

CHINO VALLEY INDEPENDENT FIRE DISTRICT

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

MINUTES

March 11, 2020

ROLL CALL

All Board Members were present.

OPEN SESSION

President Luth called the Open Session to order.

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

President Luth read the closed session item and adjourned to Closed Session.

CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8, the Board of Directors will meet with its designated negotiators, Fire Chief Tim Shackelford and Future Facilities Adhoc Committee Members Vice President Sarah Ramos-Evinger and Director John DeMonaco, regarding real property owned by the City of Chino Hills and located on an undeveloped parcel located on the south side of Soquel Canyon at the intersection of Soquel Canyon and Pipeline Avenue. The Board of Directors will instruct the District's negotiators concerning the price and terms of payment.

RE-OPEN TO OPEN SESSION

President Luth re-opened to Open Session, and stated that that he previously stated that Vice President Sarah Ramos-Evinger and Director John DeMonaco were part of the Adhoc Committee. However, that Adhoc committee was previously dissolved and Fire Chief Shackelford is currently the only negotiator.

Legal Counsel Jeff Ballinger reported that there was nothing to report out of Closed Session.

President Luth asked meeting attendees to please silence their phones.

President Luth reminded the meeting attendees that the District was video recording the Board Meeting in its entirety.

FLAG SALUTE

President Luth

INVOCATION

Keith Roby, Fire District Chaplain

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

President Luth asked Clerk of the Board Heney and Board Members if there were any changes to the agenda.

Clerk of the Board Heney stated that there were no changes.

PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

National Donate Life Awareness Month Proclamation

President Luth read the proclamation.

President Luth presented Rob Ralston, 'One Legacy' ambassador, with the proclamation.

Mr. Ralston said a few words regarding the awareness campaign and his experience as an organ donation recipient.

Explorer Post 911 Recognition

President Luth asked Firefighter/Paramedic Philip Vasquez, Fire Explorer Advisor, to come up to the front.

President Luth provided an overview of the Explorer Post 911 Program.

Firefighter/Paramedic Vasquez provided an overview of the recipient's involvement in the Fire Explorer Program.

President Luth presented certificates to the following Explorers for their accomplishments:

- Fayth Alvarez – Community Service Award
- Matthew Elash – Ride-Along Award
- Adrian Renteria – Commitment to Service Award

- Derek Ricketson – Leadership Award and Post 911 Award

President Luth presented certificates to the following Explorers that have aged out of the Explorer Program for their accomplishments:

- Jonathan Chong
- Derek Colon
- Trey Maneafaiga
- Eric Mungia
- Anthony Ramos

Medical Response Crew Recognition

Clerk of the Board called Captain Bill Heitmann, Captain Mark Hughes, Engineer Brian Wafford, Firefighter/Paramedic Matthew Robertson, and Firefighter/Paramedic Matthew Nelson to the front.

President Luth recognized the Medical Response Crew and presented certificates.

Fire Chief Shackelford read the background of the Unit Citation award and the events that led up to the award.

Fire Chief Shackelford presented Citation Awards and pins to the Medical Response Crew members for their accomplishments.

Captain Bill Heitmann commented on the event that saved his life and thanked the Medical Response Crew.

Employee of the Year-Fleet/Facilities Coordinator Steve Burns

Clerk of the Board Heney called Fleet/Facilities Coordinator Steve Burns to the front.

President Luth read Steve Burns' biography and presented him with the Employee of the Year award.

Fire Chief Shackelford congratulated Steve Burns on being selected as the 2019 Employee of the Year and thanked him for his service and dedication to the District.

Firefighter of the Year- Firefighter/Paramedic Matthew Robertson

Clerk of the Board Heney called Firefighter/Paramedic Matthew Robertson to the front.

President Luth read Matthew Robertson's biography and presented him with the Firefighter of the Year award.

Fire Chief Shackelford congratulated Matthew Robertson on being selected as the 2019 Firefighter of the Year and thanked him for his service and dedication to the Fire District.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk of the Board Heney asked if there were any requests to speak from the Public.

Resident Sylvia Nash thanked everyone who was involved in the Chino Valley Mayor's Prayer Breakfast.

