

1 February 22, 2022

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

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

5 **A MOMENT OF SILENCE WAS OBSERVED.**

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

7 **ROLL CALL:**

8 **Present:** Directors Acosta (arrived at 4:11 pm.), Egkan, Munson and Egkan.

9 **Absent:** Director Kennedy

10 **Staff Present:** Fire Chief/CEO McReynolds, Attorney James and Board Secretary Stephen-
11 Porter. In the audience were: DFC Mahr, D/C MacMillan, B/Cs DeCamp, Krumwiede and
12 Mann, F/M Fieri, FiM Juul and members of the public and Association.

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14 **PUBLIC ACTIVITIES AGENDA**

15 1. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** President Egan addressed the audience and inquired whether
16 there were any public comments regarding items not on the Agenda. Chief McReynolds
17 introduced the newest member of the District Celestino “Chavez” Chavez, the new Fleet
18 Mechanic with a brief background. Chavez was welcomed to the District by the Board.
19 There being no further comments, the Public Comment Section was closed. As there were
20 speakers from LAFCO present, the Board agreed by consensus to hear this matter first.

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22 **ACTION AGENDA**

23 **CONSENT ITEMS:**

- 24 2. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR JANUARY 2022**
- 25 3. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JANUARY 2022**
- 26 4. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT POLICIES & PROCEDURES**
- 27 5. **MONTHLY OPERATIONS ACTIVITY REPORT – JANUARY 2022**
- 28 6. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT FOURTH QUARTER 2021 CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY**
- 29 7. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT ANNUAL FIRE PREVENTION REPORT**

30 President Egkan inquired whether there were any questions on Consent Items 2-7. There
31 being no discussion, President Egkan asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.
32 On a motion by Director van Doorn and seconded by Director Munson, the motion to approve
33 the Consent Agenda as presented passed on the following vote: **Ayes:** Directors Egan,
34 Munson and Van Doorn; **Noes:** None; **Absent:** Directors Acosta and Kennedy.

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36 **ACTION ITEMS:**

37 8. **REVIEW AND EXPLORE OPTIONS FOR ALTERNATE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROGRAM FOR**
38 **WORKER’S COMPENSATION — CHIEF McREYNOLDS:** Chief McReynolds made a presentation
39 to the Board on an alternate dispute resolution process, which would be contained in a
40 negotiated agreement. The agreement would supersede the California workers’
41 compensation system processes for employees covered by the agreement. The District and
42 bargaining groups would work together to create a “carve-out” of the State systems to
43 provide employees with a fast-track system to expedite the resolution of their cases. The
44 process would speed the resolution of cases and employee care and expedite their return-
45 to-work status. Mr. Ferrone made a presentation to the Board, outlining the benefits of the
46 program and noting how well it is working in other jurisdictions. He noted it reduces the use
47 of sick leave, litigation, improves moral, resolves most claims within 90 days, getting the
48 employee the help they need. Chief McReynolds requested authorization to begin working
49 with the bargaining groups to explore development of the ADR agreement, which would be
50 brought back to the Board for approval. On a motion by Director van Doorn and seconded
51 by Vice President Acosta, the motion to authorize Chief McReynolds to explore the
52 development of an ADR Agreement passed by the following vote: **Ayes:** Directors Acosta,
53 Egan, Munson and Van Doorn; **Noes:** None; **Absent:** Directors Kennedy.

54 9. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT FINANCIAL AUDIT FOR FY 2020/2021 — FIM JUUL AND CHIEF**
55 **McREYNOLDS:** FIM Juul introduced Auditor Paul Kaymark to review the audit with the Board.
56 Mr. Kaymark reviewed the financial highlights, an overview of the financial statements and
57 discussed the analysis of revenues and expenses. He noted certain increases in revenue
58 that placed the District in a better position, as well as noting that the debt service has been

59 reduced. He noted that the cash basis has added toward the health of reserves. He noted
60 several areas of interest including the CalPERS information. Mr. Kaymark commended the
61 Staff on their work. On a motion by Director van Doorn and seconded by Director Munson,
62 the motion to accept the Audit as presented passed by the following vote: **Ayes:** Directors
63 Acosta, Egan, Munson and Van Doorn; **Noes:** None; **Absent:** Directors Kennedy.

