

1 **September 24, 2024**

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

4 **LOCATION: 990 E. MISSION ROAD, FALLBROOK CA 92028**

5 President Pike called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

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

7 **ROLL CALL:**

8 **Present:** Directors Acosta, Egkan, Munson, Pike, and Shaw

9 **Absent:** None

10 **Staff Present:** Chief McReynolds, General Counsel Steinke (via teleconference), DFC MacMillan,
11 DC August, FM Fieri, BC DeCamp, BC Bradshaw, MSO Murphy, HR Specialist Goss, Board Clerk
12 Canpinar, and members of the public.

13 **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:**

14 There were no changes to the agenda.

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16 **PUBLIC ACTIVITIES AGENDA**

17 1. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** President Pike inquired if there were any public comments regarding items
18 not on the agenda. Ryan Tobler approached the podium and introduced himself. Mr. Tobler expressed
19 frustration complying with fire code 503.2.5. (dead-end roads past 800'), as it prohibits him from
20 building on his property on Gulf Club Drive in District 5. He has spoken with FM Fieri at length in the
21 past and is appreciative of his efforts, however, he is hoping to find an alternate option that would allow
22 him to move forward with construction. As this was a non-agendized item, the Board recommended
23 he reach out to the Bonsall Community Sponsor Group to see if they have any suggestions and invited
24 him back to speak on this topic at a future board meeting. President Pike thanked Mr. Tobler for his
25 comments and recommended he follow up with Staff on how to move forward.

26 President Pike inquired if there were any more public comments regarding items not on the
27 agenda. There being no further public comment, the public comment section was closed.

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DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION AGENDA

2. **WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT SUMMIT:** Medical Services Officer Murphy provided an overview of the first ever Women's Empowerment Summit which took place in June. Eighteen candidates participated in the 3-day event. The event was hosted by NCFPD, Oceanside Fire Department, and Vista Fire, with participants learning about the different facets of the fire service, including wildland firefighting, medical and support services, and structural firefighting. North Zone agencies anticipate growing this event in 2025.

3. **BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS) RESPONSE PLAN:** FM Fieri provided an overview of the BESS located at 1405 S. Mission Rd. The battery cubes are modular lithium-ion battery units designed to capture excess electricity energy when demand is low to then supply it later when demand is high. If during normal operation a unit starts to overheat or short circuit, San Diego Gas & Electric is automatically notified, as thermal management systems monitor internal temperatures 24-7. Thermal barriers in each individual cube are designed to prevent a fire in one cell from spreading to surrounding cells. If a fire were to occur in one of the units, a full NCFPD response would include dispatching the County Hazmat Unit, life safety, protecting exposures, creating safe perimeters, and starting evacuations. NCFPD and law enforcement along with neighboring agencies would act together in unified command.

Cathy Morris, a resident who lives near the site, stepped to the podium to address her concerns about the current facility, and expressed opposition to the proposed expansion of the facility.

Fallbrook resident Stephanie Baxter addressed Staff to ask if NCFPD would work in conjunction with the Sheriff if a shelter-in-place order evacuation were to occur in the event of a fire at the facility, to which DFC MacMillan responded a coordinated hazardous materials response with local authorities would take place. The details on how the evacuation would be handled are undetermined, as winds, temperature, and other variables would dictate the response plan. Ms. Baxter asked FM Fieri if there are environmental impact studies available to the public, to which FM Fieri advised the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) studies are released every 3 years, and a new County report which will include information about smoke plumes is scheduled to be released in December of this year.

59 **ACTION AGENDA**

60 **CONSENT ITEMS:**

61 4. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR AUGUST 27, 2024.**

62 5. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR JULY 2024.**

63 6. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT POLICIES & PROCEDURES:**

64 A) Administration, Rules and Regulations, Leave Management: Will Call

65 7. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT THE MONTHLY OPERATIONS ACTIVITY REPORT.**

66 President Pike inquired whether there were any questions on Consent Items 4-7. There being
67 no discussion, President Pike asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. On a motion by
68 Director Acosta seconded by Vice President Shaw, the motion to approve the Consent Agenda passed
69 unanimously.

