

CHINO VALLEY INDEPENDENT FIRE DISTRICT

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

Wednesday, July 12, 2023

5:00 p.m. Closed Session

6:00 p.m. Open Session

Fire District Administrative Headquarters

14011 City Center Drive

Chino Hills, CA 91709

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by President DeMonaco.

ROLL CALL

Present: President DeMonaco, Vice President Harvey Luth, Director Sarah Ramos-Evinger, Director Tom Haughey and Director Mike Kreeger.

Absent: None.

Also present: Acting Fire Chief Carlos Skibar, Deputy Chief Jeremy Ault, Legal Counsel Isaac Rosen, Clerk of the Board Angela Robles, Finance Director Mark Shaker, and Human Resources Director Anthony Arroyo.

CLOSED SESSION

President DeMonaco announced and read the Closed Session items.

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT – SPECIAL LABOR LEGAL COUNSEL

Consider possible appointment of special counsel for labor matters pursuant to subsection (b) (1) of Government Code section 54957.

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: (One (1) or more potential cases)

There were no requests from the public to speak on the item.

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

President DeMonaco adjourned the Open Session to Closed Session at 5:01 p.m.

REOPEN TO OPEN SESSION

President DeMonaco reopened to Open Session at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: President John DeMonaco, Vice President Harvey Luth, Director Sarah Ramos-Evinger, Director Tom Haughey and Director Mike Kreeger.

Absent: None.

Also present: Acting Fire Chief Carlos Skibar, Deputy Chief Jeremy Ault, Legal Counsel Isaac Rosen, Clerk of the Board Angela Robles, Finance Director Mark Shaker, and Human Resources Director Anthony Arroyo.

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

District Legal Counsel Isaac Rosen reported that there was no reportable action taken on the Closed Session items.

FLAG SALUTE

President DeMonaco led the assembly in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION

Keith Roby, Fire District Chaplain led the invocation.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Clerk of the Board Robles reported no changes to the agenda.

PRESENTATIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Employee Service Year Awards

15 Years of Service

President DeMonaco accompanied by Acting Fire Chief Skibar recognized Captain Matthew Gonsalves for 15 years of service with the Fire District and presented him with a service pin and award.

President DeMonaco accompanied by Acting Fire Chief Skibar recognized Engineer Brett Mattson for 15 years of service with the Fire District and presented him with a service pin and award.

20 Years of Service

President DeMonaco accompanied by Acting Fire Chief Skibar recognized Captain David Flores for 20 years of service with the Fire District and presented him with a service pin and award.

New Chaplain Introduction

President DeMonaco introduced Chaplain Ted Wong as the Fire Districts newest Chaplain and welcomed him.

The Board of Directors recessed at 6:13 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING

PROPERTIES DECLARED FOR WEED ABATEMENT

Purpose is for the Public to comment on the declaring and noticing of property owner(s) for weed abatement.

President DeMonaco opened the Public Hearing.

Report By: Fire Marshal Danielle O'Toole

Fire Marshal O'Toole reported that at the April 12, 2023 Board of Directors meeting, Resolution No. 2023-06 was approved and adopted, identifying properties throughout the District to be noticed in accordance with Ordinance 2022-01 for weed abatement.

She explained that after the initial Spring inspections, all property owners in violation of the aforementioned Ordinance received a Notice to Destroy, as prescribed in said Ordinance. As stated in each respective notice, property owners were given until July 12, 2023 to abate the noted hazard. Failure to abate the noted hazard is subject to an Administrative Citation and action by the Chino Valley Fire District to abate the property utilizing the District's private contractor. Chino Valley Fire District Inspectors will begin reinspection's on July 12, 2023 and will take the noted actions to bring properties into compliance.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Board of Directors review public comment on the declaring and noticing of property owner(s) for weed abatement and subsequent actions and charges, as well as make any rulings on any and all objections raised regarding the proposed removal of weeds and said charges.

There were no requests from the public to speak on this item.

President DeMonaco closed the Public Hearing.

There were no comments from the Board on this item.

Moved by Director Ramos-Evinger, seconded by Director Kreeger, carried by a 5-0 voice vote for the Board of Directors to review public comment on the declaring and noticing of property owner(s) for weed abatement and subsequent actions and charges, as well as make any rulings on any and all objections raised regarding the proposed removal of weeds and said charges.

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

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

There were no requests to speak.

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

Mayor Pro Tem Karen Comstock, City of Chino reported on community events that included the Chino Challenge Demolition Derby and National Night Out. She announced that Police Chief Wes Simmons' Walk of Honor and Reception is taking place on August 10, 2023, 8:00 a.m. at the Chino Police Department and Deputy Chief Kevin Mensen was named Chief of Police for the City of Chino.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. **MINUTES**

- a. May 10, 2023 Regular Meeting (Haughey absent)
- b. May 25, 2023 Special Board Meeting/ Workshop (Ramos-Evinger absent)
- c. June 14, 2023 Regular Meeting (DeMonaco absent)

2. **MONTHLY DISTRICT REPORT**

Month of May 2023

3. **MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT**

Monthly Financial Report – June 2023

4. **MONTHLY TREASURER'S REPORT**

Monthly Treasurer's Report – May 2023

5. **WARRANTS**

Warrants for June 2023 #57582 through #57765

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

None.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve Consent Calendar Item Numbers 1 through 6 as presented.