64 10. **REVIEW AND APPROVE DEVELOPMENT OF RFP FOR STATION 2 MAINTENANCE PROJECTS**

65 **— CHIEF McREYNOLDS:** Chief McReynolds presented a request to be authorized to work
66 with Erickson-Hall construction for facility maintenance projects on Station 2, citing a number
67 of issues that require attention due to safety, security, operational or aesthetic reason. Chief
68 McReynolds noted these items have become necessary due to the deferred maintenance
69 that has been required due to funding issues. The company would develop the necessary
70 Request for Proposal and bundle the multiple projects together, through which a competitive
71 bid process would allow for selection of qualified individuals/companies to facilitate
72 completion of the projects. On a motion by Director Munson and seconded by Director van
73 Doorn, the motion to authorize Chief McReynolds to work with Erickson-Hall Construction to
74 develop an RFP bundling the project for Station 2 passed by the following vote: **Ayes:**
75 Directors Acosta, Egan, Munson and Van Doorn; **Noes:** None; **Absent:** Directors Kennedy.

76 11. **REVIEW AND APPROVE RESOLUTION 2022-03 REQUESTING STATE FUNDING ASSISTANCE**
77 **FOR STATION 4 — CHIEF McREYNOLDS:** Chief McReynolds presented Resolution 2022-03

78 that would be sent along with a letter to Senator Jones for state support for funding for
79 Station 4. He noted that building a new station to replace Station 4 would cost approximately
80 7 million dollars, of which the District currently has 2-3 million dollars. The District is seeking
81 an additional 4 million dollars to complete the construction to replace the aging and
82 dilapidated mobile home current used as the station. Discussion ensued regarding the plan
83 and timeline, what is currently being done on the site and the multi-jurisdictional opportunity
84 with the County. Other options within the District were discussed. On a motion by Director
85 van Doorn and seconded by Vice President Acosta, the motion to approve Resolution 2022-
86 03 and to direct Chief McReynolds to send the letter and Resolution to Senator Jones

87 passed by the following vote: **Ayes:** Directors Acosta, Egan, Munson and Van Doorn; **Noes:**
88 None; **Absent:** Directors Kennedy.

89 12. REVIEW AND APPROVE RESOLUTION 2022-06 AMENDING THE DISTRICT'S CONFLICT OF
90 INTEREST CODE — CHIEF McREYNOLDS AND B/S STEPHEN-PORTER: B/S Stephen-Porter
91 presented Resolution 2022-06 to the Board outlining the changes to the Code. She noted
92 there were two changes due to job descriptions and one change that was made to modify
93 language that had caused confusion at the District after modification in 2019. On a motion
94 by Director van Doorn and seconded by Vice President Acosta, the motion to approve
95 Resolution 2022-06 as presented and to direct B/S Stephen-Porter to send the Resolution
96 to the County passed by the following vote: **Ayes:** Directors Acosta, Egan, Munson and Van
97 Doorn; **Noes:** None; **Absent:** Directors Kennedy.

98 13. REVIEW AND APPROVE RESOLUTION 2022-04 ADOPTING AN UPDATED PAY SCHEDULE –
99 FIM JUUL AND CHIEF McREYNOLDS: FiM Juul presented the request to approve the schedule
100 noting it is a routine matter requiring approval based on California law. The pay schedule
101 was modified due to changes in the Fleet Supervisor's position and the raises in minimum
102 wage for the Single Role individuals. On a motion by Director van Doorn and seconded by
103 Director Munson, the motion to approve the Pay Schedule as presented passed by the
104 following vote: **Ayes:** Directors Acosta, Egan, Munson and Van Doorn; **Noes:** None; **Absent:**
105 Directors Kennedy.

106 14. CONSIDER AND APPROVE RESOLUTION 2022-05 AUTHORIZING REMOTE BOARD MEETINGS
107 — CHIEF McREYNOLDS: Chief McReynolds presented Resolution 2022-05 to the Board
108 noting that this is the subsequent resolution to the one presented last month if the Board
109 wishes to continue with the option of remote Board meetings during the pandemic. On a
110 motion by Vice President Acosta and seconded by Director Munson, the motion to approve
111 Resolution 2022-05 as presented passed by the following vote: **Ayes:** Directors Acosta,
112 Egan, Munson and Van Doorn; **Noes:** None; **Absent:** Directors Kennedy.

113 15. REVIEW AND CONSIDER NOMINATIONS FOR CSDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS — CHIEF
114 McREYNOLDS: Chief McReynolds presented the CSDA request for nominations to the Board

115 of Directors, outlining the requirements of a Director. After brief discussion, no Board
116 members were interested in serving. No further action is required.

