



Moraga-Orinda Fire District
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 21, 2021

(APPROVED: AUGUST 18, 2021)

1. OPENING CEREMONIES

The Board of Directors convened a teleconference Open Session at **6:01 p.m.** on **July 21, 2021**, via the Zoom application <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87941378692>, webinar id: 87941378692 and by phone 669-900-6833. Pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20, teleconferencing restrictions of the Brown Act have been suspended. MOFD is closely following the latest Public Health Order from the Contra Costa Health Services issued on March 17, 2020. At this time, all formal public meetings will continue remotely.

President Jorgens called the meeting to order and requested an attendance roll call. Present were the following Directors and Staff:

President Jorgens	Director Donner	Amy Ackerman, District Council
Director Baitx (absent)	Director Jex	Marcia Holbrook, District Clerk
Director Danziger	Dave Winnacker, Fire Chief	

2. PUBLIC COMMENT (audio 1:37)

President Jorgens opened Public Comment on the closed session items. There were no requests to address the Board. President Jorgens closed Public Comment.

District Council Ackerman reported a formal request for advice was submitted to the FPPC (Fair Political Practices Commission) on July 7, 2021, regarding Director Baitx's potential conflict of interest in labor negotiations. Director Baitx has decided to refrain from participating in those matters until the advisory opinion is received from the FPPC. Director Baitx does not intend to join the closed session relating to the labor negotiations but is entitled to participate in the real estate matter on the closed session agenda.

At **6:03 p.m.**, the Board adjourned to Closed Session.

3. CLOSED SESSION

3.1 Conference with Labor Negotiator

(Government Code Section 54957.6)
Agency Designated Rep: Jonathan Holtzman
Employee: David Winnacker, Fire Chief

3.2 Conference with Labor Negotiator

(Government Code Section 54957.6)
Agency Designated Rep: Donna Williamson
Employee Organization: Employee Organization: Local 1230, International Association of Firefighters IAFF

3.3 Conference with Labor Negotiator

(Government Code Section 54957.6)
Agency Designated Rep: Jonathan Holtzman
Employee Organization: Unrepresented Employees

3.4 Conference with Labor Negotiator

(Government Code Section 54957.6)
Agency Designated Rep: Donna Williamson
Employee Organization: Moraga-Orinda Fire Chief Officers' Association

3.5 Conference with Real Property Negotiators

(Government Code Section 54956.8)
Agency Negotiator: David Winnacker
Negotiating parties: Moraga School District
Under Negotiations: Consideration of and authorization to proceed with real estate negotiations by the Fire Chief regarding potential acquisition of the real properties concerning price and terms of payment. Real Property: Moraga Way, Orinda CA 94563 (APN 270-302-006-1) and 1010 Camino Pablo, Moraga CA 94556 (257-210-013-5).

4. RECONVENE THE MEETING (audio 5:32)

4.1 Call the Meeting to Order

4.2 Roll Call

President Jorgens reconvened the Moraga-Orinda Fire District Board of Directors' regular business meeting at **7:01 p.m.** and requested an attendance roll call. Present were the following Directors and Staff:

President Jorgens	Director Jex	Mary Smith, Finance Manager
Director Baitx (absent)	Dave Winnacker, Fire Chief	Amy Ackerman, District Council
Director Danziger	Gloriann Sasser, Admin. Services Director	Marcia Holbrook, District Clerk
Director Donner	Lisa Dalton, Human Resources Manager	

5. REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION ACTION (audio 5:59)

President Jorgens stated that the Board took no reportable action on agenda items 3.1-3.5.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT - ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA (audio 6:10)

President Jorgens opened Public Comment.

Written comments received by 3:00 p.m. were forwarded to the Board of Directors and available for viewing on the District website. 1) Oakland Firewise.

Written Public Comments received after 3 p.m., attached to these minutes, item 6.0 attachment A. 1) Mark Coppe.

Fire Chief Winnacker responded to Mr. Coppe's written comments stating East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) has the responsibility and obligation to inspect the fire hydrants and maintain their water system. EBMUD has stated they are a Regional agency and not subject to MOFD jurisdiction. The appropriate route for residents to relay concerns is via Representative Marguerite Young on the EBMUD Board.

There were no further requests to address the Board. President Jorgens closed Public Comment.

