

Moraga-Orinda Fire Protection District



BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 18, 2017

(Approved September 6, 2017)

1. **Opening Ceremonies**

The Board of Directors convened in Open Session at 5:30 P.M. on July 18, 2017 at the Hacienda Mosaic Room, 2100 Donald Drive, Moraga, California. President Famulener called the meeting to order.

Present were the following Directors and Staff:

President Famulener	Director Jorgens
Director Anderson	Gloriann Sasser, Admin Services Director
Director Barber	Grace Santos, District Clerk
Director Jex	

2. **Public Comment**

There was no comment from the public.

3. **Closed Session**

At 5:30 P.M., the Board adjourned into Closed Session.

4. **Reconvene the Meeting**

President Famulener reconvened the regular business meeting of the Moraga-Orinda Fire District Board of Directors at 6:15 P.M. Present were the following Directors and Staff:

President Famulener	Stephen Healy, Fire Chief
Director Anderson	Gloriann Sasser, Admin Services Director
Director Barber	District Counsel, Jennifer Faught
Director Jex	Grace Santos, District Clerk
Director Jorgens	

5. **Report of Closed Session Action**

President Famulener reported that the Board appointed Battalion Chief Jerry Lee to be the Interim Fire Chief effective September 20, 2017, subject to contract negotiations.

6. **Public Comment**

MOFD Firefighter Mark McCullah stated that Director Jorgen's comment in the newspaper where he was quoted as saying, "Give me 30 minutes and I can find the \$400K." was incredibly arrogant. Anyone can replace budget items, but the important question is if the public understands the negative effect that the cuts could have on the services MOFD provides them.

7. **Consent Agenda**

Motion by Director Anderson and seconded by Director Jex to approve and file items 7.1 Meeting Minutes, 7.2 Monthly Incident Report, 7.3 Monthly Check/Voucher Register, and 7.4 Monthly Financial Report, and to reject the claim in item 7.5 Claim Against the Moraga-Orinda Fire Protection District. Said motion carried a unanimous 5-0 roll-call vote (Ayes: Anderson, Barber, Famulener, Jex, and Jorgens).

8. **Special Presentation**

8.1 **Proclamation Honor the Rescue One Foundation for 40 Years of Support**

President Famulener presented a proclamation to the Rescue One Foundation in honor of their 40 Year Anniversary. Ms. Maridel Moulton, Vice President of the Rescue One Foundation, accepted the proclamation and thanked the District for its recognition.

9. Regular Calendar

9.1 PARS OPEB Pre-Funding and Pension Rate Stabilization Trust Program Annual Client Review

The District pre-funds retiree healthcare benefits using an irrevocable trust. The District also sets aside money in a pension rate stabilization trust. The District participates in the Public Agency Retirement Services (PARS) Public Agencies Post-Employment Benefits Trust.

Jennifer Meza, from PARS, gave a brief presentation on the administration portion of the plan, and Andrew Brown, from HighMark Capital, gave a brief presentation on the investments and returns of the trusts.

The Board thanked Ms. Meza and Mr. Brown for their presentation.

9.2 Adoption of Annual Operating Budget Fiscal Year 2017/18

At the June 21, 2017 Board of Directors meeting, staff was directed to reduce the proposed Annual Operating Budget for FY 2017/2018 (Budget) to the projected actuals amount from FY 2016/17 for overtime and operating expenses. This would result in a reduction in budgeted overtime of \$100,025 and a reduction in budgeted operating expenses of \$426,742.

The Board directed staff to maintain overtime costs at the same amount as FY2016/17. Employees received a 6.91% pay increase as of July 1, 2017 based on current labor contracts. This increases overtime rates. As a result, it will be necessary to reduce the number of hours of overtime in FY2017/18.

Staff analyzed the number of hours of overtime by category in FY2016/17. Most overtime costs for FY2017/18 can only be reduced through labor contract negotiations due to the daily minimum staffing of 17 safety personnel and due to lost time from worker's compensation injuries and federally required medical leaves.