117 **DISCUSSION AGENDA**

118 **16. DISCUSSION ON 2021 SAN DIEGO LAFCO MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW — CHIEF**

119 **McREYNOLDS AND PRISCILLA ALLEN:** Priscilla Allen and Former Chief Abbott were present at
120 the Board meeting to discuss the MSR Discussion, noting the final report will be adopted in
121 March. She explained the role of LAFCO is to plan for regional planning and orderly
122 expansion of services. The MSR studied four agencies in the Fallbrook area, included North
123 County Fire Protection District. The information is used to evaluate and update sphere of
124 influence and reorganize and consideration of consolidation where appropriate. She
125 discussed some of the changes being sought by FPUD.

126 Ms. Allen noted that of the four organizations, North County Fire Protection District has the
127 largest district and that it crosses county lines. Ms. Allen noted the two recommendations
128 from LAFCO with Chief McReynolds informing the Board the Staff had begun addressing
129 those issues. There may be a case made that for those areas that North County Fire
130 Protection District services in Riverside County, that the sphere of influence should be
131 extended into that area and perhaps a change in county line could be considered. Other
132 considerations regarding agriculture, infrastructure, the housing crisis, near transportation,
133 16000 buildable parcels remaining in the District were noted. She noted that LAFCO and
134 SANDAG will be doing a study to see how buildout will affect the area. Director van Doorn
135 inquired what impact of housing would have on revenue, noting the work by finance to
136 improve District finance status had not been noted in the study. Ms. Allen noted that due to
137 the time of the study, all the benefits of the work done by finance could not be captured in
138 this study. A question arose regarding the benefit to the District from being a two-county
139 service would be on ERAF since North County Fire Protection District could claim being a
140 multi-county agency. Ms. Allen noted that it was necessary to do more study on the possible
141 change in scope and boundary change. The Board thanked LAFCO for working with the
142 District so readily. Information only.
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STANDING DISCUSSION ITEMS:

● **LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT:** Counsel James presented his report “New Interpretation of Broad and Unduly Burdensome.” Discussion ensued regarding the burden this might place on the District. This is informational only, no action required.

● **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:** The outstanding act of service by Chris Pena and Ezra Truman was discussed. Informational only, no action required.

● **BOARD RECOGNITION PROGRAM**

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

● **COMMENTS:**

● **STAFF REPORTS/UPDATES:**

● **KEITH McREYNOLDS, FIRE CHIEF/CEO:** Chief McReynolds informed the Board that CSUSM Senior Management Program has been engaged to assist the District in evaluating Community Risk Reduction issues. He thanked Captain Harrington for his assistance with the application. His discussed some of elements he expects they will be looking at. Chief McReynolds reminded the Board of the Badge pinning on March 2nd and invited the Board to attend. He noted that there will be a large bridge place at the Santa Margarita River crossing where the Arizona River bridge is currently at Sandia Creek. Informational only, no further action required.

● **CHIEF OFFICERS AND OTHER STAFF: FM FIERI:** FM Fieri updated the Board on the Bureau activities noting the arson matters, with three suspended cases and carrying over of criminal cases. He informed the Board the County is reevaluating the Fire Mitigation Fee model, which is currently at \$ 0.58 per sf. The District will be working to compile information as requested by them to better reflect the needs of the District with regards to these funds.

● **BOARD: DIRECTOR MUNSON:** Director Munson requested information regarding what was happening with the CERT group. Captain Harrington has been tasked with CERT and stated he is getting engaged, learning about their mission and helping them to get reengaged. The Group has 120 members that has been meeting irregularly by Zoom. Captain Harrington is working to align their interests with the District’s. He met with CERT

173 leadership at Carlsbad, where they have an active program, as received some great
174 suggestions. He feels he has a clear direction to help them reengage. Discussion ensued
175 regarding keeping the CERT members out of hot zones during an emergency and using
176 them more in areas with less dangers, such as administratively. **DIRECTOR VAN DOORN:**
177 Director van Doorn discussed the upgrades at Station 3 and the minimization of costs and
178 presentation by Ms. Biglione. He also discussed his concern about continuing to be wary
179 of COVID, vaccination and generally being careful, citing several personal examples.

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

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

182 183 **CLOSED SESSION**

184 CS-1. There were not Closed Session items for the February 22, 2022 meeting.

185 186 **ADJOURNMENT**

187 A motion was made at by Director van Doorn and seconded by Vice President Acosta at
188 6:01 p.m. to adjourn the meeting and reconvene on March 22, 2022, at 4:00 p.m., which
189 motion carried unanimously.

190 Respectfully submitted,

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193 Loren Stephen-Porter

194 Board Secretary

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196 Minutes approved at the Board of Director's Meeting on: March 22, 2022

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