President DeMonaco pulled item number 1 from the Consent Calendar for separate action.

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

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

NOES: BOARD MEMBERS: None.

ABSTAIN: BOARD MEMBERS: None.

ABSENT: BOARD MEMBERS: None.

ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

The Board of Directors voted on item # 1 a. May 10, 2023 Regular Meeting (Haughey absent) from the consent calendar.

Moved by Director Ramos-Evinger, seconded by Vice President Luth, carried by a 4-0 voice vote for the Board of Directors approve item 1 a. – May 10, 2023, Regular Meeting as presented.

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

NOES: BOARD MEMBERS: None.

ABSTAIN: BOARD MEMBERS: Haughey.

ABSENT: BOARD MEMBERS: None.

The Board of Directors voted on item # 1 b. May 25, 2023 Special Board Meeting/ Workshop (Ramos-Evinger absent) from the consent calendar.

Moved by Director Haughey, seconded by Director Kreeger, carried by a 4-0 voice vote for the Board of Directors approve item 1 b. – May 25, 2023, Special Board Meeting as presented.

AYES: BOARD MEMBERS: DeMonaco, Luth, Kreeger and Haughey.

NOES: BOARD MEMBERS: None.

ABSTAIN: BOARD MEMBERS: Ramos-Evinger.

ABSENT: BOARD MEMBERS: None.

The Board of Directors voted on item # 1 c. June 14, 2023 Regular Meeting (DeMonaco absent) from the consent calendar.

Moved by Director Vice President Luth, seconded by Director Haughey, carried by a 4-0 voice vote for the Board of Directors approve item 1 c. – June 14, 2023, Regular Meeting as presented.

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

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

7. **CSDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION BALLOT - TERM 2024-2026**

Purpose is for the Board of Directors to confirm the Fire District's desire to participate in the current CSDA Board Election for 2023 and cast a vote for a candidate for Seat "C" in the Southern Network.

Report By: Clerk of the Board Angela Robles

The Fire District received an official voting ballot from CSDA for a current vacancy on the Board of Directors within the Southern Network. Each network has three seats represented and elected by the CSDA membership. Chino Valley Fire District is included in the Southern Network.

Any independent special district, with current membership in CSDA, is eligible to cast one vote. The ballot is due to CSDA by 5:00 p.m. on July 14, 2023.

The three candidates are incumbent Arlene Schafer with Costa Mesa Sanitary District; Al Nederhood, Director, Municipal Water District of Orange County; and John Skerbelis, Director, Rubidoux Community Services District.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Board of Directors confirm the Fire District's desire to participate in the current CSDA Board Election for 2023 and cast a vote for one candidate for Seat "C" in the Southern Network.

There were no requests from the public to speak on this item.

Discussion was held regarding the Fire District's desire to participate in the current CSDA Board Election for 2023 and cast a vote for candidate Arlene Schafer for Seat "C" in the Southern Network.

Moved by Director Ramos-Evinger, seconded by Director Kreeger, carried by a 5-0 voice vote for the Board of Directors to confirm the Fire District's desire to participate in the current CSDA Board Election for 2023 and cast a vote for candidate Arlene Schafer for Seat "C" in the Southern Network.

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

ABSENT: BOARD MEMBERS: None.

8. FIRE STATION 68 PROJECT

Consider additional apparatus bay for Fire Station 68 and amendment to increase the project scope of work and contract with PBK for design, architecture, and engineering modifications.

Report by: Discussion led by President DeMonaco

Clerk of the Board Robles reported that Fire Chief Dave Williams is participating through teleconference for agenda item no. 8.

President DeMonaco reported that he would like to bring the item forward for further discussion and consideration as a community benefit. President DeMonaco also thanked the local legislators and Legislative Adhoc Committee for their efforts in securing State funding.

President DeMonaco deferred all project questions to Fire Chief Williams.

There were no requests from the public to speak on this item.

In response to questions from the Board regarding anticipated costs for an additional apparatus bay, Fire Chief Williams reported that cost factors to consider would be amendments to the contract with PBK at \$35,000 with a 10% contingency; \$11,000 for an environmental review if necessary; and construction cost estimated at \$750 dollars per square foot.

Finance Director Mark Shaker provided clarifications on the funding available and potential District cost for the current project design versus a modification to add an apparatus bay.

