



Meeks Bay Fire Protection District

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Steve Leighton, FIRECHIEF

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
Edward I. Miller
Korie Kromydas
Louis Fielding
Bob Millslagle

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING Wednesday, June 28, 2023 ❖ 3:30 p.m.

Minutes

Directors Present: Director Fielding, Vice President Kromydas, President Miller, and Director Millslagle

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting of the Meeks Bay Fire Protection District Board of Directors for the month of June was called to order at 3:33 p.m. by President Miller.

2. **Additions to Agenda/Approval of Agenda**

There were no changes to the agenda. There was no public comment.

It was moved by Director Fielding, and seconded by Director Millslagle, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

3. **Approval of Past Minutes**

There were no additions or changes to the minutes from the May 17, 2023 meeting. There was no public comment.

It was moved by Director Millslagle and seconded by Director Fielding to approve the Board Minutes dated May 17, 2023, as submitted and posted. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

4. **Financial**

There was a discussion between board and staff.

It was moved by Director Fielding and seconded by Director Kromydas to accept the financial reports, items 4.A-E, as presented. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

5. **Public Input**

There was none.

6. **Business Requiring Action**

The Public Hearings opened at 3:40 p.m.

A. **Public Hearing: Resolution 2023-05 - Adoption of Appropriation Limitation for Fiscal Year 2023-2024**

The Board held a public hearing to adopt the appropriations limit. The Board reviewed the letter from El Dorado County Office of Auditor-Controller. Also reviewed was Resolution 2023-05 which allows the Board to adopt the appropriations limit.

There was a discussion between Board and staff. There was no public comment.

It was moved by Director Fielding and seconded by Director Millslagle to waive the reading and adopt Resolution 2023-05 setting the appropriations limit for fiscal year 2023-2024 at the sum of \$2,051,789. The motion was passed unanimously by roll call vote.

B. Public Hearing to Approve the Following: Fire Protection and Emergency Response Services Assessment Annual Report; Annual Update of the Budget for the Assessment; Annual Update of the Services to be Provided; Annual Update of Other Specifics of the Assessment; and Authorize the Continuation of the Fire Suppression Assessment

Director Eason presented this item. Resolution 2014-08 was adopted in October of 2014. With the adoption of the resolution, the assessment can be imposed and levied annually, after the Board of Directors approves an annual update to the Engineer's Report prepared by staff, budget for the assessment, services to be provided, and other specifics of the assessment. In addition, the Board must annually hold a public hearing to continue the assessment.

In order to conform with the requirements of the resolution and ensure the County can legally levy the assessment on property tax bills, the Board must hold a Public Hearing to review and approve the update of the Fire Protection and Emergency Response Services Assessment Annual Report; and authorize the continuation of the Assessment.

In December 2022, the CPI increased by 4.9%. The authorized maximum assessment to be levied in any fiscal year shall not exceed 4% per year, provided that any change in the CPI in excess of 4% shall be cumulatively reserved as the "Unused CPI" and shall be used to increase the maximum authorized assessment to be adjusted by 4% for the CPI increase in any year in which the CPI is less than 4%. There was a 0.2% "Unused CPI" last fiscal year (2022/2023) that will not be used in 2023/2024. This year the increase will be 4%, with an "Unused CPI" of 0.9%. The total "Unused CPI" is 1.1%.

There was discussion between Board and staff. There was no public comment.

It was moved by Director Fielding and seconded by Director Kromydas to accept Items C.1-5 to approve the Fire Protection and Emergency Response Services Assessment Annual Report for 2023; the annual update of the budget, with an increase 4% and an "Unused CPI" of 1.1% based on the December 2022 San Francisco Area CPI-U, for the assessment shown in the report; the annual update of the services to be provided shown in the report; the annual update of all other specifics of the assessment shown in the report; and authorize the continuation of the assessment. The motion was passed unanimously by roll call.

The Public Hearings closed at 3:46 p.m.

C. Resolution 2023-06 – Adoption of Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Director Eason presented this item. Each year the District must adopt a preliminary budget prior to the start of the new fiscal year on July 1st. A preliminary budget allows spending authority until it is trued up in September. We do not receive the revenue numbers from the County until September so we used a 5.0% estimate increase for Property Taxes and 4.0% increase of the Special Assessment but are unable to increase the Special Taxes.

Beginning in January 2024, an estimated salary increase for the NTFPD employees of 4.2% was used in the preliminary budget based on the April Consumer Price Index (CPI) – San Francisco/Oakland/San Jose-U (All Urban Consumers). The current MOU between NTPFA and NTFPD expires on December 31, 2023. Negotiations for the new contract will begin in fiscal year 2023-2024. Once completed, the contract with NTFPD will be updated according to the new MOU terms and reflected in the Meeks Bay final budget. The District's required CalPERS Unfunded

Accrued Liability (UAL) contributions decreased 5.2% or \$10,596 in 2023-2024.

The District included two capital projects in the budget for 2023-2024. Both were carried forward from fiscal year 2022-2023 due to supply chain issues that caused delays in completion. They are the Station 67 bathroom remodel and the Station 67 generator repair. The bathroom remodel was funded with ARPA funds from El Dorado County as well as a donation from the Meeks Bay Fire Ladies Auxiliary. The generator repair was an emergency repair approved by the board in 2022-2023 to be funded with reserve funds.

President Miller expressed his gratitude and appreciation to Director Eason for her hard work in creating the budget.

Chief Leighton commented that Director Eason not only does Meeks Bay Fire's budget but also North Tahoe Fire's as well. She is doing a fantastic job and her hard work and attention to detail do not go unnoticed.

There was discussion between Board and staff. There was no public comment.