7. CONSENT AGENDA (audio 10:07)

7.1 Meeting Minutes – June 16, 2021 (Regular), June 28, 2021 (Special), July 13, 2021 (Special). Approved and Filed

7.2 Monthly Incident Report – June 2021. Approved and Filed

7.3 Monthly Check/Voucher Register – June 2021. Approved and Filed

7.4 Monthly Financial Report – June 2021. Approved and Filed

7.5 Quarterly Investment Report – June 2021. Approved and Filed

President Jorgens opened Public Comment. There were no requests to address the Board. President Jorgens closed Public Comment. No discussion by the Board.

Motion by Director Danziger and seconded by Director Jex to approve Consent Agenda items 7.1 through 7.5. Said motion carried 4-0-1-0 roll call vote (Ayes: Danziger, Donner, Jex, and Jorgens; Noes: None; Absent: Baitx; Abstain: None).

8. REGULAR AGENDA

8.1 PARS OPEB Pre-Funding and Pension Rate Stabilization Trust Program Annual Client Review (audio 11:25)

PARS (Public Agency Retirement Services) provided the annual review of the trust program. Executive Vice President Mitch Barker, Client Services Coordinator Angela Tang, and High Mark Capital Management Senior Portfolio Manager Andrew Brown presented the review. (The presentation is available in the board packet, Item 8.1 Attachment A, "OPEB Pre-Funding Trust Program & Pension Rate Stabilization Program Client Review."). Ms. Tang reviewed a Summary of Agency OPEB Plan and actuarial results as of June 30, 2020, pages 5 through 8 of the presentation. Ms. Tang provided an overview summary of the Pension Plan information, pages 9 through 10, and funding status for the District described on page 11. Mr. Brown reviewed the Economic and Market forecasts for years 2021 and 2022, page 13. Mr. Brown summarized that the forecast shows a strong recovery for this year and the growth slowing down for next year. A moderate inflationary environment is shown, and inflation will be transitory. The Fed Funds Target rate is forecast at 0 to 0.25% until 2023.

Mr. Brown reviewed the Selected Period Performance for the period ending June 30, 2021, page 14. Mr. Brown explained that the OPEB and the Pension Plan are invested with the same investment objective. The differences are in the cash flow timings of contributions received into the plans. The fixed income has not generated any positive return over the last 12 months. Mr. Brown summarized the investment breakdown (80% stock, 20% Bond/Cash portfolio), the gross investment management fee at .0329% (incurred with the combined balances of pension and OPEB) is approximately 30 basis points. Total Managed Portfolio is a net of .3029% over the last 12 months for the period ending June 30, 2021.

Mr. Brown discussed the Asset Allocation on page 15 (79% equities, 20% fixed income, and 1% cash). Compared to a policy benchmark of 75% stocks and 5% cash, the district is 4% overweight in stocks and 4% underweight in cash. The fixed income is neutral at a 20% allocation. Mr. Brown summarized the investments and performance numbers reported on page 14. Mr. Brown provided recommendations as requested by Staff. Mr. Brown recommended continuing with the current investment strategy with the OPEB plan (consistent funding, aggressive stance, a long-term time horizon). The 6.25% discount rate is reasonable and would continue at that rate for plan assets and liabilities.

Mr. Brown recommended a change in the funding ratio for the Pension plan. The funding ratio is 87%. If combined \$5.5M of assets, it would increase to a 90% funding ratio. Mr. Brown explained there is merit in taking less risk given the healthy funding ratio that the Pension Plan currently maintains. If the Board was considering taking some of these assets and sending them to CCCERA to pay down liability, that would cause a more conservative recommendation for the plan asset allocation.

Director Danziger asked what the Dow Jones average was for the same period. Mr. Brown did not have the Dow Jones average. President Jorgens stated that the S&P was listed on page 16 as a comparison at 40.79%.

Director Jex stated that during the last review, the Directors commented on the poor performance of the fixed income and raised the question as to why any funds were allocated to fixed income. Mr. Brown explained the investment objective and risk/reward and risk mitigator.

