

MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

September 19, 2023

0900 HOURS

HELD AT THE FIRE STATION

14380 SARATOGA AVENUE

The agenda for this meeting was posted in front of the Fire Station at 14380 Saratoga Avenue at 1400 hours on September 13, 2023, pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2 (more commonly known as the Brown Act).

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Kraule at 0904 hours. In attendance were Commissioner Zambetti, Deputy Chief Falarski, Amanda Brenner-Cannon from the FireSafe Council, Attorney Hynes, Dan and Amanda Miranda, and David and Rosemary Adamson. Commissioner Kao's absence was excused.

Item "New Business, 7.1" was moved to before "Reports" to facilitate participation by the public.

2. Approval of the minutes.

2.1 Approval of the minutes of the regular Board Meeting on August 15, 2023.

The minutes were approved as presented.

3. Communications:

3.1 Oral communications or public comment. None.

3.2 Correspondence.

3.2.1 Copy of the Response Reports for September 2023.

The Response Report was entered into the record.

3.2.2 Copy of the Deputy Fire Marshal's Report for September 2023.

The Deputy Fire Marshal's Report was entered into the record.

- 3.2.3 Copy of an email from Eva Miranda regarding speed bumps on Mendelsohn Lane. A packet of supporting documents is included. The topic is agendized under "New Business."

The email was entered into the record. The topic was discussed under "New Business."

- 3.2.4 Notice of observer opportunities for the November 7, 2023, Special Election from the Registrar of Voters.

The notice was read and entered into the record.

- 3.2.5 Copy of a newsletter from CSDA concerning Initiative #1935 and ACA 13.

The newsletter was entered into the record.

- 3.2.6 Copy of a proposed Saratoga Fire District Legislative Advocacy Policy. The policy is agendized under "New Business."

The proposed policy was entered into the record. I was discussed under "New Business."

- 3.2.7 Copy of an ATT notice of requested phone line disconnection order filled.

The notice was read and entered into the record.

- 3.2.8 Email from Dan Abbey concerning the District's insurance policy.

The email was read and entered into the record. It was added to "New Business, 7.6."

- 3.2.9 Email from Dede Smullen concerning the upcoming Firesafe Summit at the Mountain Winery on October 10th. The topic is agendized under "New Business."

The email was read and entered into the record. All three Commissioners will be attending.

- 3.2.10 Copy of a proposal from Streamline for a new website. The proposal is agendized under "New Business."

The proposal was read and entered into the record.

- 3.2.11 Emails requesting the presence of the Model AA engine for three different events. The topic is agendized under "New Business."

The email was read and entered into the record.

- 3.2.12 A copy of Resolution 2023-1, A Resolution Acknowledging the Receipt of the Annual Inspection Report. The resolution is agendized under “Old Business.”

The Resolution was read and entered into the record.

3.3 Additional Correspondence.

- 3.3.1 Email from Attorney Hynes regarding the presentation of correspondence on the agenda.

The email was read and entered into the record.

- 3.3.2 Email from Darin Mathews regarding hanging the Christmas lights. The price is the same as last year.

Due to time constraints, the work was approved by the Business Manager. The contract will be on the agenda to be approved by the Board.

4 Chief’s Reports:

- 4.1 Response Reports for September. (The Response Report describes the type and time of each response for the previous month.)

Chief Falarski presented the Response Report. Response times for R73 and E73 were 4 and 5.1 minutes respectively for urban calls. Response times for rural calls for R73 and E73 were 7.77 and 5.97 minutes respectively. There was a \$5,500.00 dollar loss during the month. The report was accepted as presented.

- 4.2 Deputy Fire Marshal’s Report for September. (The Deputy Fire Marshal’s Report describes any significant building projects in the previous month.)

The Deputy Fire Marshal’s Report was accepted as presented.

- 4.3 Other projects/reports.

Chief Falarski reported that he will be retiring on November 22, 2023. If his replacement has been appointed, he will bring them to the next board meeting. The report was accepted as presented.

5. **Reports:**

5.1 Commissioners Reports.

5.1.1 Report on the FireSafe Council.

Amanda Brenner-Cannon reported that over 100 people had attended the final CWPP meeting in Los Gatos. The fall chipping program has begun, and 30 people/homes have registered to participate. She also announced that the FireSafe Council will be receiving funds from the County for their work. The report was accepted as presented.

5.1.2 Report on the Santa Clara County Special Districts Association.

Commissioner Zambetti reported that he had attended the meeting. The report was accepted as presented.

5.1.3 Other Commissioner Reports. None.

5.2 Financial reports.

5.2.2 Financial Report for September 2023.

The report was accepted as presented.

5.3 Other Reports.

5.3.1 Report on EWAS phone status.

The Business Manager reported that one of the main EWAS lines has been removed. A couple of calls were received with beeping panel problems. It is unknown whether there would have been a response if an alarm had come into the old receiver. The report was accepted as presented.

6. **Old Business:**

6.1 Discuss and consider Resolution 2023-1, a resolution acknowledging receipt of the Annual Inspection Report.

After discussion, the resolution was passed.

7. **New Business:**

7.1 Discuss and consider speed bumps on Mendelsohn Lane.

After the information was presented, the Board was surprised that Fire has not been being consulted on speed reduction measures in the WUI. Chief Falarski commented that was involved in similar situations in Los Gatos and Los Altos Hills. A letter will be written to the Mayor and the City Council requesting that Fire be included in decisions that may affect emergency response or evacuation in the WUI.

7.2 Discuss and consider further action regarding the LAFCO Fire Services Review.

Since a response to the first letter has not been received, the Board instructed the attorney to write another letter.

7.3 Discuss and consider adopting a District Legislative Advocacy Policy.

After discussion, the Board decided to adopt a District Legislative Advocacy Policy. The Policy will be posted on the website.

7.4 Discuss and consider the FireSafe Council Summit at the Mountain Winery on October 10, 2021.

All three Commissioners will be able to attend. It is unlikely that the Model AA will be able to be displayed.

7.5 Discuss and consider requests for Model AA engine. Discuss and consider establishing a process for handling future requests.

Chief Falarski stated that future requests should be forwarded to Tony Rainieri.

8. **Board Signatures:**

9. **Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 1123 hours. The minutes were transcribed and typed by Trina Whitley.