LIAISON REPORTS TO FIRE DISTRICT (County 4th District, City of Chino, City of Chino Hills, Fire Foundation, Fire Safe Council, School District

Clerk of the Board Heney asked if there were any liaison reports.

Suzette Dang, representative for County Supervisor Curt Hagman, gave an update on the Coronavirus. All event organizers are encouraged to review the California Department of Public Health Guidance for public event organizers and mass gatherings to determine whether or not they can accommodate their attendees.

Mayor Art Bennett, City of Chino Hills, announced a Water Conservation Design contest that is open to students from K-12. Mr. Bennett announced that an Adult Easter Egg Scramble is open to residents 18 and older on Friday, April 3, 2020 at Chino Hills Community Park. Mr. Bennett announced that the annual Easter Egg-Citement event is on April 11, 2020. Mr. Bennett announced that the Joint Salute to Public Safety will be held on March 19, 2020 from 11:30am-1:00pm at Los Serranos Country Club.

Director Steven Elie, Inland Empire Utilities Agency Director, thanked the Fire Foundation and Chino Hills Firefighters for their participation in the Chino Valley Fire Foundation's St. Paddy's Day event.

CONSENT CALENDAR

President Luth asked if any Board Members wanted to pull an item from the Consent Calendar for discussion.

Director DeMonaco pulled Item 1 from the Consent Calendar.

Director Kreeger pulled Item 3 from the Consent Calendar.

1. MINUTES

Minutes – February 12, 2020 – Regular Board Meeting

Minutes – February 19, 2020 – Special Board Meeting/Board Workshop

2. MONTHLY DISTRICT REPORT

Month of January 2020

3. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Monthly Financial Report – February 2020

4. MONTHLY TREASURER’S REPORT

MONTHLY TREASURER’S REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING: JANUARY 2020

5. WARRANTS

Warrants for February 2020 #50771 through #50959

6. BOARD MEETINGS/TRAVEL – AUTHORIZATION TO ATTEND CONFERENCE, MEETING OR TRAINING

None.

President Luth asked for Public comment.

There was no public comment.

Moved by Director Ramos-Evinger, seconded by Director DeMonaco, carried by a 5-0 voice vote for the Board of Directors to approve the Consent Calendar #2, 4, 5-6 as presented.

AYES: BOARD MEMBERS: Luth, Ramos-Evinger, DeMonaco, Kreeger, and Williams.

NOES: BOARD MEMBERS: None.

ABSTAIN: BOARD MEMBERS: None.

ABSENT: BOARD MEMBERS: None.

Director DeMonaco stated he pulled Item 1 to make comments about the minutes for the February 19, 2019 Special Board Meeting.

Director DeMonaco asked if the District received a written report from the District’s consultants regarding the meeting.

Fire Chief Shackelford stated that a draft of his evaluation has been provided to President Luth from the consultant, and will be coming forward soon.

Director DeMonaco stated that he feels that off-site Board meetings should be recorded (audio, video, or both), and recommended that all Board meetings, regardless of location, be recorded in the future.

Moved by Director DeMonaco, seconded by Director Kreeger, carried by a 5-0 voice vote for the Board of Directors to approve Consent Calendar #1 as presented.

AYES: BOARD MEMBERS: Luth, Ramos-Evinger, DeMonaco, Kreeger, and Williams.
NOES: BOARD MEMBERS: None.
ABSTAIN: BOARD MEMBERS: None.
ABSENT: BOARD MEMBERS: None.

Director Kreeger pulled Item 3 and asked Finance Director Heide about potential changes to the District's long-term investments due to the rate change by the Federal Reserve.

Finance Director Heide stated that investments might be affected in the short-term, but should even out later.

Moved by Director Kreeger, seconded by Director DeMonaco, carried by a 5-0 voice vote for the Board of Directors to approve Consent Calendar Item #3 as presented.

AYES: BOARD MEMBERS: Luth, Ramos-Evinger, DeMonaco, Kreeger, and Williams.
NOES: BOARD MEMBERS: None.
ABSTAIN: BOARD MEMBERS: None.
ABSENT: BOARD MEMBERS: None.

PUBLIC HEARING

Ordinance No. 2020-01 Increasing the Compensation of the Board of Directors.