It was moved by Director Kromydas and seconded by Director Millslagle to waive the reading and adopt Resolution 2023-06 approving the Preliminary Budget for General Fund for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 in the amount of \$2,231,404. The motion was passed unanimously by roll call.

D. [Resolution 2023-07 – Appreciation and Gratitude to the Meeks Bay Fire Ladies Auxiliary](#)

The Meeks Bay Ladies Auxiliary has been an integral part of the Meeks Bay Fire Protection District for decades spending countless hours on fundraising and generously donating those funds to help support the District to purchase much-needed equipment. Upon its dissolution, the Auxiliary has chosen to make its final donation of \$11,000 to be used toward improvements at Meeks Bay Fire Station 67. To reflect the Board's gratitude for the Meeks Bay Auxiliary to the district and the community, the Board is requested to adopt Resolution 2023-07.

Chief Leighton added that this topic will be added to the newsletter that POI Erin Holland is putting together.

There was discussion between Board and staff. There was no public comment.

It was moved by Director Millslagle and seconded by Director Fielding to waive the reading and adopt Resolution 2023-07 showing appreciation and gratitude for the Meeks Bay Fire Ladies Auxiliary. The motion was passed unanimously by roll call.

E. [Resolution 2023-08 to approve the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection – \(CAL FIRE\) Agreement #2CA0614 for Dispatch Services from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2026](#)

Chief Leighton presented this item to the Board. The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection - (CAL FIRE) provides emergency services and administrative support services. Said Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement expires on June 30, 2026. It is desired to continue to maintain a Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement with CAL FIRE as authorized by Government Code Section 20811 and Public Resources Code Section 4142 without any interruption of services.

There was discussion between Board and staff. There was no public comment.

It was moved by Director Fielding and seconded by Director Kromydas to adopt Resolution 2023-08 approving Agreement #2CA06314 and authorizing the Fire Chief to sign the Agreement. The motion was passed unanimously by roll call.

F. Future Planning with North Tahoe Fire Protection District

President Miller acknowledged the letters that the Directors sent to the El Dorado County staff expressing their desires regarding the annexation process. Chief Leighton then updated the Directors regarding the progress of the future planning with North Tahoe Fire and the LAFCO process. Before the June 1st meeting with the key players from El Dorado County and Placer County, Chief Leighton and Director Eason received Goodwin Consulting’s fiscal impact analysis from Placer LAFCO’s Michelle McIntyre. They quickly realized that the information in the analysis was not accurate and Chief Leighton had Michelle McIntyre send it back to Placer County’s newly appointed Chief Negotiator Greg Bills. Chief Leighton and Director Eason were able to meet with Greg Bills and Shawna Purvines prior to the June 1st meeting to discuss the issues that Director Eason had discovered in the fiscal impact analysis.

On June 1st, Chief Leighton, Chief Armstrong, Director Eason, North Tahoe Fire’s Board President Mike Baffone, and Union President Paul Moen attended a Zoom meeting with the CAO’s and staff from both El Dorado County and Placer County. The inaccuracies of the fiscal impact analysis were brought up at the meeting. The Placer County officials stated that Placer County is a zero-sum organization, which means they are not contributing anything financially to the process. El Dorado County’s interim CAO Tiffany Schmid and Deputy CAO Sue Hennike said that they need to bring the analysis report to their Board of Supervisors for direction.

On June 18th, Chief Leighton sent an email to Michelle McIntyre asking if she had any information regarding the updated version of the fiscal impact analysis and stated that it is both Fire District’s desire to keep this process moving in a positive direction. She responded back that she had not heard anything. On June 19th, they received an email from Placer County’s Chief Negotiator Greg Bills. In his email, he stated that he has provided Goodwin Consulting with North Tahoe Fire’s comments on the initial fiscal impact analysis and once El Dorado County’s Board of Supervisors makes their decision, Goodwin Consulting will update the fiscal impact analysis.

Chief Leighton discussed the letters that Board members sent to El Dorado County’s key players in the organization. He believes that is important to keep the pressure on with the Board’s desire for forward momentum regarding this process. It was decided that the Board will send their individual letters to each member of the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors.

This is information only. There was discussion between Board and staff. There was no public comment.

G. Next Board Meeting Dates

- July 19, 2023 – regular Board meeting
- August 16, 2023– regular Board meeting

This is information only. No Board Action is required. There was no public comment.

7. Chief’s Report

Chief Leighton updated the Board on activities since the last meeting. Items of particular interest include:

- Probationary Firefighter/Paramedic Dan Parker was introduced to the Board;
- There is no commercial rafting this summer in due to water levels;
- Burn Restrictions were set on June 26th;
- DL Bliss campgrounds are closed for the year;
- There was a discussion regarding the removal of dead trees on private lots.

8. **Information Items**

- The report from Sustainable Community Advocates was included in the Board Packet;
- President Miller was impressed with the new Chipper Day system through the Prevention office;
- President Miller updated the Board regarding the North Tahoe Community Alliance stating that they had their orientation for the Ambassadors that they are putting in high-volume areas such as trailheads. There was a discussion regarding support for public safety in the future from the North Tahoe Community Alliance.

9. **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Director Kromydas and seconded by Director Fielding to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Directors at 4:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa Daniels
Clerk of the Board

Staff Attendees:

Fire Chief Leighton
Division Chief Alan Whisler
Division Chief Brent Armstrong
Director of Finance and Administration Kim Eason
Battalion Chief Naman Beatie
Captain/Paramedic Clyde Rust
Firefighter/Paramedic Jarrett LaShure
Firefighter/Paramedic Dan Parker
Clerk of the Board Melissa Daniels

Additional Attendees:

None