ASD Sasser gave a presentation and reviewed proposed reductions and eliminations to overtime and operating expenses. Most of the overtime hours cannot be reduced in FY 2017/18 because of the labor contract. However, there is \$25K in overtime that can be reduced without affecting the daily minimum staffing of 17. The remaining overtime categories were reviewed to identify possible reductions. Battalion Chief overtime can be reduced \$42K in two ways: 1) Fire Chief covers district during the day on some days, which would result in one less chief officer in the district some of the time; 2) discretionary conferences and training could be eliminated for Battalion Chiefs. The training program could be reduced by \$10K.

President Famulener asked what memberships would be eliminated. Chief Healy named a few such as Contra Costa County Fire Chiefs Association, National Fire Protection Agency (for the Fire Chief, but not for the Fire Marshal), California Fire Chiefs Association for Fire Chief and other Chief Officers, California Special Districts Association, California Society of Municipal Finance Officers, City Clerks Association of California, Contra Costa Fire Commissioners, Contra Costa Special Districts Association, Government Finance Officers Association, International Institute of Municipal Clerks, and Orinda Association.

President Famulener stated that she is the President of the Contra Costa Fire Commissioners Association and Secretary Santos is their Clerk. She asked if they are now supposed to drop out. Chief Healy stated that it is "value added" and everything in that category was either cut or eliminated.

Director Anderson asked how CERT would be reduced and commented on how valuable the program is to the community. Chief Healy stated that MOFD would continue to be the host agency for Lamorinda CERT. Dennis Rein, CERT Program Manager, stated that the budget reduction is unfortunate but the program can survive for a while without the funding. It just won't be at the same level where it was heading.

President Famulener asked if employment background checks would be eliminated from the budget. ASD Sasser explained that this would be for situations which required an outside

investigator to come in and investigate personnel issues. If the services are needed, she would come to the Board and ask for a budget adjustment.

President Famulener asked about the outside contractor being used for promotional exams. Chief Healy stated the reason the District uses outside contractors is because it adds to the element of fairness. Some problems that can happen if one is not used are allegations of unfairness, grievances and lawsuits. Staff can conduct the promotional exams but it will require overtime, a lot of equipment, and create a big distraction within the organization to put together.

Chief Healy stated that he recommended the budget that was presented to the Board at the last meeting.

Director Jex commented on how often an issue relating to administering promotional exams would arise.

Vince Wells, President 1230, stated that there were a lot of lawsuits and issues, which is why most, if not all, fire agencies went to conducting outside testing. Promotional exams conducted internally always creates problems, and makes the District or City susceptible to accusations of unfairness. Having both outside testing and investigators are important because it opens the door for complaints that decisions or promotions are being made because of personal relationships rather than fairness. All six agencies that Mr. Wells represents hire outside testers and investigators.

Director Jorgens asked if public companies hire outsiders to give tests to employees when they are thinking about hiring management. Chief Healy stated that it would depend on the size of the organization. An organization such as MOFD is not an example of an organization that would have the capacity typically to do something like that.

BC Barreto commented that having a professional outside investigator and testing consultants are an asset and makes a big difference for the District.

Director Jorgens stated that the initial budget process did not include going through each line item and justifying the amounts, and asked why they were doing it that way now.

President Famulener stated that the Board went through a year of planning and preparing the budget, and the Finance Committee worked with staff for a year on the budget, going through it line by line.

Director Jorgens stated that he listened to the Finance Committee meeting and there was a lot of public input. He commented that not one single word of which got implemented into the next draft of the budget.

President Famulener commented that she did not know where Director Jorgens is getting his information from. She heard from the Finance Committee that they did in fact take in the things that were suggested, especially at the first meeting. There were several people from the public and several changes were made to the draft budget before it was presented to the Board.

Director Jorgens stated that there are another 50-100 line items that aren't included in the slides that would also have to be reviewed.

President Famulener stated that if there are line items that people want to discuss, this is their chance. They are a transparent Board, they conduct the public's business in public and this is their night to go over it.