Purpose is for the Board of Directors to provide for public comment and conduct a Second Reading (Adoption of Ordinance No 2020-01 increasing the compensation of the Board of Directors effective July 1, 2020.

Luth opened the public hearing.

Clerk of the Board Heney stated that at the Regular Board Meeting held on February 12, 2020, the Board of Directors introduced Ordinance No. 2020-01, conducted a First Reading and allowed for public comment. The Board of Directors also set March 11, 2020 as a Public Hearing for the Second Reading and Adoption of Ordinance No. 2020-01. Ordinance No. 2020-01 complies with the Health and Safety Code and the Water Code sections governing Board Member compensation.

Clerk of the Board Heney stated that Board Member compensation is currently set at \$157.50 per meeting as adopted by Ordinance No. 2018-01. As currently permitted by State law and the Fire District Policy and Procedures, the maximum allowable current increase per meeting could be up to five percent (5%) per year for each calendar year following the effective date of the last adjustment, multiplied by the current 157.50 compensation rate per meeting over the 2 calendar years following the last adjustment. At the January 8, 2020 Board Meeting, the majority of the Board voted to move forward with adopting an ordinance to increase Board compensation by 2.5% for each calendar year following the effective date of the last adjustment. Ordinance No. 2020-01 reflects a \$7.50 increase per meeting, rounded to a total amount of \$165 per meeting (2 x [2.5% x \$157.50]).

Clerk of the Board Heney stated that if the ordinance is adopted, the maximum number of compensable meetings will remain at ten (10) days per month, and only one per diem per day will be paid regardless of how many meetings are attended. The ordinance will be effective July 1, 2020 following a 60-day waiting period and in compliance with the Fire District Policy and Procedures for Board of Directors.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Directors, following public hearing, conduct a Second Reading (Adoption) of Ordinance No. 2020-01, increasing the compensation of the Board of Directors, effective July 1, 2020; approve waiving the reading of the entire Ordinance No. 2020-01 and read the Ordinance by number and title only; advise the public that a complete copy of Ordinance No. 2020-01 is available for public inspection at Fire District Headquarters; and adopt Ordinance 2020-01, which will become effective July 1, 2020 following a 60-day waiting period and in compliance with the Fire District Policy and Procedures for Board of Directors.

President Luth asked if there was any Public comment.

There was no public comment.

President Luth closed the Public Hearing.

President Luth asked if there was any Board comment.

There was no Board comment.

Moved by Director Kreeger, seconded by Director Ramos-Evinger, carried by a 4-1 voice vote for the Board of Directors to conduct a Second Reading (Adoption) of Ordinance No. 2020-01, increasing the compensation of the Board of Directors, effective July 1, 2020; approve waiving the reading of the entire Ordinance No. 2020-01 and read the Ordinance by number and title only; advise the public that a complete copy of Ordinance No. 2020-01 is available for public inspection at Fire District Headquarters; and adopt Ordinance 2020-01, which will become effective July 1, 2020 following a 60-day waiting period and in compliance with the Fire District Policy and Procedures for Board of Directors.

AYES: BOARD MEMBERS: Luth, Ramos-Evinger, Kreeger, and Williams.

NOES: BOARD MEMBERS: DeMonaco.

ABSTAIN: BOARD MEMBERS: None.

ABSENT: BOARD MEMBERS: None.

Clerk of the Board Heney read Ordinance No 2020-01 by number and title.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-01

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CHINO VALLEY INDEPENDENT FIRE DISTRICT, COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, INCREASING THE COMPENSATION OF THE CHINO VALLEY INDEPENDENT FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

7. 2019-20 MID-YEAR BUDGET REVIEW AND ANALYSIS. Purpose is to conduct a mid-year budget review for discussion purposes.

Purpose is to conduct a mid-year budget review for discussion purposes.

Finance Director Heide stated that Through January 31, total revenues amounted to 56% of budget, compared to a range of 54% to 56% of actual revenues for the same time period in the prior four fiscal years. Accordingly, budgeted revenues received this fiscal year-to-date through January 31 are largely consistent with that of recent prior years, and on track with the Fiscal 2019-20 budget.

Finance Director Heide stated that based on projections for the balance of the fiscal year, and also in conjunction with recent meetings with our property tax consultant from HdL Coren and Cone, property tax-related revenues may potentially come in 1% to 2% higher than originally budgeted.