70 **ACTION ITEMS:**

71 8. **'DISCLOSURE OF REIMBURSEMENT' POLICY ADOPTION:** Chief McReynolds presented the draft
72 disclosure of reimbursement policy to the Board. Per government code §53065.5, special districts are
73 required to annually disclose reimbursements of more than \$100 made to employees the prior fiscal
74 year. These items include but are not limited to one meal, lodging for one day, transportation, or a
75 registration fee paid to any employee or member of the governing body of the agency. This report will
76 be brought before the Board every July and will be available for public inspection in the office of the
77 Board Clerk. On a motion by Director Acosta seconded by Director Egkan, the motion to approve the
78 newly drafted Disclosure of Reimbursement policy passed unanimously.

79 9. **'EXPENSES TO THE DISTRICT' POLICY REVISION AND SET A PUBLIC HEARING DATE/TIME CERTAIN**
80 **OCTOBER 22, 2024, AT 5:05 P.M. TO CONSIDER ADOPTING AN ORDINANCE TO ADJUST THE COMPENSATION**

81 **OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR ATTENDING MEETINGS:** The NCFPD Board of Directors (BOD)
82 currently receive compensation in the amount of \$100 per meeting attended. There has been no
83 increase in compensation for members of the BOD in over 18 years. If compensation for the BOD
84 exceeds \$100 a meeting, the increase must be adopted by ordinance and can be increased by 5%
85 annually. The ordinance is then effective 30 days after the second reading of the ordinance. On a
86 motion by Director Acosta seconded by Director Egkan, the motion set a public hearing date/time
87 certain of October 22, 2024, at 5:05 p.m. to consider the first reading of an ordinance to adjust the

88 compensation of the BOD for attending meetings and also adopt the revised 'Expenses to the District'
89 policy, passed unanimously.

90 10. PUBLIC HEARING DATE/TIME CERTAIN SEPTEMBER 24, 2024, AT 5:05 P.M. TO APPROVE THE FINAL
91 BUDGET FOR FY 2024/2025 AND ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-16:

92 President Pike declared the public
93 hearing open at 6:00 p.m. Chief McReynolds and Finance Consultant Prall presented the FY 24/25
94 Final Budget to the Board, noting the District's primary revenue source is from property tax. Line 12
95 reflected a total revenue increase of 8%; line 15 reflected a salary increase of 6% with the addition of
96 three full-time positions; line 76 showed operations expenses went up 38% as most operational
97 expenses (materials, fuel, equipment, utilities) saw an increase as did professional services for things
98 like lobbying work. Finance Consultant Prall also noted the reserve balance is around \$18.7 million.
99 President Pike asked if there was any public comment on agenda item #10; there being no public
100 comment, the public hearing was closed at 6:09 p.m. On a motion by Director Acosta seconded by
101 Vice President Shaw, the motion to approve the FY 24/25 Final Budget and adopt Resolution 2024-16
102 passed unanimously.

103 11. RESOLUTION 2024-15: ADOPTING AN UPDATED PAY SCHEDULE: Chief McReynolds informed the
104 Board pay scale adjustments displayed as Exhibit 'A' of Resolution 2024-15 reflect proposed salary
105 increase of 6%, as referenced in the FY 24/25 Final Budget. Chief McReynolds advised the Board this
106 resolution is required to be posted on the District's website, with the salary increases being sent to
107 CalPERS and Cal OES for reporting. On a motion by Vice President Shaw seconded by Director Egkan,
108 the Board unanimously adopted Resolution 2024-15, adopting the updated pay schedule, noting the
109 salary increase would take effect retroactive September 1, 2024.

110 LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT: General Counsel Steinke reviewed the included report: 2024 Legislative
111 Session Summary, noting the passage of AB 2561 requiring an annual report on vacant positions.

112 ● WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: Information only; no action required.

113 ● BOARD RECOGNITION PROGRAM: Information only; no action required.

114 ● STAFF REPORTS/UPDATES:

115 ● KEITH MCREYNOLDS, FIRE CHIEF: Chief McReynolds informed the Board of the following
items:

- 116 ○ Fire Station 3 has been vacated and is ready for construction to start. The crew has
117 been temporarily moved to the Red Mt. Cal Fire Station on East Mission. A
118 groundbreaking ceremony will take place tomorrow, Sept. 25 at 10 a.m.
- 119 ○ A grant award of \$165,000 was received by the California Office of Traffic Safety for
120 battery-operated equipment.
- 121 ○ October 12 Station 1 will host its annual open house.