There was discussion regarding the allocation of funds for this project and financial impact. Additionally, discussion regarding the additional apparatus bay (approximately 600 square feet) for Fire Station 68 and amendment to increase the project scope of work and contract with PBK.

Moved by President DeMonaco, seconded by Director Ramos-Evinger, carried by a 3-2 voice vote for the Board of Directors to add an apparatus half bay to Fire Station 68 and amend the scope of work and contract with PBK for design, architecture, and engineering services at an estimated cost of \$35,000 with a 10% contingency; authorize \$11, 000 for an environmental review if necessary; and authorize the Fire Chief to execute the necessary documents on behalf of the Fire District.

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

NOES: BOARD MEMBERS: Haughey and Kreeger.

ABSTAIN: BOARD MEMBERS: None.

ABSENT: BOARD MEMBERS: None.

FIRE CHIEF'S COMMENTS

CONFIRE Items of Interest:

- Acting Fire Chief Skibar reported that CONFIRE continues to work through the negotiations with the County Board of Supervisors related to Ambulance Transport Services.

Organizational Items of Interest:

- On June 26th Fire Chief Williams hosted a tour of administration with Representative Young Kim.
- On June 27th Deputy Chief Ault attended the CONFIRE Administrative Committee Meeting.
- On July 6th Fire Chief Williams attended the West End Chiefs JPA Meeting and approved next year's budget.
- On July 8th Staff and Board Members attended Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez Community BBQ.
- On July 10th Board Members and Staff participated in the Human Resources Committee Meeting.

EMS:

- Fire Chief Williams, Deputy Chief Ault, Battalion Chief Gabel, EMS Nurse Parham, and Captain Kinne met with the new CEO of Chino Valley Medical Center. Also present were the Director of Nursing and the Medical Director of the Emergency Department. The purpose of the meeting was to reinforce relationship between our two organizations and to discuss innovation opportunities for the future.

Training:

- Suppression personnel completed live fire and EMS training in June. July training will focus on Firefighter Survival.

Community Risk Reduction:

- Successful inspection and enforcement operations by the CRR team and Chino Police Department/San Bernardino County Sheriff for the July 4th activities in Chino/Chino Hills. Over a 1,000 pounds of illegal and legal fireworks were collected. In total 59 firework related citations were issued on the 4th of July in the City of Chino and 2 citation in the City of Chino Hills. The Fire District is still accepting surrendered fireworks until July 14th between 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Fire District Headquarters. There were 3 firework related vegetation fires, 7 firework related rubbish fires and 1 firework related medical aid.

Upcoming Events:

- Fire Chief Williams is attending the Fire Chief's Summit from July 12-14.
- City of Chino City Council Meeting on Tuesday, July 18th.
- City of Chino Hills Fearless Firefighter blood drive on Tuesday, July 18th.
- The Fire District will be participating in the City of Chino and Chino Hills' concerts in the park with outreach booths on July 20th, 27nd and in Chino Hills on July 27th.
- Finance Committee Meeting, Monday July 24th.

- CONFIRE Administrative Committee Meeting on Tuesday, July 25th.
- Chief will be out of town on July 26th through July 31st.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS/BOARD COMMENTS

Director Ramos-Evinger

Director Ramos-Evinger reported on meetings and events attended since the last meeting that included Chino Council meeting; monthly meeting with the Fire Chief; Chino Fireworks Spectacular; Chino Hills Independent Day Celebration; Fire District filming and Human Resources Committee meeting.

Director Kreeger

Director Kreeger reported on meetings and events attended since the last meeting that included State of the Fire District filming; monthly meeting with the Fire Chief; Chino Valley Unified School District meetings; Chino Hills Council meetings; and Taste of Chino Valley.

Director Haughey

Director Haughey reported on meetings and events attended since the last meeting that included the Taste of Chino Valley; Chino Hills Council meetings; Chino Fireworks Spectacular; Chino Hills Independence Day Celebration; monthly meeting with the Fire Chief; Human Resources Committee Meeting; and Ad Hoc Committee meeting to select a law firm to assist the District with labor negotiations.

Vice President Luth

Vice President Luth reported on meetings and events attended since the last meeting that included Chino Council meetings; Agenda review meeting; Chino Hills Independence Day Celebration; and monthly meeting with the Fire Chief.

President DeMonaco

President DeMonaco reported on meetings and events attended since the last meeting that included Board Budget Workshop; State of the Fire District filming and Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez Open House.

The Fire Board of Directors congratulated all service award recipients and welcomed the District's newest Chaplain. The Board of Directors also thanked local legislators, dignitaries, partner agencies, and District staff who assisted in the Fire Districts recent award of state funding for Station 68.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m. to a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Chino Valley Independent Fire District to be held on Wednesday, August 9, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at District Headquarters located at 14011 City Center Drive, Chino Hills, CA 91709.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 9TH DAY OF AUGUST 2023.



Angela Robles, Clerk of the Board



John DeMonaco, President