Finance Director Heide stated that fiscal year-to-date expenditures were 55% of overall budget through January, compared to a range of 51% to 55% for the prior four fiscal years-to-date through January 31.

Finance Director Heide stated that although timing of certain non-labor expenditures can vary significantly from year-to-year, at 42% of budget, total services and supplies expenditures through January 31 are at about where we would expect at this point in the fiscal year, trending roughly consistently with the most recent four-year average for the fiscal year-to-date.

Finance Director Heide stated that salary and benefit expenditures for the fiscal year-to-date through January 31 are unfortunately trending higher than any of the last four fiscal years, and are roughly 3% to 4% higher in total than the four-year average from FY16 through FY19.

Finance Director Heide stated that of particular note, coverage – worker’s compensation and worker’s compensation expense will likely require significant budget adjustments to meet projected expenses before the end of the fiscal year. Worker’s compensation expenses having been trending in this direction over the last couple of years, and although we had increased budget for these line items from last fiscal year, additional budgetary authority in this area will be required before fiscal year-end.

Finance Director Heide stated that other unfavorable budgetary trends identified in this analysis will likely be largely offset by favorable budget trends also identified in the attached. It is anticipated that final budget adjustments for this fiscal year will be presented to the Board for approval in April, and no Board action is required at this time.

Finance Director Heide stated that some additional budgetary savings may result from unexpended budgetary requests in a number of budget line items by year-end, although the associated fiscal impact of any unexpended funds is not determinable at this time. Based on current trends, staff is projecting a need to request about \$1 million in additional net budgetary authority by year-end, largely due to the projected fiscal impacts of the aforementioned worker’s compensation expenses.

Finance Director Heide stated that it is also anticipated that staff will recommend an additional discretionary pension contribution to the California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) for the Board’s consideration in April as well. Any such request would necessitate a budget adjustment at that time.

Finance Director Heide stated that this information was reviewed with the Finance Committee and recommended to be moved forward for discussion with the full Board.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Board of Directors receive and file this report.

President Luth asked if there was any Public comment.

There was no public comment.

President Luth asked if there was any Board comment.

There was no Board Comment.

The Board agreed to receive and file this report.

8. REVIEW PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION PERTAINING TO DIRECTOR WINN WILLIAMS.
Purpose is for the Board of Directors to discuss Board action pertaining to Director Winn Williams’ conduct and consider potential reinstatements or modifications and take any action as appropriate.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Directors discuss previous Board action pertaining to Director Winn Williams' conduct and consider potential reinstatements or modifications and take action any as appropriate.

President Luth stated the following:

Shortly after I became President of the Board, Winn [Williams] contacted me and expressed his desire to change his opportunity to participate as a Board Member and to change the rancor that has been prevalent in many previous Board meetings. In various meetings with myself, Mike Messina, and the Board he [Director Williams] has stated he deserves to be reinstated as a full Board Member because he has 'been good'; that we are depriving him of his rights; and we the Board should do the right thing, which he defined as reinstating him as a Firefighter/Paramedic. While I disagree with Winn's position and demands, I do think it is in the best interest of the District to reconsider the Board's past actions regarding Winn. Winn felt I, as President, could make these changes. I disagree, and believe they require Board resolution as the Board made decisions in response to Winn's actions. I asked Winn to wait to discuss his request with the full Board at our workshop. At our workshop, we had to devote a considerable time to have this discussion. However, from the start during other discussion items including the Chief's evaluation, it became clear that Winn was not going to be seeking reconciliation with the balance of the Board or with the Chief. Winn made continued unrelated comments and demands and threats against the District and the Chief if he did not get his way. He continually attempted to make discussions about him and his perceived wrongs against him. He suggested there was "something coming" if he did not get what he wanted. I had hoped we could move past these divisive comments and issues and find ways to work together, to function in the best interest of the District and best serve the community we are elected to represent. It was a frustrating, disappointing meeting for me, and I'm sure for all of us.