122 ● **CHIEF OFFICERS AND OTHER STAFF: BC BRADSHAW:** BC Bradshaw provided updates on strike
123 team deployments/returns. He was recently qualified to be a strike team leader. **BC DECAMP:** BC
124 DeCamp noted a Type 1 engine will be delivered the first quarter of next year, and the recently
125 acquired UTV is almost in service with training and certifications to operate the vehicle scheduled in
126 the coming months. **F/M FIERI:** F/M Fieri provided community risk reduction updates. The first round
127 of DSI inspections have been completed with approximately 400 left. **DC AUGUST:** DC August
128 provided an update on current facility projects. A marketing campaign advertising our Spanish
129 language social media page, @ncfbomberos, will take place soon starting with the Open House event
130 on Oct. 12. **MSO MURPHY:** MSO Murphy provided single role paramedic testing updates. **HR**
131 **SPECIALIST GOSS:** HR Specialist Goss provided employment and staffing updates. **MACMILLAN:** DFC
132 MacMillan provided operations updates, thanked MSO Murphy for her outstanding job with the
133 Women’s Empowerment Summit, and thanked HR Specialist Goss, Payroll Technician Koester, and
134 Finance Consultant Prall for their collective work in the finance department.

135 ● **BOARD:** President Pike thanked DC August and Staff for their efforts in producing social
136 media notifications in Spanish for the members of the community. Director Egkan thanked BC
137 Bradshaw for his efforts assisting with the Line Fire.

138 ● **BARGAINING GROUPS:** There was no comment from the Bargaining Groups.

139 ● **PUBLIC COMMENT:** There was no further comment from the public.

140 **CLOSED SESSION**

141 At 6:39 p.m. President Pike inquired whether there was a motion to adjourn to closed session.
142 There being no objection, President Pike read the items to be discussed in closed session and
143 open session was closed. A short break ensued after the reading of the closed session items. At
144 6:51 p.m. the Board entered closed session to hear:

145 **CS-1. ANNOUNCEMENT – PRESIDENT PIKE:**
146 **CS-2. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR (GOVERNMENT CODE §54956.8) PROPERTY:**
147 **315 E. IVY ST. AND VACANT LAND, IVY ST., FALLBROOK, CA 92028:**

148 **AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE: WIL SOHOLT**

149 **CS-3. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION (GOVERNMENT CODE**
150 **§54956.9(d)): ONE CASE**

151 **CS-4. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (GOVERNMENT CODE §54957.6):**

152 **AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE: CHIEF MCREYNOLDS**

153 **EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS: FALLBROOK FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION (SAFETY GROUP EMPLOYEES),**
154 **MANAGEMENT GROUP, AND NON-SAFETY (MISCELLANEOUS).**

155 **CS-5. REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION – PRESIDENT PIKE:**

156 **● REOPENING TO OPEN SESSION:**

157 On a motion by Director Acosta seconded by Vice President Shaw which passed unanimously, the
158 Board returned to open session at 8:34 p.m. and the following items were reported out to the public:

159 **CS-2. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR (GOVERNMENT CODE §54956.8) PROPERTY:**
160 **315 E. IVY ST. AND VACANT LAND, IVY ST., FALLBROOK, CA 92028:** There was no reportable action.

161 **CS-3. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR (GOVT. CODE §54956.8) PROPERTY: 2805**
162 **OVERLAND TRAIL, FALLBROOK, CA 92028:** There was no reportable action.

163 **CS-4. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION (GOVERNMENT CODE**
164 **§54956.9(d)): ONE CASE:** There was no reportable action.

165 **CS-5. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (GOVERNMENT CODE §54957): HR SPECIALIST:**
166 There was no reportable action.

167 **CS-6. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (GOVERNMENT CODE §54957): PAYROLL**
168 **TECHNICIAN:** There was no reportable action.

169 **ADJOURNMENT**

170 A motion was made at 8:37 p.m. by Director Egkan seconded by Director Acosta to adjourn the
171 meeting and reconvene on October 22, 2024, at 5:00 p.m., which motion carried unanimously.

172
173 Respectfully submitted,

174

175



176

Mavis Canpinar

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Board Clerk

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Minutes approved at the Board of Director's Meeting on:

10/22/24

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