President Jorgens inquired about the expectations of the portfolio over the next 20 years. Mr. Brown answered High Mark Capital predicts 6.62 points average for a 20-year horizon capital appreciation. President Jorgens commented that CCCERA assumes a 7% rate and disagreed with the 87% funded forecast. CCCERA has underachieved on a regular basis which is why it has a pension deficit. The District had a fully funded pension in 2005 and now has a \$25M pension deficit.

Director Jex opposed giving additional money to CCCERA to reduce the liability and added the reason the District set up the Trust was due to the CCCERA poor performance and unrealistic revenue stream. President Jorgens agreed. In light of these comments, Mr. Brown withdrew his previous comments regarding reallocation of assets and recommended staying the course with both the OPEB and Pension Plan.

President Jorgens opened Public Comment. There were no requests to address the Board.

President Jorgens closed Public Comment. No further discussion from the Board.

8.2 Resolution 21-07 Establishing the FY2021/22 Fire Flow Tax Rates for the Orinda and Moraga Service Zones (audio 31:20)

Fire Chief Winnacker provided the report. At the June 2021 regular board meeting during the discussion of Item 9.1, two Directors requested a future agenda item to review MOFD's fire flow tax. The fire flow tax topic had previously been addressed on several occasions, including a comprehensive report presented as Item 8.5 at the June 15, 2016, regular board meeting (attached in the board packet, item 8.2 attachment A). Prior reviews of the fire flow tax have not resulted in changes to the District's revenue model or accounting. Fire Chief Winnacker referenced the 2006-2007 resolution where the Board increased the fire flow tax in Orinda at .06 cents while leaving the fire flow tax at .05 cents in Moraga. Fire Chief Winnacker explained, with the exception of 2006-2007 years (which was an anomaly in the District's 23-year history), the fire flow taxes have been set the same in both districts every year. Fire Chief Winnacker further noted that the Moraga Service Zone includes 840 parcels in Orinda. As a result of Board action adopting Resolution 99-04 in 1999, the accounting of the two service zones was merged. Fire Chief Winnacker explained the difficulties disentangling the accounting of both the services provided and the revenue received from the District's various service zones and subdivisions.

President Jorgens opened Public Comment.

Written Public Comments received by 3 p.m. were forwarded to the Board of Directors and available for viewing on the District website. 1) Dick Olsen.

Dick Olsen, Moraga resident, prepared a history of the Moraga and Orinda Fire Flow taxes which was forwarded to the Board. Mr. Olsen had no additional comments to add to the information but offered to answer questions. The Directors thanked Mr. Olsen for the information provided.

Mayor Mike McCluer, Town of Moraga, read into the record a letter from the Town of Moraga in Opposition to increasing the Fire Flow Tax Rate for the Moraga Fire Flow Tax Zone. The letter is included in the board packet, Item 8.2, Attachment F.

Mike McCluer, Moraga resident, added a personal statement intending to seek a ballot measure for the Town of Moraga to cap the fire flow tax rate to the original .06 cents to be consistent with the City of Orinda.

Frank Sperling, former Moraga resident, current resident of Oakland, former Mayor of the Town of Moraga, and served on the MOFD Board of Directors opposed an increase in the fire flow tax for Moraga and commended Staff for the excellent staff report and historical documentation provided.

Dave Trotter, Moraga resident and former Mayor of the Town of Moraga, supported all of the previous comments and urged the Board to adopt the proposed resolution to maintain parity in setting fire flow taxes.

Gordan Nathan, Moraga resident, supported all the previous comments and supported equity established in the LAFCO agreement.

There were no further requests to address the Board. President Jorgens closed Public Comment.

Director Danziger supported maintaining the .06 cents in both Moraga and Orinda. President Jorgens proposed leaving the rate at .06 cents in both cities for this year.

No further discussion by the Board.

Motion by Director Jex seconded by Director Donner to Adopt Resolution No. 21-07 Adopting the Fire Flow Tax rate of six cents (\$.06) in both the Moraga and Orinda service zones. Said motion carried 4-0-1-0 roll call vote (Ayes: Danziger, Donner, Jex, and Jorgens; Noes: None; Absent: Baitx; Abstain: None).