In spite of this, I still feel it is in the best interest of the District to find ways to work together and consider making changes to some of the actions this Board took regarding Winn. So I propose the following change: reinstate Winn's access to the Board office. This will require updating Winn's job to allow him access to the Board office only. Access to administrative offices and staff will continue to require adherence to previous Board action and Board policy. Because of Winn's threats to the District, I propose the following changes after we see what action Winn takes in the next two months. When asked, Winn stated he did not know what he was going to do, so I feel it is prudent to wait and see. If Winn does not carry out his threats to "burn the District" or do damage to the District then, I propose we allow his attendance at District sponsored events for policy 1050L with per diem if applicable. This will include badge pinning, the 9/11 memorial, State of the District filming, and attendance at District Open House, the Chamber [of Commerce luncheon], and Salute to Public Safety. I also propose the Board give me the authority to assign liaison responsibility to Winn and make changes in the current assignments to accommodate this modification. If the Board takes action on any of my proposals, I ask that the motion include language to give the President authority to remove or change any or all of the items being reinstated if the President becomes aware of any actions or comments by Winn that the President believes are inappropriate or intended to attack or damage the District and or the Chief. I'd be open to further discussion of possible changes to Winn's status as we see how things progress regarding Winn's demands and actions. Will Winn participate and comment out of anger and revenge, or in the best interest of the District? Will Winn adhere to Board policy and actions taken by the Board? Will Winn refrain from inappropriate comments or actions towards staff? I remain hopeful this entire Board can work together to fulfill our responsibility and obligation to the District and the community we represent to lead in the best interest of the District, not personal desires or vengeful anger."

President Luth requested Public comment.

Resident Steve Elie stated the following: “Mr. President, Steven Elie, 22-year resident of Chino Hills. As you know also an elected director on the Inland Empire Utilities Agency, but I’m speaking as a resident, not on behalf IEUA. I spoke earlier about reactions to the current pandemic as the World Health Organization, and I think there’s a parallel here. I think that this Board has regrettably had to take action to protect the public and to protect, most importantly, its employees – especially the Chief and the Clerk – from behaviors that are unacceptable in a public servant. Unacceptable, and you [President Luth] started your conversation with some vague descriptions of frustrations. But what has been – and this is in a public meeting so no one’s telling tales at a school – what’s been reported to me were (sic) commentary made about retaliation against an employee in the District. Actions of an elected public official retaliating against somebody. That’s unacceptable; as public officials [and] as elected directors, we are supposed to be above reproach. We are supposed to act always in the best interest of the public we serve: the 175,000 people in the Chino Valley. That’s unacceptable, and to think of changing what has been put in place after months of wasted resources and time because of someone’s personal jihad is unacceptable to me. It is unacceptable to me that you [President Luth] would change what’s been in place on the whim, hope, and prayer that somebody will behave better if they get a little bit of what they want, and that’s what really what I’m hearing here. Obviously, I haven’t been involved in all the discussions, but I will tell you that it’s appalling to me that an elected director would retaliate against the Chief of the Fire District. I have been in this room when he’s [Director Williams] essentially tried to give the Chief a review, his own personal review, outside of the normal personnel practices. In public, [Director Williams] made statements that, if they were coming from someone that was rational, would be detrimental to the District. The District could be exposed to liability.

Luckily, your Chief is a realist and understands the source of where it’s coming from, right? But comments about the Chief’s performance, about wasting money on having paramedics – you saw living proof tonight that that’s not true. So time and again, in public – Lord knows what’s going on in private – this Director has abandoned his public responsibilities; and to remove the censures at this point in time when he was just at the workshop just a couple of weeks ago – comments were made about people’s religious beliefs. Off-hand commentary like that is unacceptable, and unless there’s a behavioral change, I don’t understand why this elected body would not continue to protect the Chief, the Clerk, and anyone of your staff let alone the public by changing where you’re at. So that’s my comment.”

Resident Brad Goldman stated the following:

“Chief I don’t want to be up here right now, but I’m going to be forced to because you guys are considering taking these actions. I came up here exactly six months ago asking ‘was Director Williams giving access to your guys computer system to anyone else? Has anyone been writing letters on his behalf and...not stating if they were or not?’ Those questions were not answered, much less the stuff that happened after. You guys know, as he stated, that we went to court [regarding] the information I gave you about him possibly not having the correct address. In court, under oath, he claimed that I tried to extort him, which the judge found completely false.

