

CHINO VALLEY INDEPENDENT FIRE DISTRICT
Special Meeting - Standing Committee Meeting
Legislative Committee

Administrative Headquarters
14011 City Center Drive
Chino Hills, CA 91709

Tuesday, August 2, 2023
9:00 a.m. Committee Meeting

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The Legislative Committee meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by President DeMonaco.

ROLL CALL

President John DeMonaco
Director Mike Kreeger
Fire Chief Dave Williams
Clerk of the Board Angela Robles

FLAG SALUTE

President John DeMonaco led the flag salute.

INVOCATION

Adam Houde, Fire District Chaplain led the invocation.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

There were no requests to speak.

MINUTES

1. MINUTES – June 6, 2023 – Meeting.

The Committee agreed to file the minutes, as presented.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

2. CSDA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE AGENDA FOR AUGUST 2023

Purpose is for the Legislative Committee to review the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) Legislative Committee Agenda for August 2023 and provide direction to staff.

The Committee discussed items on the CSDA Legislative Committee Agenda that were of note.

Clerk of the Board Robles reported that the National Special District Coalition (NSDC) is introducing legislation in Washington DC to pass a federal definition of Special Districts with the primary objective to enhance districts access to federally funded programs.

Fire Chief Williams added that the District has been able to obtain the support of legislators such as Congresswoman Norma Torres, California State Senator Susan Rubio, and others regarding NSDC's proposed legislation.

Clerk of the Board Robles also reported that Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 82 is proclaiming the month of October 2023 as California Firefighter Appreciation Month and October 14th as California Firefighters Memorial Day.

President DeMonaco recommended SCR 82 as a proclamation at a future Board meeting.

Also, the Committee discussed Assembly Bill 338, Public Works Definition, which CSDA is opposing. This bill would add fuel reduction work, done under contract, and paid for in whole or in part out of public funds performed as part of a fire mitigation project, including, but not limited to, residential chipping, rural road fuel breaks, fire breaks, and vegetation management, to the definition of public works. The bill is being referred to the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

Clerk of the Board Robles informed the Committee that a letter from the District opposing Senate Bill 252 (Gonzalez) regarding the Public Retirement System, Fossil Fuel Divestment was submitted to the State for consideration.

Clerk of the Board Robles reminded the Committee that September 14th is the last day for each house to pass bills and October 14th is the last day for the Governor to sign or veto bills.

3. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE BY ROJAS COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

Purpose is for the Legislative Committee to receive a legislative update from Rojas Communications Group.

Jaime Rojas Jr. of Rojas Communications Group reported on Federal Committee updates regarding funding coming from U.S. Senator Feinstein and U.S. Senator Padilla which the District unable to acquire due to budget deficits. Mr. Rojas stated the next steps for funding.

The Legislative Committee discussed the timeline for the Federal Budget and future strategies that can be taken to reintroduce items regarding Fire Station 68.

Mr. Rojas provided an update on the approved state grant for \$6.25 million. The funds are anticipated to be released in March or April of 2024. A representative from the State Office of Emergency Services will be assigned as the point of contact.

Mr. Rojas reported on his and Jayson Braude's attendance at the upcoming California Special District Association conference.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE COMMENTS

The Legislative Committee discussed strategies for upcoming funding opportunities.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:31 a.m.