

NORTH SAN JUAN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, July 26, 2022

Final Adopted 9-27-2022

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

ABSENT: Rhea Williamson

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM. Roll taken. Quorum established. Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **APPROVAL OF July 26, 2022 REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA**
Bruce Boyd moved to approve the agenda with item 7.A.i removed, Pat Leach seconded, motion passed by unanimous vote.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**
Boyd Johnson read the first two paragraphs of the Brown Act.
4. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**
 - A. Minutes of July 7, 2022, Regular Board Meeting
 - B. Four Correspondence From IRS (A, B, C, D)
 - C. Correspondence From Boyd Johnson

Boyd Johnson asked to pull 4.B and 4.C for discussion.

Pat Leach moved to approve item 4.A, Bruce Boyd seconded, motion passed by unanimous vote.

Discussion of items 4.B and 4.C

Boyd Johnson pointed out that a letter from the IRS stated our penalty for quarter 4, 2019 was \$1855.35, but Heidi Ryan pointed that this is the combined penalty for two quarters (quarter 4, 2019 and quarter 1, 2020).

Deputy Chief Tom Browning noted that Boyd Johnson was correct in his public records request (item 4.C) in that the EDD penalty was not brought to the Board or the public's attention. This was because the office did not receive an invoice for the penalty bill, the penalty was taken out of a previous overpayment to the EDD. Tom added that where he believes Mr. Johnson was incorrect in his public records request was that there was intent to keep the penalty from the Board and public. In the summer of 2020, both the District

Managers were new and getting familiar with the office and District business happenings. All our payroll is now handled by an outside contractor, Rice Business Services. The District has not incurred a penalty with the EDD since July of 2020. Moving forward, any penalty incurred by the District for EDD will be brought to the attention of the Board and public, there is no advantage of hiding it. Boyd Johnson responded that he believes all the penalties to the EDD and the IRS is a result of a lack of Board Supervision. Tom Browning added that he did not believe this was a lack of Board supervision and moving forward will ensure the Board is informed of any penalties incurred. A discussion ensued on how bills are approved and how the Board supervises the office staff.

Boyd Johnson asked why this public record request was included in the Board packet when his previous public record requests were not. Tom Browning said he decided to put this public records request in the packet to get it on the public record because he wants to help resolve this situation. Per the District's attorney, public record requests are not matters of the Board, they are handled by the office staff.

Bruce Boyd moved to approve items 4.B and 4.C, Pat Leach seconded, motion passed by unanimous vote.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Bruce Boyd shared that the County is proposing a ½ cent general sales tax for fire prevention. The proposed tax would provide roughly 12 million annually, some of the funds would be set aside for matching funds for fire service-related grants. If the Board of Supervisors approves this proposal, it could make it on the November ballot. Tom Browning suggested having Caleb Dardick do a public presentation on the proposed sales tax to the residents in our District.

6. REPORTS

A. Chief's Report – Jason Flores

i. June 2022 Statistics

ii. Department Activity

- Engine 6168 was sent to the Electra Fire and have since returned.
- Engine 6168 did a brief cover assignment at Station 42.
- Engine 6168 is currently assigned to the Oak Incident.
- We have been implementing the Firefighter Backfill program to cover behind E6168.
- There are concerns for lightning and the continual drought.
- Chief Flores gave a brief update on his recent assignment on the Washburn Fire in Yosemite.
- We're getting close to 30 firefighters on our roster.
- Tom Browning provided an overview of his experience on the Rice's Incident.
- Tom Browning provided statistics from SYRCL on our major river crossings.
- US Forest Service has banned all fires outside of designated camp sites.

Bruce Boyd thanked the firefighters for selling hot dogs at the Storytelling Festival.

B. Treasurer's Report – Pat leach

i. Financials –June 2022

Pat Leach presented the financial reports for June 2022.

Bruce Boyd moved to approve the Cash Disbursements and Cal Card for June 2022, Samantha Hinrichs seconded, motion passed by unanimous vote.

ii. Prop 172 Report for FY 2021-22

This is an annual requirement. The Finance and Facilities Manager will sign the form and submit to the County. No Board action needed.

C. Firefighters Association Report –

Nothing to report.

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

26 Firewise Communities will receive \$3,600 in grant monies from OES. The application is on the Fire Safe Council website.

E. NCFA Report – Pat Leach.

Nothing to report.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. “Preparing for Large Fires” – Tim Tschantz

Tim Tschantz announced that he will be hanging our “Be Fire Safe” flyers at three locations in the District.

Tim Tschantz asked Tom to schedule another Prescribed Fire course. Tom responded that the live fire portion of the class offered this Spring will be conducted this fall. Tom will look to schedule another class for the upcoming Spring.

i. Prescribed Fire Burn Class – Tom Browning

Nothing to Report

B. Hydrant Committee Update – Tom Browning

Tom Browning announced that the property survey has been completed. The next step is to get a blueprint of what the tank will look, which will be presented to the United Methodist Church for approval. The church is supportive of the project, but Tom wants to ensure they get a visual of what to expect.

Tom Browning added that the new generator is installed at Station 3, and Birken from Empire Energy checked about getting our old generator installed at Station 1. This would allow us to power the pump at Station 1 during power outages. Bruce Boyd proposed the cost of installing a generator for the pump at Station 1 be included in the scope of the hydrant system.

8. NEXT MEETING: September 27, 2022, 7:00 PM.

9. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM.

Heidi Ryan

Heidi Ryan, Board Secretary