You guys are opening yourself up to liabilities by you now [potentially] giving him access to the Directors' office. If that's what you want to do, and it's a good-faith effort, fine, that's [on] you guys. But anything above that, that's not going to be recorded, is opening you up to liability – and you create the actions. He's been good for three months, but before that he came out right after you censured him for the third time and put his hands on a member of this department and commented 'I don't care, what they are going to do, censure me again?' His complete disregard for your guys' regulation; you know, just because he hasn't said anything for three months, is [it] enough to disregard the three months of actions before that – actually I think it was six months of actions from the first censure - he had to be censured three times. So I think any actions you do today, in terms of putting him out in the public which are in a less formal and less controlled environment where things may be said, are opening the department up to liabilities that will extend out to who knows what and I just recommend against it. Dealing with him in court and seeing the threats he makes, I would just not recommend it. He's not apologized, he's not tried to answer basic questions, he's never provided letters where this all started from in the very beginning. If he wants to make those amends and start all over, then make a full disclosure of your conflicts; the letters where all this started from and all of that, and then show that you are trying to make a good faith and effort. I have not seen a good-faith effort, or anything that shows any reason to do anything above – you know, if you guys want to let him come in and feel like the contact doesn't have to be done through the Chief and take some of that off of him, or he can come in and pick up his mail and leave: fine, that's on you guys, but anything above that I would not recommend it.”

President Luth asked for Board comments.

Director DeMonaco stated the following:

I pulled Item 1 [from the Consent Calendar], which is the minutes from the [February 19] meeting, because we didn't have the things reflected in the minutes that you read just a little bit ago. I was really surprised to see this on the agenda tonight. We did not take any action to put this on the agenda, but it doesn't need action to be placed here. With that being said, there were a lot of things said by Mr. Williams in that meeting; you referenced a lot of them. Quite frankly, I wish we had a video tape, because a picture's worth a thousand words, and the audio. I was really shocked with his remarks about the vindictiveness of why he did things; in particular, [his actions toward] Director Kreeger, that was the first one out of the gate. And he said everything he's done was for vindictiveness; he does not have any intent to improve. He threatened us with disruptiveness, you [President Luth] said it here tonight. He's threatened us with extortion; you said it here tonight. If we give into him, and give into this, he's extorted us, and we've allowed him to do that. And quite frankly, I cannot support that. Additionally, what was told to us, when we were in Closed Session, he [Director Williams] left the Closed Session room, and went out in the hall. There were locked office doors, and he was shaking a doorknob of a locked office. His excuse was 'well, I thought maybe somebody would be in there; I wanted to talk to them.' That's unacceptable; that's just absurd, and I have a lot of frustrations with that. So I do not support moving anything forward with Mr. Williams, and my vote is going to be to leave things as they are, and to let him prove, over a period of time, that he is going to change. He's told us he's not, but I would love to see him do that. So with that being said, until he changes and he truly tries to become a member of this board and truly tries to represent the public for the office of which he was elected to represent, I await to see that before I make any positive decisions. Right now, I'm voting no.

Vice President Ramos-Evinger stated the following:

So, I went into our special workshop with an extremely open mind and having nothing but compassion for Director Williams, and saying 'okay' – I will take a bullet for this District, I love this District, I serve this District with all of my heart. It means everything to me. And I was willing to change my view about this situation for the better of the District. However, the actions during that workshop were appalling to me. The fact that we cannot protect our Fire Chief, we as a Board, against the comments and retaliation, is scary. This is just absolutely ludicrous that in this day and age, with all the harassment policies and everything out there, that we as a Board cannot protect our own employee against Board Members' comments. I was also sickened at the fact that the retaliation against Director Kreeger; the impact that it had on his family: making the paper and such, when it was actually just retaliation, and there really wasn't any worth. And then he said 'we'll talk about this, and maybe I'll make it better.' I just – the constant extortion, the vindictiveness – I, with a good heart, cannot agree – and I really tried; I truly, truly tried to really want to do this. I don't dislike you at all, Director Williams. I do not; it's your behavior that is appalling to me. And we all had to take a...required harassment class that we are required to take. But yet, there're actions that Director Williams is doing that is absolutely against all of those procedures – quid pro quo. We have a situation here, and I gave my word that I would do everything for this District, for the Board, to try to make things right; I gave you my word. We had a conversation together, and I gave you my word. But with a good heart – and I might consider the Board Office, but I want to know for what purpose; I need to know the identification of what purpose are we going to give him for that. I don't go to the Board office, and I'm the vice president. I handle all my duties from home, from the phone, whatever. The only time I make my way to the Board office is when I have an agenda review; we typically have it there.