8.3 Adopt Resolution 21-14 Classifying the Various Components of Fund Balance as Defined in Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54 and Adopting a Revised Fund Balance Policy (audio 50:27)

Administrative Services Director Sasser provided the report. The District has a Fund Balance Policy that requires annual review by the Board. The policy has been reviewed along with various risk areas facing the District. The District faces risks in the areas of COVID-19, necessary capital projects, pension costs, and unfunded liabilities. The existing policy requires the District to maintain a minimum Fund balance in the general fund of 17% of budgeted revenues with a goal of achieving a 50% year-end general fund balance in the long term. Staff recommended the Board adopt resolution 20-14, which included no changes to the current fund balance policy.

President Jorgens opened the public comment. There were no requests to address the Board. President Jorgens closed public comment.

No further discussion by the Board.

Motion by Director Danziger and seconded by Director Donner to Adopt Resolution 21-14 Classifying the Various Components of Fund Balance as Defined in Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54 and Adopting a Revised Fund Balance Policy. Said motion carried 4-0-1-0 roll call vote (Ayes: Danziger, Donner, Jex, and Jorgens; Noes: None; Absent: Baitx; Abstain: None).

8.4 September and December 2021 Board Meeting Dates (audio 52:38)

Fire Chief Winnacker provided the report. At the December 16, 2020 board meeting, the Board approved the 2021 regular board meeting schedule, which included the dates of September 15 and December 15, 2021. The Board directed Staff to place on the July 2021 agenda to discuss requests received from Directors to move the September 15 and December 15, 2021 board meetings to different dates.

President Jorgens opened the public comment. There were no requests to address the Board. President Jorgens closed public comment.

All Directors agreed no conflicts existed. No changes were made to the 2021 board meeting schedule.

8.5 Planning for Return to In-Person Board Meetings and the Option to Provide Virtual Public Access to Public Meetings Beginning October 2021 (audio 53:46)

Fire Chief Winnacker provided the report and reviewed the background of the Executive Orders that were issued suspending teleconferencing restrictions of the Brown Act due to the COVID-19 pandemic. All formal public meetings meet remotely via the Zoom application, which allowed full verbal and written public participation. In June 2021, an Executive Order was issued requiring public agencies to return to in-person public meetings effective October 1, 2021. Beginning October 2021, the District will hold all public meetings in person as required by State law. Staff requested Board direction regarding whether the District should provide optional virtual public access to public meetings beginning in October 2021. Virtual public access is not required by law and will require District investment in new equipment. Further challenges exist as the District does not own meeting space and rotates meeting locations between Moraga and Orinda on monthly basis.

Fire Chief Winnacker reviewed the challenges outlined in the staff report for holding public meetings in person and virtually at the same time. The District does not own a room to hold public board meetings. As a result, the District uses rooms that belong to other public agencies, which are not always available. Several different locations are used due to scheduling conflicts. In addition, the District attempts to hold public meetings in both Moraga and Orinda on a rotating basis. The District has to use portable audio equipment to record board meetings and move the equipment back and forth between the Administration office and the meeting locations. The District also has to store all equipment at Administration where space is limited. The District is reliant on the internet system that is available at the various board meeting locations. The District does not own video equipment and does not provide laptops or other technology devices to Board members for use at public meetings.

Fire Chief Winnacker reviewed three options and the fiscal impact of each option: 1) In-person only, no remote participation (pre-pandemic standard), no fiscal impact. 2) In-Person and Virtual Public Access and Participation using Zoom Room, \$20,000 - \$30,000. 3) In-Person and Virtual Public Access and Participation using Zoom, \$10,000 - \$20,000; and 4) contracting for both space and Staff to use the City

of Orinda and Town of Moraga facilities where they hold their board meetings. The District would need to contract for both the use of the space and for the city to provide Staff on the contract that can operate the existing audio and visual equipment present in those locations. It was noted that Moraga and Orinda have not yet been approached regarding the use of their council chambers and the availability and virtual meeting capability of these spaces is not known.

President Jorgens opened the public comment. There were no requests to address the Board. President Jorgens closed public comment.

Director Jex asked what the two cities are planning to do with their public meetings. Fire Chief Winnacker answered the cities have always had the option to stream because they own a fixed facility with the audio and visual equipment. It is unknown if the two cities will be enabling virtual participation. Fire Chief Winnacker stated that a proposed course of action is to utilize systems, expertise, and facilities if available.

