

NORTH SAN JUAN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Final, Adopted May 24, 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 7:00 PM. Roll taken. Quorum established. Pledge of Allegiance.

2. APPROVAL OF April 26, 2022 REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Bruce Boyd moved to approve the agenda with item 7.A removed, Samantha Hinrichs seconded, motion passed by unanimous vote.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR:

A. Minutes of February 22, 2022, Regular Board Meeting

B. Correspondence From IRS

C. Correspondence From Nevada County

Boyd Johnson asked to have item 4.B removed for discussion.

Samantha Hinrichs moved to approve the Consent Calendar with item 4.B removed for discussion, Bruce Boyd seconded, motion passed by unanimous vote.

Discussion of Item 4.B

Boyd Johnson asked why his recent letter to the Board was not included in Correspondence. Heidi Ryan responded that Boy's letter was a public records request, which are handled by office staff. Bruce Boyd asked Boyd Johnson if he could keep his comments relevant to item 4.B.

Bruce Boyd moved to approve item 4.B, Samantha Hinrichs seconded, motion passed by unanimous vote.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Tim Tshantz announced that he was informed by a local resident that the Ridge is the safest place to live in the County because people on the Ridge are very proactive.

6. REPORTS

A. Chief's Report – Deputy Chief Tom Browning

i. April 2022 Statistics

- Fire activity is above average in Northern California.
- There is more grass in Northern California than Southern California, which means, for this fire season, there is a greater potential for large fires in Northern California after the grass cures, as opposed to Southern California.
- Monsoonal moisture is anticipated for July and August. This will likely bring moisture to Southern California and possibly dry lightning to Northern California.
- Most areas in Northern California are in extreme or severe drought. This increases the likelihood of large timber fires.
- South Yuba Coalition has added three satellite phone boxes at local river crossings.
- Battalion Chief Angel Flores updated the Board on the itinerary of the Open House she has organized for Saturday, May 21st.

Tom Browning provided a follow-up on fires in wood chip fires. After conferring with experts in fire investigation, he relayed that wood chip piles can generate heat and could smolder but are unable to spontaneously combust. If grass is mixed in with the wood chips, that could increase the likelihood of spontaneous combustion.

Tom Browning also relayed that the Western Nevada County Fire Chiefs Association will be meeting with Air Quality Control about putting the onus of responding to smoke check calls on them as opposed to local fire departments.

B. Treasurer's Report – Pat leach

Lynn McGarva presented the financial reports for February and March 2022. Board members expressed their appreciation for the breakdown of deposit activity, specifically deposits related to out of county fire assignments.

Bruce Boyd moved to approve the expenditures for February and March 2022 as presented, Rhea Williamson seconded, motion passed by unanimous vote.

C. Firefighters Association Report – Chris Rainville

Chris Rainville announced that the Firefighter Association had a net profit of roughly \$2500 from the drive-through Yaki-Soba fundraiser. Additionally, the Association is putting on a firefighter appreciation lunch on May 15, from 11-3. All Board members and recently retired firefighters will be invited as well. The next Association meeting will be May 18th.

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

Pat Leach will be querying the local FireWise community to get their concerns for possible additions to the Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

E. NCFA Report – Pat Leach.

The next meeting is in May.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Water Storage Committee Update- Bruce Boyd

Removed from Agenda.

B. “Preparing for Large Fires” – Tim Tschantz

Tom Browning announced that North San Juan Fire Protection District will be hosting a prescribed fire class at Station 1, May 14. The class includes a “live fire” portion that likely will not happen until the Fall.

Rhea Williamson shared that the Yuba Bear Burn Institute is showcasing their gear trailer this Saturday, from 10-12, at Condon Park. This the trailer that they make available for residents to borrow.

E. Newsletter Update and Editor Discussion – Rhea Williamson

Rhea Williamson commended Sambhava Burke and Melanya Gonshorowski for their work on the newsletter. We have gotten great feedback on the newsletter. For future newsletters it could be helpful to include a section on Board matters.

H. Hydrant Committee Update – Tom Browning

Tom Browning relayed that the NSJ hydrant project is roughly \$100,000 short, but the County of Nevada has assured the Committee that they will help ensure the project is funded. The site survey for the tank has been completed, talks continue regarding system maintenance after the project is completed. Rhea Williamson suggested involving the North San Juan Business Association in project communications/development.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution Calling for General Election (2022-03) – Tim Tschantz

Three Board Members are up for reelection this year: Tim Tschantz, Bruce Boyd, and Samantha Hinrichs. This resolution is needed for Nevada County Elections to get the three candidates on the ballot for the November 8 election.

Bruce Boyd moved to approve Resolution 2022-03, Rhea Williamson 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

9. NEXT MEETING: May 24, 2022, 7:00 PM.

10. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 8:21 PM.

Heidi Ryan

Heidi Ryan, Board Secretary