So I'm not sure – I want to know for what purpose is that particular [request desired to be] taken. If we were to ever decide that we want to allow him to District events, I think that harassment class needs to be retaken, and I think fully taken. Maybe we ask him [Director Williams] if he truly understands the ramifications of it. You know, there's certain things – I don't know if it's filters, or just quite not understanding – but there's certain questions he asks that are inappropriate. Comments in public – you know, maybe you can ask your friend those particular [questions] or make those comments about somebody's race, religion; or maybe if it's your friend, maybe you joke around, but you just don't do that in a public setting. Us as public officials, we need to be setting examples always, for this District and our community. So, I'm not there Harvey. I gave you my word, but I can't with a good heart – and I'm not being vengeful by any reason – but I just can't move to approve that.

Director Williams stated the following:

I have no comment; the only thing I can say is I'm damned if I do say anything and I'm damned if I don't.

Director Kreeger stated the following:

I, as well, went into the workshop hoping that it would have gone different (sic). The words 'vengeance' and 'retaliation' came up out of your [Director Williams] mouth, about the letter that you sent to the District Attorney about me...over and over again. The word 'retaliation' against the Fire Chief came up over and over again during that workshop. The word 'retaliation' was used against Director DeMonaco and against employees. And then you still ask that we reinstate you because you behaved for two months. I appreciate the fact that you behaved for two months, going on three now. I think that's a good start. By you not making a comment tonight, it's not a good start. There were things that I think you could have said tonight, publicly, that you chose not to say. Regarding the Board office, like you Sarah [Director Ramos-Evinger], I don't go into the Board office. My mail is sitting here when I get here [to a Board meeting], unless there's a specific reason. So if we gave him access to the Board office, I'm fine with that. Like what Director DeMonaco said, I would like to see more time out of it. I want to function as a Board, as a whole Board, together. But the time has not been there for me yet. And I have not seen you demonstrate that yet to me personally, or to the rest of the Board. So I'd be open to have a conversation about the Board office, but that's it at this time.

There was no action taken on this item.

FIRE CHIEF'S COMMENTS

Fire Chief Tim Shackelford stated the following:

President Luth, members of the Board, good evening. Before I get to my comments, I would like to offer this to the Board: I'd be willing to waive my rights to privacy regarding my evaluation, if the Board would like to discuss that publicly at a future meeting. I think it would be important for the public to understand the viewpoints of all of our Board members related to my performance.

Fire Chief Shackelford stated that on February 13th, he and Finance Director Heide attended a Chino Valley Chamber of Commerce Luncheon where State Treasurer Fiona Ma spoke about some new programs that she is instituting.

Fire Chief Shackelford stated that Inspector Jim Powderly attended the California Conference of Arson Investigators from February 24th – 27th.

Fire Chief Shackelford stated that two personnel from CVFD participated in the 2020 Police and Fire Winter Games held on February 24th – 27th at Mammoth Mountain. Approximately 100 skiers and snowboarders competed in slalom, giant slalom and super giant slalom over three days. FF/PM Heringer competed in skiing and DFM Dacko competed in snowboarding. DFM Dacko took 2nd place in the super giant slalom competition.

Fire Chief Shackelford stated that he, Deputy Chief Cooke, and Deputy Chief Williams attended a San Bernardino County Fire Chiefs' Association "Chiefs Retreat" at the UCLA Conference Center in Lake Arrowhead on February 26th and 27th. The purpose of the event was to discuss partnering together to improve the delivery of emergency medical services in our county.

Fire Chief Shackelford stated that several Board Members and staff attended the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast on February 19, 2020 at Los Serranos Country Club.

Fire Chief Shackelford stated that Board Members and staff attended a Special Board Meeting / Workshop on February 19, 2020 at Station 62.

