



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

FIRE DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

LOCATION: CAL FIRE Conference Room
6059 Highway 9, Felton, CA 95018
DATE: July 17, 2019
TIME: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

APPROVED MINUTES

I. ROLL/CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

Meeting called to order at 4:01 pm

Present:

Volunteer Firefighters Representative/Chair:	Doug Aumack
First District Representative:	Alex Leman
Second District Representative:	Carey Pico
Fourth District Representative:	John Walker
Fifth District Representative/Co-chair:	Arnie Wernick
Office of Emergency Services Manager:	Rosemary Anderson

Absent:

Third District Representative:	Janet Webb
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II. ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA

A. None

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 15, 2019

Motion: Aumack to approve draft minutes.

Motion seconded: Pico

In favor: All

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Webb

IV. PUBLIC INPUT/ORAL COMMUNICATION

(Items not on agenda, 3 minutes per person)

A. Becky Steinbruner commented on the following:

- i. Fire Safe Council offers chipping assistance.
- ii. Reflective PVC piping available.
- iii. Workshop being planned in Aptos to educate public about Fire Safe.
- iv. USAA offering discounts to Fire Wise Communities.

B. L. Jensen from Fire Safe Council made introduction.

V. CORRESPONDENCE:

- A.** Email dated 05/23/19 regarding a San Jose Mercury News article detailing new federal regulations that could have a negative financial impact on fire departments throughout California (B. Steinbruner).
 - i. Updated that there will be no changes in current policy until further notice.
- B.** Email dated 06/03/19 regarding a public records request that produced information about the allocation of Measure G funds (B. Steinbruner).
 - i. General consensus to appeal to the Board of Supervisors to allocate Measure G funds for increased code enforcement staff, since it is an effective preventative tool for destructive fires.

VI. BUSINESS MATTERS

- A.** How to express recognition for years of service provided by volunteers (Aumack).
 - i. Will discuss at Company Officers' meeting.
- B.** Upcoming local educational events about fire safety/prevention and how to support them (Anderson).
 - i. Free presentation featuring Peter Meza from the Department of Insurance to help homeowners understand their insurance in high fire risk areas. Will be broadcast live on 7/23/19.
 - ii. Two presentations will be held each day at 2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. from four locations: Ben Lomond, Santa Cruz, Corralitos, Capitola.
- C.** Updates from Subcommittees
 - i. Ballot Measure Subcommittee Update (Aumack, Pico, Wernick).
 - 1) Board of Supervisors on vacation during July, but they are working on reaching out to big business property owners.
 - 2) More Town Hall meetings coming up on 7/25/19 in Davenport, 7/30/19 in Loma Prieta, and 8/13/19 in Bonny Doon.
 - a. All locations and times will be posted on SantaCruzCountyFire.com.
 - 3) Mailers are being finalized.
 - ii. Volunteer Recruitment Subcommittee update (Aumack, Leman).
 - 1) There may be a possible project started with South Bay Academy.
 - 2) Volunteerfirefighter.org has been a growing resource for new recruits.
- D.** Santa Cruz County Fire Chief's Report (Sherman).
 - i. Santa Cruz County Fire is currently at level 4 staffing with 12 engines, 10 stations, and 2 dozers.
 - ii. Management is waiting for the authority to hire two more operators.
 - iii. There are only 3 active fire crews because of reduced inmate enrollment, therefore there is a need to reprioritize crews to make up for staffing.
 - iv. A third engine was received from the state that will soon be operational at the Belmont Fire Station.
 - v. The state has directed units to significantly increase their utilization of prescribed burns as a fire prevention measure.

E. Announcements

- i. OES participated in CAL FIRE Extended Attack training, it went well, After Action Report sent to CAL Fire from the EOC. ARRL Field Day held at Ben Lomond Camps was a success, Thanks to CAL FIRE for use of the facilities. (Anderson)
- ii. Emergency Management Council meetings take place in September and November and present an opportunity to educate the members and partner agency attendees about Santa Cruz County Fire, County OES is planning for an earthquake tabletop in October. (Anderson)
- iii. CERT Council developed the first ever activation policy for CERT teams, it has been vetted and unanimously approved by the Law Chiefs Association, the Fire Chiefs Association and County OES. (Anderson).
- iv. A memorial for Jerry Wagoner from CA State Parks is being held this weekend (Sherman).
- v. The Strawberry Festival in Watsonville will take place the weekend of August 3-4, 2019 and a fire education CERT stand will be present. (Walker)

VI. **ADJOURNMENT 5:29**

Motion: Pico

Motion seconded: Wernick

In favor: Aumack, Leman

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Webb

Set next regular meeting – Wednesday, September 18, 2019 at 4:00 pm, located at the CAL FIRE CZU Headquarters Conference Room, 6059 Highway 9, Felton, CA 95018.

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