Director Jex stated that he was also bothered by the process of going through the items line by line, and asked why staff would recommend the cuts if they do not agree with it. Staff was directed to look for \$400K out of the budget, which can be from labor or a whole host of things. What was chosen to be cut was staff's choice, and if they don't agree with it, it was ridiculous to propose it.

President Famulener stated that these cuts were made at the order of the Board. The Fire Chief does not agree with these cuts. He presented the budget and believes the Board should be passing the original budget.

Director Jex stated that the issue is the financial viability of an organization that was proceeding down a road that would result in its incapacity long-term to operate and to meet its obligations. The Board needs to look for a plan for developing surpluses in order to meet their long-term capital and operations objectives. He stated that he does not have the expertise to look at any one of the items and agree. It was a ridiculous thing to do and he would not go back to approving a budget that is inadequate to meet our long-term objectives. Long-term is to have adequate surplus and reserve funds to meet our obligations and to compete with other similar districts in the area. Nothing is being developed as far as additional income or additions to the reserve. The general reserve is grossly inadequate, and will be at the end of this year grossly inadequate. Director Jex stated that staff must make a determination to either increase revenue, a reduction, operational changes, or eliminate a fire house. Staff has to do something – they cannot sit and do nothing to change the direction.

Director Anderson read aloud the MOFD Mission Statement to remind the Board what the organization is about. He passed out pictures of the recent fire near Campolindo High School and commented on the pride, professionalism and dedication of the MOFD firefighters. In the last 60 days, morale has been the lowest he has ever seen in the organization. He asked the Board why they are trying to solve a problem that is 10-15 years down the road. The District is addressing the problem – in two years, it has put in \$750K to address its unfunded liabilities. MOFD personnel has lost their leader, they don't have confidence in this Board, and the environment is toxic. The Board has to address the needs of the men and women of the MOFD now, not 15 years down the road. Director Anderson asked each Board member to ask themselves if their constituents know what they are doing tonight.

President Famulener stated that the District has been making incredible progress since 2013.

Director Jex stated that he has done a comparison of all other districts and MOFD is the only district that has little or no addition to the general fund balance of any substance. Other districts have between \$3M-\$13M consistently and MOFD does almost nothing. If there's no evidence that it is going to change what we are doing to become financially viable, all we will do is make promises with no funds to back it up. He stated that it is cheating the employees' future and making false promises that will not be kept. The District needs to plan for some additional addition to the reserve, not what was in the original budget. Since management had not taken action to do it, and there was no willingness from the Board to do it, it was decided to give staff a target. It is staff's choice what to propose. He expected staff to come back with five items, not \$1K here, \$2K there, etc. Staff can request more money from the Board, which the Board would probably approve, but make a good faith attempt to do something.

President Famulener stated that Chief Healy, ASD Sasser and the Management Team did what the Board asked them to do – to come back with proposed cuts. The biggest expense is the labor contract, which cannot be cut.

Director Jex agreed that it is a large expense. He stated that with other organizations he was involved with, if things were done to address the issue, they were able to reduce it dramatically.

President Famulener stated that was in the corporate world, not in the first responder world.

ASD Sasser stated that the board adoption of a budget has important legal ramifications. When the Board adopts the budget, it gives the Chief authority to spend up to that dollar amount in each fund, and not a dollar more.

Director Barber stated that there is no contingency fund in the budget.

ASD Sasser stated that in the general fund, all contingency money has been eliminated. There is \$150K contingency money in the capital projects fund for unexpected capital needs.

The Board and staff discussed the equipment maintenance budget. Director Jorgens commented that the line item is \$60K more than was spent last year and asked if the newly purchased apparatus came with warranties. Chief Healy stated that some parts and components have warranties.

Director Jorgens commented on having brand new equipment and still the maintenance costs continue to go up.

ASD Sasser stated that the projected actuals were formed in March. The amount that was spent in FY 2016/17 on repairs is \$229K, and \$140K was budgeted for FY 2017/18.