President Jorgens asked what rooms could be used that would provide the appropriate spacing and other requirements. Fire Chief Winnacker answered the city of Orinda auditorium is large and allows for significant social distancing. Other options are the buildings of faith-based organizations that have space to allow a more dispersed meeting. Staff is working on finding options of centrally located large spaces that would not have the requirement to move the meeting month to month. President Jorgens asked if the Town of Moraga has similar facilities. Fire Chief Winnacker answered that the Town Hall space is larger than our current spaces. The social distancing and occupancy requirements for October are unknown.

Director Jex asked how much the District currently pays to rent facilities for meeting space. Fire Chief Winnacker answered that the district does not pay for the use of the current publicly owned spaces.

President Jorgens inquired if the plan would be to pay for the staff person to operate the equipment. Fire Chief Winnacker confirmed. President Jorgens supported having more participation from the public and trying to provide better access to the meetings if it is fiscally reasonable.

Director Danziger supported continuing some form of virtual participation, and suggested hiring a company if contracting with the two cities is not an option. Fire Chief Winnacker explained the option is expensive. Director Danziger stated that initial research is about \$2,500 a meeting.

President Jorgens expressed interest in determining how much it would cost to contract with the City or Town to use facilities and hiring the extra staff person to run the equipment.

Director Danziger asked if it is a District policy to rotate the meeting between towns each month. Fire Chief Winnacker confirmed it is not required but has been past practice. Staff would try to identify a central location between the two communities with the potential for a virtual option.

President Jorgens supported the option of utilizing the City and Town facilities and equipment to eliminate Staff's time and effort of carrying the equipment from the headquarters to different meeting locations. Fire Chief Winnacker agreed.

Director Jex agreed with trying to find one location due to the history of injuries as a result of the weight of lifting and moving the equipment.

President Jorgens requested that the Staff follow up with the cities, determine the cost, and bring that back to the Board. Fire Chief Winnacker confirmed and reaffirmed that the Board is interested in a hybrid, combination of the required in-person and a virtual option, and Staff will bring back a recommendation. All Directors agreed.

8.6 Approval of Salary Schedule and Increase in District Contributions for Medical Insurance for Unrepresented Employees Effective July 1, 2021 (audio 70:11)

Fire Chief Winnacker provided the report. Historically District employees receive annual salary increases. The District has unrepresented employee classifications which are not covered by a Memorandum of Understanding or separate employment contract. The last salary increase for these unrepresented employees was 2%, effective July 1, 2020. Staff recommended unrepresented employees receive a 2% wage increase effective July 1, 2021, consistent with the prior fiscal year. The proposed salary schedule is available in the board packet Item 8.6, attachment A. The District's monthly contribution for medical insurance for unrepresented employees is a fixed dollar amount and has not increased since January 1, 2019. During that time, Kaiser insurance rates have increased 5.9%. Employees have borne the cost of the increase as the District contribution is fixed. Staff recommended the District increase the employer contribution for unrepresented employees (excluding the Fire Chief) effective July 1, 2021, to a fixed dollar amount equal to 90% of the Kaiser rate as listed in the staff report. The projected FY2022 total cost of the salary and medical insurance increase is \$32,270. Staff recommended approving the Salary Schedule and Increase in District Contributions for Medical Insurance for Unrepresented Employees Effective July 1,

2021, as follows: Employee only: \$733 per month, Employee +1: \$1,465 per month, and Employee +2 or more: \$1,904 per month.

President Jorgens opened the public comment. There were no requests to address the Board. President Jorgens closed public comment. No further discussion by the Board.

Motion by Director Danziger and seconded by Director Jex to Approve Salary Schedule and Increase in District Contributions for Medical Insurance for Unrepresented Employees Effective July 1, 2021, as follows: a) Employee only: \$733 per month, b) Employee +1 \$1,465 per month, c) Employee +2 or more: \$1,904 per month. Said motion carried 4-0-1-0 roll call vote (Ayes: Danziger, Donner, Jex, and Jorgens; Noes: None; Absent: Baitx; Abstain: None).

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS (audio 72:31)

- 9.1 Audit Committee (Directors Danziger and Jex).** No report
- 9.2 Finance Committee (Directors Danziger and Jorgens).** No report.
- 9.3 Facilities Station 41 Ad Hoc Committee (Directors Baitx and Donner).** No report.
- 9.4 Joint Fire Prevention Ad Hoc Committee (Directors Danziger and Jorgens).** No report.