Fire Chief Shackelford stated Board Members attended the Every 15 Minutes Event on March 5, 2020 at Ruben S. Ayala High School.

Fire Chief Shackelford stated The Fire District will be one of three agencies in the county participating in a trial study using a tiered dispatch model. Under this model we will alter our typical response to low acuity calls based on information obtained during the EMD process at dispatch. The purpose of the trial study is to factually evaluate what we believe will be a positive impact on response times to high acuity calls. The high acuity call types often require more personnel on scene in a timely manner to ensure the best possible patient outcome. By modifying our response to low acuity calls we should see an improving on our response times to high acuity call types.

Fire Chief Shackelford stated that a working group has been established and their efforts are aimed at developing appropriate response models and any associated training that may be required for our personnel. We anticipate presenting more detailed information on this topic at the April Board of Directors Meeting.

Deputy Chief David Williams gave an update on COVID-19 and the District's response to the pandemic.

Fire Chief Shackelford stated that the Fire District's Quarterly Meeting with the City of Chino is scheduled for March 12, 2020 at 2:30 p.m. at Chino City Hall.

Fire Chief Shackelford stated that the monthly ASBCSD meeting will take place on March 16, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Panda Inn in Ontario, CA.

Fire Chief Shackelford stated that the Salute to Public Safety Event is scheduled for March 19, 2020 at 11:30 a.m. at Los Serranos Country Club.

Fire Chief Shackelford stated that a Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. at Administrative Offices.

Fire Chief Shackelford stated that the SDRMA Spring Education Day will be held on March 24, 2020 in Sacramento, CA.

Fire Chief Shackelford stated that the Fire District's Quarterly Meeting with the City of Chino Hills is scheduled for March 25, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. at City Chino Hills.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS/BOARD COMMENTS

Director Williams stated “Thank you. I just wanted to say that I think the Fire Department has done a good job, and I’m thinking about Bill Heitmann and how things were handled in regards to that. That was a great report and I did go to the school, the high school [for the] Every Fifteen Minutes [demonstration], and they did a great job and it was a quite a good thing that they did. I had to congratulate the kids on their performance out there – it was inspiring in a sense that I would’ve thought there be clowning around and goofing around and stuff like that, but there wasn’t; it was done very well, they all acted very nice, and I just thought that was great also.”

Director Kreeger stated that he missed the last Chino City Council meeting, but attended the one before that, the CVUSD Board meeting, the ASBCSD meeting, a meeting with the Chief, and participated in his mandatory sexual harassment training, and the special workshop.

Director Kreeger congratulated the Explorers for their service and dedication.

Director Kreeger congratulated the unit that received the Unit Citation award.

Director Kreeger congratulated Steve Burns and Matthew Robertson on their respective awards.

Director DeMonaco stated that he attended the Chino Hills council meetings, the Prayer Breakfast, and the St. Patrick’s Day event.

Director DeMonaco praised the Donate for Life awareness campaign.

Director DeMonaco congratulated the Explorers for their service.

Director DeMonaco congratulated Captain Bill Heitmann and praised the District for their cardiac response rate.

Director Ramos-Evinger stated that she attended the Prayer Breakfast, the Carbon Canyon meeting, St. Patrick’s Day event, a Chino Hills Council meeting, and the Finance Committee Meeting.

Director Ramos-Evinger congratulated the Explorers on their service.

Director Ramos-Evinger congratulated the recipients of the Unit Citation award.

Director Ramos-Evinger stated that she agrees with Director DeMonaco’s request to record all Board meetings.

Director Ramos-Evinger reminded the public to refrain from driving under the influence on St. Patrick’s Day.

President Luth stated that he attended the Chino Council meetings, the special workshop, the Finance Committee meeting, the ASBCSD meeting, and the Prayer Breakfast.

President Luth congratulated the Explorers and all who work in that program.


President Luth congratulated Captain Bill Heitmann on his recovery.


President Luth congratulated Steve Burns and Matthew Robertson for their respective awards.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m. to a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Chino Valley Independent Fire District to be held on Wednesday, April 8, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at District Headquarters Office located at 14011 City Center Drive, Chino Hills, CA 91709.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 22th DAY OF April 2020.


Sandra Heney, Clerk of the Board


Harvey Luth, President