Director Jorgens asked why the budget given to the Board was off by more than a factor of two and more than \$100K. Why is the Board being asked to look at numbers that are old when staff has more recent information that would give a lot of insight.

ASD Sasser stated that there is a budget timeline and a process that started in February. In February and March, the managers make their projections and come up with a budget request. In April, the budget is drafted, presented to the Finance Committee on May 9, and presented to the Board on May 17. ASD Sasser did not continuously update the projections. They were done early on in the process.

Director Jorgens stated that it would be useful to have updated numbers, and would like to know that the projected actuals are immaterial because it impacts the Board's ability to decide what is realistic. It would be difficult to benchmark the 30 line items if the Board does not know if the current numbers were actually spent. He stated that ASD Sasser gave an updated number of \$229K instead of \$96K. Of the numbers we are trying to cut, that is 25% of the line item we are trying to cut.

Chief Healy stated that the apparatus budget stood out during this process because it had late repairs that came in, which is considered an anomaly.

President Famulener stated that Firefighter Himsl arrived and would like to hear her presentation, after which they will continue discussion on this item.

Katy Himsl, MOFD Firefighter Paramedic, gave a brief presentation on noteworthy calls in the District during the month of June. She reported on red flag days, an immediate needs strike team call that MOFD assisted with in the Brentwood area, a training burn, several residential structure fires, sending personnel on strike teams throughout California, a fire in Lafayette, a medical call to assist a newborn in Canyon, and fundraising for Fill-the-Boot. The Board thanked Firefighter Paramedic Himsl for her report.

President Famulener adjourned the meeting to take a five-minute break at 8:26 P.M.

At 8:31 P.M., President Famulener reconvened the meeting.

Director Barber commented on the process of going through each line item and his inability to substitute his judgement for that of ASD Sasser and Chief Healy, who are the experts. There will be an opportunity in six months to see how the budget is doing and if any critical issues arise. We will know at that time what the income to the District is. He proposed adopting the revised budget, allocating \$100K to the Chief to use without returning to the Board to ask for permission on small line items. The Chief could always come back to the Board at any time if there is a need beyond the amount or to change the budget in any way.

Director Barber also stated to give the full Board an opportunity to attend the mid-year review of the Finance Committee. It would be more efficient if there are problems that need to be addressed or changes that need to be made, there will be an opportunity for the full Board to do that. He recommended that, out of the \$600K general fund, allocate an additional \$220K each into OPEB and Pension Trusts, which should leave a modest unallocated part of the general fund.

Director Anderson proposed to accept the original budget as delivered and suggested that the entire board review the budget at the mid-year review.

Lucas Lambert, MOFD Firefighter Paramedic and Local 1230 Representative, commented on the core values of MOFD – Service, Honor, and Integrity. Training for firefighters, Battalion Chiefs and staff, CERT program, CPR, other events such as the Moraga Night Out/Orinda Night Out,

promotional items, the GIS Program which needs to grow since the district is growing, maintenance to aging buildings, public education supplies. The core values of MOFD should be a reminder of what we provide to the citizens of the Moraga, Orinda and Canyon.

Larry Menth, Labor Consultant from Mastagni Holstedt, A.P.C., represents the members of Local 1230. Mr. Menth agreed with Director Anderson's suggestion to adopt the original budget. Chief Healy was tasked to adjust and reduce operating areas that directly impact the union members. It's the small items such as bath towels, badges, exercise equipment, which is a term and condition of employment, and in order to remove bath towels, you have to meet and confer. If not, there is an article in their MOU that states it is a grievable issue. Keep in mind that while they may be a line item strike for \$5K or \$10K, they have a substantial ongoing unannounced cost. In terms to the attack on overtime, he feels that there needs to be an understanding of the Fair Labor Standards Act, which is not necessarily a debate open for discussion. It is an established federal law.

President Famulener made a motion to adopt the July 1, 2017 budget presented by Chief Healy and MOFD staff. Director Anderson seconded the motion. Said motion failed with a 2-3 roll call vote: (Ayes: Anderson, and Famulener; Noes: Barber, Jex and Jorgens).