President Jorgens opened the public comment. There were no requests to address the Board. President Jorgens closed public comment. No discussion by the Board

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS (audio 72:57)

- 10.1 Brief information only reports related to meetings attended by a Director at District expense** (Government Code Section 53232.3(d)). No report.
- 10.2 Questions and informational comments from Board members and Staff.** No report.
- 10.3 Fire Chief Updates**

10.3.1 Human Resources

Human Resources Manager Dalton provided the report. Cal/OSHA COVID regulations were implemented and updated to include; establishing a vaccination self-attest form, modifying masks, and return to work requirements to be in line with Cal/OSHA return to work standards. Contra Costa County reestablished recommendations that all individuals wear masks indoors. In January 2020, the District moved to a new EAP provider Concern. Concern specializes in First Responders and provides various free and confidential wellness programs (child care, elder care, financial planning, counseling services, and legal services). The District's 2021 annual utilization projections are high compared against Concern's overall average utilization. Flu shot clinics will be available to District employees in September, and CalPERS Open Enrollment is scheduled September 20th through October 15th. Future projects include researching systems and cost comparisons for a digital forms processing platform.

10.3.2 Finance Report

Finance Manager Smith provided the report and gave a presentation on the status of OES reimbursements, attached to these minutes, Item 10.3.2, attachment A. Director Jex inquired about the response time for payment of the COVID invoices. Finance Manager Smith answered COVID invoices had been paid faster than the wildfire invoices.

10.3.3 Fire Marshal

Fire Chief Winnacker provided the report. The District received 75 dead tree complaints, 121 exterior hazard complaints, 477 property transfer inspections, and 1798 exterior hazard inspections (578 passed/1220 failed). Staff has issued ten pre-citations, 137 Notices to Abate, and held three Abatement Hearings with the Board issuing orders for the Fire Chief to abate the three properties. Fire Chief Winnacker provided a status report on each property.

Staff completed 67 days of chipping and removed 309 tons of material. Staff conducted one state-mandated inspection and 255 plan reviews. Fire Chief Winnacker reviewed current projects and plans for the quarter (chipper and chipper truck purchase, inspections, working on AB 2911 compliance for CAL FIRE, citations, and abatement hearings).

Fire Chief Winnacker continued with the Fire Chief update. Additional resources were added for the 4th of July holiday as part of a countywide task force. The District's Communication Support Team volunteers staffed hilltops for fire watch lookout which also functioned as an exercise of the backup emergency communication system. Prescribed fires were completed at Painted Rock and Campolindo Ridge in Moraga, which provided a regional training opportunity for units throughout the area and provided fuel mitigation benefits. Staff completed a multi-agency drill on June 30 in the Caldecott Tunnel. The agencies included MOFD, CHP, CalTrans, State Fire Marshal's Office, Oakland Fire, and Con Fire. The

drill tested the new emergency power backup generators during a public safety power shutoff event. Fire Chief Winnacker shared photos and described the training exercise.

Fire Chief Winnacker shared two positive incidents with Engine 41 and Medic 41 responding to an EMS call with a pulseless and apneic patient resulting in the return of spontaneous circulation in the field. Defibrillation was administered a total of four times on scene. Fire Chief Winnacker commended the Crew and family member (who performed CPR) as survival relies on a number of steps in the chain of survival, beginning with the family member providing timely and effective CPR, the crew arriving rapidly, a seamless transition of the First Responder CPR to ACLS, and rapid transport to definitive care. The second incident involved Engines 45 and 43 responding to a vehicle fire report on Highway 24 at Wilder. After arriving on scene, E43 was struck by a vehicle on the driver's right-side bumper causing significant damage. Fire Chief Winnacker commended the crews on scene and the excellent use of the apparatus to protect the scene, and the direction provided by the Captain to protect the Engineer by leaving him in the engine rather than exposing him to traffic. Had the Engineer been out of the vehicle, he would have been in the path of that vehicle.

