and Fire Chief Ciancio coordinated a media day to review the various public information platforms. These include Nixle, Zonehaven, iPAWS, etc. They discussed that members of the public are monitoring the TAC channels and putting what they hear out on social media. However, much of what they hear is not verified. Only information from PIOs should be put out to the public.
- Fire Chief Sapeta reported that he and Fire Chief Ciancio conducted a tabletop emergency fire exercise. This included evacuations and requesting an FMAG using the ABC Form.
- Fire Chief Sapeta reported that Fire Captain Ronnie Boyd's services were well attended.
- Fire Chief Sapeta reported that the fire districts have received the manikins purchased by Redbud Health District they will begin training on them.
- Fire Chief Sapeta reported that a committee was established for the review and revision of the County's 2004 ambulance ordinance. The committee will consist of 2 members from fire, Public Health, County Board of Supervisors, and the hospitals.
- Fire Chief Sapeta reported he will be going to bid for the FIT test machine.
- Fire Chief Sapeta reported that BC Hill and Captain Peterson are doing a trial of running a 3rd medic unit out of Station 65 on C shift. Hopefully, this will provide useful metrics to determine if this is worthwhile. If so, the District would look at a SAFR grant to assist with funding the positions.

Fire Marshal's Report:

- Fire Marshal Lancaster provided a project update:
The ARCO gas station updated plans were approved; however, she is unsure of their status with the City Building Division or Special Districts.

The sports complex on Burns Valley and the hotel proposed at the airport property are on hold due to a lawsuit filed by the KOI tribe.

There are no large commercial plans currently submitted.

- Fire Marshal Lancaster reported she contacted the 21 property owners on Anderson Rd to follow up on the hazardous vegetation notices she sent. The County is setting up reinspection dates for September. The next area she will look to address is Hillcrest/Valley Avenue in Clearlake. There has been an influx of vegetation complaints for that area.
- Fire Marshal Lancaster provided an update on the District's Fire Code Ordinance. The County has asked for edits. Once agreed upon and edited, the ordinance will be presented to the Board again.

Volunteer Association Input and Comments:

- None.

Employee Input and Comments:

- None.

Communications:

- None.

AD HOC Committee Reports:

- 2023/2024 Budget Committee – Director Benson and Chairperson Loustalot reported that they met regarding the budget, and they approve.

Regular Agenda Items:

- Director Snyder made a motion to consider and adopt Resolution No. 23-0801 Approving the Prop 4 Compliance for Fiscal Year 2022/2023.
Director Watson seconded the Motion.
Motion passed by roll call vote.
Ayes: Benson, Dean, Loustalot, Moore, Scovel, Snyder, Watson
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None
- Director Watson made a motion to consider and adopt the 2023/2024 Adopted Budget.
Director Benson seconded the motion.
Motion passed.
Ayes: 7
Noes: 0
Absent: 0
Abstain: 0
- Director Watson made a motion to consider and approve the Information Technology Services Agreement between Q Branch Networks LLC and Lake County Fire Protection District in the total annual amount of \$39,600 and authorize the Fire Chief to sign.
Director Snyder seconded the motion.
Motion passed.
Ayes: 7
Noes: 0
Absent: 0
Abstain: 0
- Director Watson made a motion to consider and adopt Resolution No. 23-0802 Requesting the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) of Lake County to Amend the Terms and Conditions of Consolidation Relative to the Board Composition.
Director Snyder seconded the motion.
Motion passed by roll call vote.
Ayes: Benson, Dean, Loustalot, Scovel, Snyder, Watson
Noes: Moore

Absent: Ncne
Abstain: None

Old Business:

- Director Watson made a motion to close the topic of Incompatibility of Office – D. Loustalot with condition that if a situation arises, Chairperson Loustalot will notify the Board.
Director Moore seconded the motion.
Motion passed.
Ayes: 7
Noes: 0
Absent: 0
Abstain: 0

New Business:

- None.

Good of the Order:

- Director Watson expressed “good job” to the employees. She stressed the importance of mental health and encouraged everyone to seek assistance if needed.
- Director Benson praised the work of Fire Marshal Lancaster with the vegetation abatement on Anderson Road. It could have been a very volatile situation, but Fire Marshal Lancaster was very diplomatic.
- Fire Chief Sapeta commented on the great work of both BC Hill and Fire Marshal Lancaster. They also fill the role of a sole role paramedic providing extra response resources to the crews when they are on duty.

Adjournment:

- The regular meeting of the Board of Directors adjourned at 1649 hours.

Attest:



Miasha Rivas, Clerk of the Board