On a motion from Director Barber, and seconded by Director Jorgens, the Board adopted the revised budget given by Fire Chief Healy and ASD Sasser with the following addition that \$100K of the general fund be set aside as a discretionary fund to be expended by the Chief. Said motion carried with a 3-2 roll call vote: (Ayes: Barber, Jex, and Jorgens; Noes: Anderson and Famulener).

Director Barber asked how best to undertake the mid-year review involving as many of the Board members and the public as possible.

Director Jorgens stated the item could be added on the next meeting agenda and commented that he liked Director Anderson's suggestion of having a Board meeting to discuss the mid-year budget review instead of just having a Finance Committee meeting.

9.3 Approval to Submit a Letter of Support to FEMA SAFER Guidelines

In late 2016, MOFD staff submitted a grant application to the FEMA Staffing for Adequate Firefighter & Emergency Response (SAFER) program. MOFD requested funding for four (4) positions in the amount of \$1,391,200 over three years. Notification of awards are expected to begin soon (fall of 2017).

Recently, MOFD was contacted by FEMA to provide a letter of support to the program guidelines that require a grantee to maintain their staffing levels and not incur lay-offs during the three (3) year period of performance. If awarded, and if the grant is accepted by MOFD, the District is committed to these requirements.

This request is not a notification of award, nor is it a guarantee that an award will be made to the District. Providing the letter of support will move the application forward in the selection process and is not committing the District to accepting the grant (if awarded). The District retains the option of exercising the grant if awarded or declining it without repercussion.

Staffing options utilizing the four SAFER positions are provided. Based on an implementation date of January 1, 2018, the estimated cost to the District is \$166,720 in FY17/18.

Director Barber asked if there would be consequences if the letter of support was not submitted soon.

Chief Lee stated that the longer the District waits, the lesser chance it has of receiving the award. If the District gets the grant, it would have to go back to the Board to determine whether or not to accept it.

Director Jorgens asked if there would be any money for this grant in the new budget. ASD Sasser stated that there was not.

Vince Wells, President of Local 1230, stated that the SAFER grant is very important to firefighters, who fought hard to get this grant in place. The importance of the grant is to provide adequate staffing. If the Board's only intention for the grant is to hire a couple extra firefighters to roam around and fill gaps, it would be an inappropriate use of the grant.

Director Jex stated that he finds it appropriate to proceed as long there is some discussion and analysis of the long-term mission objectives.

On a motion from Director Jex, and seconded by Director Famulener, the Board authorized staff to proceed with the submittal of the letter of support. Said motion carried with a 5-0 roll call vote: (Ayes: Anderson, Barber, Famulener, Jex, and Jorgens).

Director Jorgens stated that staff has to present additional analysis to the Board to assist them in making an informed decision when the time comes.

Director Barber agreed and stated the issue is if we will have time to consider the multi-year impact of accepting the grant because it affects four budgets. It will affect the long-term staffing of the District and has both financial and non-financial implications that are worthy of careful consideration.

Director Jorgens stated that there is significant analysis and models that could be used to find out optimal staffing, optimal equipment, optimal deployment, best practices and more that can be used to determine what the District's long-term staffing needs will be. He stated that he will not be able to make a good decision until he knows what the data shows.

9.4 Approve District Policy 11 – Board of Directors and Fire Chief Roles and Responsibilities Update

On December 28, 2011, the Board approved District Policy 11 - Board of Directors and Fire Chief Roles and Responsibilities.

The Board established an Ad Hoc Committee to review District Policy 11. The Ad Hoc Committee members reviewed the policy. Modifications are recommended to Section III Paragraph E – District Employment Contracts. Two versions are proposed.

President Famulener stated that she and Director Jorgens are members of the ad hoc committee, but have not met, and Director Jorgens refuses to meet. She stated that one of the most important roles that the Fire Chief plays is hiring employees, working out employment contracts, demoting, disciplining, and being the one in charge. She feels that is how it should stay.

