

NORTH SAN JUAN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, April 27, 2021

Final Adopted May 25, 2021

PRESENT: Tim Tschantz, Chair; Bruce Boyd, Vice-Chair; Pat Leach, Treasurer; Rhea Williamson, Samantha Hinrichs

ABSENT: None

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting called to order at 5:00 PM. Roll taken. Quorum established. Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**
No public comment.
3. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**
 - A. Minutes of March 23, 2021, Regular Board Meeting

Bruce Boyd moved to approve the Consent Calendar, Pat Leach seconded, motion passed by roll call vote as follows:

Bruce Boyd - Aye
Pat Leach – Aye
Rhea Williamson – Aye
Samantha Hinrichs – Aye
Tim Tschantz – Aye

Ayes: 5 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Tim Tschantz and Battalion Chief Boyd Johnson toured the safety zones identified in the District's Fire Plan and believes we need to make changes to the list. This will be discussed further during item 6.B.

5. REPORTS

A. Chief's Report –
Chief Flores was out of town.

Tim Tschantz asked for an update about new recruits. Heidi Ryan responded that we are currently processing three new recruits, all very eager and excited. They have First Aid/CPR training scheduled for April 29 and will finish Wildland training in May. These three individuals will be great additions to the Department.

B. Treasurer’s Report – Pat leach

i. Financials- March 2021: Funds Summary, Disbursement Detail, Deposit Detail, Cal Card

Rhea Williamson asked for clarification on an untitled Cal Card purchase. Lynn McGarva apologized for not inputting the description of the charge, but the charge is to Microsoft. Lynn announced that we are currently experiencing issues with Microsoft’s billing. This is an ongoing problem that she has been working to rectify.

Pat Leach moved to approve the March 2021 Financials as presented, Rhea Williamson seconded, motion passed by unanimous vote as follows:

Bruce Boyd – Aye

Pat Leach – Aye

Rhea Williamson – Aye

Samantha Hinrichs – Aye

Tim Tschantz - Aye

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

C. District Manager’s Report – Lynn McGarva

We received an email from FEMA announcing that they have rescinded the 2020 grants, including the AFG Grant. We applied for the 2021 AFG grant for SCBA’s and there is a chance FEMA may rescind the 2021 grants as well.

Governor Newsome is still working on Covid-19 expense reimbursement. We have been tracking all our expenses related to Covid-19, and there is a good chance we will be eligible for reimbursement.

Strike team revenue has been coming in, and we are caught up with paying firefighters for those assignments. Lynn will have a good idea of what the actual revenues will be to the District (less expenses) for 2020 strike team activity soon. Samantha Hinrichs asked how firefighters are paid for strike team assignments. Lynn responded that we have an MOU with the firefighters that we will pay them for out of county assignments the same month the District receives the revenue for the assignment, and sometimes that happens the following year.

D. Firefighters Association Report – Angela Flores

This item was heard out of order at 5:26

Drive -through BBQ fundraiser was a huge success. The Association anticipated selling 200 dinners, but they ended up selling about 400 dinners. There was a vegetation fire dispatched just before the start of the dinner, so this fundraiser was managed by about 7 firefighters and three teenage volunteers. Total gross for the event was \$9,153.75, expenses were \$1400, with a net of \$7,687.43. Much of the profit was from the raffle.

E. Fire Safe Council /FireWise Coalition/Ridge FireWise Communities Report – Pat Leach

Pat Leach announced that the Fire Safe Council will be hosting a Zoom meeting on May 13th at 5:00 PM for the San Juan Ridge Taxpayers Association. It will include representatives for all FireWise Communities on the Ridge, with the primary objective of determining the most necessary goals we should focus on regarding evacuations, hazardous materials clearing, etc.

Saturday is National Wildfire Preparedness Day.

There are 57 FireWise Communities in Nevada County, with another 20 awaiting certification. The Fire Safe Council is looking to hire about 8 people for chipping crews.

F. NCFA Report – Pat Leach.

Next meeting is in May.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Water Storage Committee Update- Bruce Boyd

Bruce Boyd announced that the Committee has not had luck finding grant money for these water storage projects. Bruce then asked the Board to consider using Measure Q money to fund the tank on Cruzon Grade, which will set the standard for other water storage projects throughout the District. Tim Tschantz asked Bruce to present a cost proposal to the Board. Rhea Williamson added that now would be a good time to develop the landowner agreement and have it run past our attorney.

B. “Preparing for Large Fires” – Tim Tschantz

Tim Tschantz and Boyd Johnson drove around and looked at safety zones as identified in our Fire Plan. It was discovered that some sites were no longer safe, the Community Center being one of them. Some additional locations that should be reconsidered is Station 1, Bridgeport, and Pat Browning’s property. Do we need to put signage at these locations?

Tom Browning would like to move away from the term Safety Zones, because that implies that the site is completely safe. Instead, he recommends we start using the term Temporary Refuge Area. We could work on getting signage for these identified sites through a grant from the California Fire Foundation, which recently awarded a grant to the Town of Washington to put up signage.

Samantha Hinrichs suggested we develop a handout with simple information that could be given out at events, to include information on evacuation routes, go-bags, and a map of the area. Tom Browning suggested adding information on the high-low siren that the Sheriff’s Office will use during evacuations, and to inform people to tune in to local radio channels. Pat Leach wants to ensure our communication matches the County. Samantha will start working on a format, Bruce Boyd offered to assist her.

Tim Tschantz fell off the call at 6:06.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. SCI Consulting Group Service Agreement - Pat Leach

SCI Consulting Group has been taking care of our Measure Q documentation and calculation, which needs to be completed by the end of each fiscal year.

Bruce Boyd recommends that we start the process of sending all contracts to our attorney for review.

Bruce Boyd moved to accept the contract with SCI Consulting pending approval by our attorney, Samantha Hinrichs seconded, motion passed by roll call vote as follows:

Bruce Boyd – Aye
Pat Leach – Aye
Rhea Williamson – Aye
Samantha Hinrichs – Aye
Tim Tschantz - Absent

Ayes: 4 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

8. **NEXT MEETING:** May 25, 2021, time, and location to be determined.
9. **ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM.

Heidi Ryan

Heidi Ryan, Board Secretary