Fire Chief Winnacker reported on the red flag event on Sunday (7/18) and Monday (7/19). MOFD up-staffed additional units during the event, which did not materialize due to weather changes. Staff anticipates further red flag events as we approach the fall. The fire activity throughout the state is extraordinary, and the District has had a number of firefighters and officers deployed throughout the state. The District continues to benefit from the experience gained by deployed members

Director Danziger inquired on the status of Caltrans performing work along Highway 24. Fire Chief Winnacker answered Caltrans had recognized the need for enhanced vegetation management work on the state-owned lands. Caltrans asserts exemption from local oversight on state-owned lands and is not subject to our fire code. Caltrans has an agreement with MOFD and other local fire agencies to maintain the land and participate in our regional fire risk reduction efforts. Caltrans has established a \$30M fund for fuel reduction and the first projects to be funded are Highway 24, Highway 13, and Highway 84 in Livermore. Director Danziger inquired about the \$13M funded to East Bay Regional Parks to remove dead and dying trees from Tilden Park to Orinda. Fire Chief Winnacker deferred to East Bay Parks about the fuel reduction plans for the funds.

10.4 Communications Received

No report.

10.5 Future Agenda Items

No report.

President Jorgens opened the public comment. There were no requests to address the Board.

President Jorgens closed public comment. No further discussion by the Board.

11. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:33 p.m., Director Jex motion and seconded by Director Danziger to adjourn the meeting. Said motion carried 4-0-1-0 roll call vote (Ayes: Danziger, Donner, Jex, and Jorgens; Noes: None; Absent: Baitx; Abstain: None).



Marcia Holbrook,
District Secretary/District Clerk

From: [Mark Coppe](#)
To: [Info](#)
Subject: "Public Comment – Not on the Agenda"
Date: Wednesday, July 21, 2021 6:53:47 PM

Since the last MOFD board meeting, I have noticed MOFD maintaining fire hydrants within my neighborhood - specifically painting the caps and clearing obstructing brush. Thank you. I look forward to seeing the placement of the blue decals.

I have also received a spreadsheet from EBMUD listing all the fire hydrants that have been inspected within the last five years. Can you believe that only one hydrant from Moraga (address unknown) and three from Orinda are on that list? This is unacceptable. As MOFD has continually deferred to EBMUD for the list of inspections, this has confirmed that MOFD has performed none over this extended period.

These fire hydrants are instrumental in preventing a "smaller" house fire or brushfire from becoming a wildfire. Given that many of these hydrants and water lines are old, coupled with the continuous ground movements, construction, and traffic, it is unlikely that all of the hydrants currently would pass an inspection recommended by the NFPA.

I have had meetings with Michael Ambrose from EBMUD to discuss the possibility of a dedicated inspection program. While Michael still thinks that annual inspections are too much, given that EBMUD maintains over 28,000 hydrants, he would like to prioritize inspection frequency based on metrics such as the age of the hydrant, amount of nearby fuel, high-risk structures (e.g., schools) and population centers. Michael was going to discuss the next steps with one of his managers.

Even though EBMUD concluded that there was a low failure rate amongst the sampled hydrants, the hydrants that EBMUD inspected within the last five years were those that required maintenance due to collisions within traffic and/or construction issues. Therefore, some type of routine fire hydrant inspection plan that tests the integrity of the hydrants and the connections, while establishing the current water pressure is needed. This is what I am asking for. In Michael's defense, he pointed out that none of the Bay Area fire departments have requested the need for fire hydrant inspections.

I continue to encourage Chief Winnacker to push for proper inspections. Let us set the MOFD apart from the status quo.

Mark



Finance Report

July 21, 2021

Strike Team Reimbursement - OES



• **Strike Team Receivable Update:**

OES Strike Team Receivable	\$3,331,187
OES Payments Received	<u>\$2,402,127</u>
Net Receivable Outstanding	\$ 929,060

- June payments - \$188k; July payments to date \$21K
- All 2020-21 fire-related invoices have been paid; remaining outstanding invoices are OES HQ Covid support related
- 27 Invoices Paid, 13 Invoices Outstanding
- Wildfire assignment activity in July

Finance – Other items



- Covid Vaccine Clinic Reimbursement – Total reimbursement due to date = \$17.5k
- Payroll – Process salary/benefit changes upon Board approval
- GASB 75 Annual report in process – payroll and benefits reporting
- Year-end close and audit prep in process