Director Jorgens stated that they both have strong differing opinions, including Policy 11-03, which covers the bylaws for the entire organization. He asked if the Fire Chief should be the person completely in charge of negotiations. At the moment, the way the current policy reads is that the Chief is the sole person, and that he has the choice of hiring. Most organizations don't have the person who manages the people on a daily basis doing the negotiations of the contract. That is usually not a position you would want the daily manager to be in. The Board should have the option of having the Chief be the senior negotiator, or the option to have someone else. The current policy gives the authority to the Chief. Director Jorgens feels that it is inappropriate and stated that the Chief already has a lot of conflicts of interest. He feels it more appropriate to leave the authority with the Board and allow them to delegate it rather than giving it to the Chief.

Director Barber proposed to table action on the item to see if the Board can come up with something that is agreeable in advance and discuss this item at a later date.

Director Anderson stated that he will never vote to take away the Chief's role in negotiations. The Chief is the executive officer and should make the hiring and firing decisions. The Board can approve or disapprove any contract, which has always been the case. He added that the Chief is the Fire Chief and there has been enough demeaning of him.

President Famulener directed staff to place this item on the August 16 meeting agenda.

9.5 Recruitment Services for Fire Chief Position

Public agencies regularly use executive search firms to conduct executive recruitments. Staff contacted three different firms that conduct fire chief recruitments in the Bay Area.

It is estimated the complete recruitment process will take from four to six months. The projected cost is \$25,400 (\$19,400 for recruitment services plus up to \$6,000 for recruitment expenses.)

According to a search firm, the current hiring environment for fire chief positions is very challenging. There have been many retirements which has resulted in lack of qualified candidates. In addition, relocating to the Bay Area can be difficult if necessary.

The District could complete the fire chief recruitment process using the internal human resources division. Hiring of an executive search firm is not required.

President Famulener stated that items 9.5 Recruitment Services for Fire Chief Position and 9.6 Establishment of a Fire Chief Recruiting Ad Hoc Committee should be combined and discussed at once.

Director Barber suggested interviewing the search firms that ASD Sasser identified and make a recommendation to the Board.

Chief Healy recommended that the Board form an ad hoc committee. The committee can then interview the search firms and make a recommendation to the full Board. Interviews must be conducted in open session, not in closed session.

Jen Faught, District Counsel, stated that the Board can decide the scope of the ad hoc committee as they see fit. If the entire Board wants to interview the firms, it must be done in open session. She suggested asking other candidates to leave while one firm is being interviewed. It is technically an open meeting but they are usually respectful of the process for the others.

Director Jorgens asked if the Board should decide what the duties of the ad hoc committee will be.

It was decided that the ad hoc committee would be responsible for working with Chief Lee and negotiating a contract for the Interim Fire Chief position, interviewing the three recruiting candidates and bringing a report back to the Board on August 1, 2017, assisting the chosen recruiting firm in interviewing and choosing potential candidates for the Fire Chief position.

On a motion from President Famulener, and seconded by Director Jex, the Board established a Fire Chief Recruitment Ad Hoc Committee to interview recruiting firms and come up with a recommendation for the Board on August 1, 2017, work with Chief Lee to come up with an Interim Fire Chief contract, and work with the recruiter to interview Fire Chief candidates and bring the final three candidates back to the Board. Said motion carried with a unanimous 5-0 roll call vote: (Ayes: Anderson, Barber, Famulener, Jex, and Jorgens).

On a motion from President Famulener, and seconded by Director Jorgens, the Board nominated Directors Barber and Jorgens to serve on the Fire Chief Recruitment Ad Hoc Committee. Said motion carried with a unanimous 5-0 roll call vote: (Ayes: Anderson, Barber, Famulener, Jex, and Jorgens).

9.6 Establishment of a Fire Chief Recruitment Ad Hoc Committee

Per District Policy 11, the Board shall appoint an ad hoc committee to negotiate the fire chief's contract. The fire chief's negotiated contract is subject to the approval of the District Board.

Per District Policy 11, the fire chief shall be appointed by the District Board.

On a motion from President Famulener, and seconded by Director Jex, the Board established a Fire Chief Recruitment Ad Hoc Committee to interview recruiting firms and come up with a recommendation for the Board on August 1, 2017, work with Chief Lee to come up with an Interim Fire Chief contract, and work with the recruiter to interview Fire Chief candidates and bring the final three candidates back to the Board. Said motion carried with a unanimous 5-0 roll call vote: (Ayes: Anderson, Barber, Famulener, Jex, and Jorgens).

On a motion from President Famulener, and seconded by Director Jorgens, the Board nominated Directors Barber and Jorgens to serve on the Fire Chief Recruitment Ad Hoc Committee. Said motion carried with a unanimous 5-0 roll call vote: (Ayes: Anderson, Barber, Famulener, Jex, and Jorgens).

The Special Meeting is scheduled for August 1, 2017 at 6pm. Chief Healy stated that if there is a need to have an additional closed session, it may be sooner than August 1.

10. Committee Reports

10.1 Finance Committee (Directors Anderson and Barber)

There was nothing to report.

10.2 Pension Review Ad Hoc Committee (Directors Barber and Jorgens)

There was nothing to report.

10.3 Board of Directors and Fire Chief Roles & Responsibilities and Rules of Procedures Update Ad Hoc Committee (Directors Famulener and Jorgens)

There was nothing further to report.

10.4 Audit Ad Hoc Committee (Director Jex)

Director Jex reported that he met with the auditors, ASD Sasser and Chief Healy to discuss the scope of the audit. They will be extending the audit procedures in two areas and report back to the Board when they have their final session with letter of comment and recommendations. ASD Sasser stated that a draft of the CAFR will go to the Finance Committee in September and the full Board after.

10.5 Long Range Financial Plan (LRFP) Ad Hoc Committee (Directors Barber and Jex)

There was nothing to report.

11. Announcements

11.1 Brief information only reports related to meetings attended by a Director at District expense

President Famulener reported that she and Director Barber did a tour of the District fire stations and thanked the crews for being cooperative. She expressed her shock at some of the living conditions of the stations.

11.2 Questions and informational comments from Board members and Staff.

Firefighter Paramedic and Local 1230 Representative Lucas Lambert asked Director Jex if he would be willing to close fire stations to meet the obligations.

Director Jex stated whatever it requires. He would like to see conceptual thought on how it would increase efficiency and better utilize resources. Proximity may or may not be an issue, but he does not know. He has not done the study and it may just be a different configuration in staffing. Those things have to be addressed and he is open to that type of discussion and dialogue occurring but it needs to come from management as well as the Board. Some facilities are deplorable due to the lack of maintenance or lack of resources we have not invested. We should make them first-class for the personnel and the people who work there. For example, if that means we are to replace Station 41, we should look at the consolidation of two and do the one right. Make it more efficient, a better place to live, and have more staff in one facility rather than two. Those are the things that need to be addressed when we look at how we use our resources most productively and achieve the greatest purpose in terms of our mission.

Firefighter Lambert asked Director Jex again if he is suggesting that it is possible to open up dialogue to close fire houses or to consolidate two stations to meet the obligations.

Director Jex stated that he did not say it was to meet the obligations, but to achieve our mission. If you have few resources and you want to do it right, sometimes you reconfigure where you operate from. If someone came to me and said I can move station x and combine two stations, and it won't change the response time but enhance it. I'd say it would be foolish but we would staff it differently. Instead of having the normal number of on-duty personnel, there would be double but in one facility and not two. Director Jex stated that he has not come to that conclusion, he has not made that

decision, nor recommended it. He stated that it just makes more sense to save money and spend it wisely by having one rather than two.

11.3 District Updates for May 2017

There was nothing to report.

12. Adjournment

At 9:50 P.M., President Famulener called for adjournment of the regular meeting.



Grace Santos
Secretary to the Board