

MINUTES

**BURNEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MAY 14, 2008
3:00 PM Regular Meeting**

OPEN SESSION

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 3:00 p.m. by Board Chair Moore.

FLAG SALUTE - Board Chair Moore.

ROLL CALL

Bob Moore
Boyd Taylor
Roger Valinoti
Donna Caldwell
Lynn Miller

AGENDA APPROVAL

On motion by Caldwell, and second by Valinoti, the **Agenda was approved by the following vote:**

Ayes: Moore, Taylor, Valinoti, Caldwell, Miller
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board Chair Moore introduced BFPD's new Fire Chief, Ray Barber.

PRESENTATIONS

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance – Board Member Miller said that the Finance Committee had met and worked out the new 2008-09 FY Draft Budget. Chief Barber will be presenting the Budget under Discussion / Action Items.

Strategic Plan Committee - None.

Fire Station Relocation Committee - None.

Legislative Committee – Board Member Caldwell said that Assemblyman LaMalfa is working to get some counties exempt from the proposed Medi-Cal cuts. Also, a number of entities have filed lawsuits in opposition of the Medi-Cal cuts.

Rules and Regs - None.

PUBLIC FORUM

Elizabeth Luck presented BFPD with a scrapbook that her late husband, Steve Luck had kept regarding fire department related articles and pictures. She requested that the book remain at the fire department.

PUBLIC FORUM RESPONSE

The Board and Fire Chief thanked Elizabeth Luck for this thoughtful contribution.

1. CONSENT CALENDAR

Items are expected to be routine and non-controversial. They will be acted upon by the Board at one time, using one motion, without discussion. Any Commissioner, staff member, or interested person or party may request that an item be removed from the consent calendar for later discussion.

- a. Approval for payment of bills as submitted: April 15, Batch 3; April 21, Batch 4; and May 9, 2008, Batch 1.
- b. Approval of the Minutes from Regular Meeting, April 9; and Special Meeting, April 30, 2008.
- c. Monthly financial reports March and April 2008.
- d. Ambulance accounts receivable report March 2008.

On motion by Miller and second by Taylor, the **Consent Calendar Items were approved by the following vote:**

Ayes: Moore, Taylor, Valinoti, Caldwell, Miller
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

2. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR

Item 1d - Ambulance accounts receivable report April 2008. This was not received in time for today's meeting.

3. PUBLIC HEARING – 1st Reading

Public Hearing for Ambulance Ordinance Fee Adoption – BFPD 2008-01.

Notice of a Public Hearing pertaining to adoption of a new Schedule of Fees for Ambulance Services Ordinance NO. BFPD 2008-01, was published for two weeks in advance of the May 14, 2008 Board meeting. The notice was published in the Mountain Echo, and the Intermountain News, as well as posted at the Burney Fire Protection District office according to provisions of Section 6066 of the Government Code of the State of California. This was the first reading of the Ordinance BFPD 2008-01. If approved, the second reading will be scheduled for a Special Meeting at the end of May 2008, and implemented 30 days later in July 2008.

Board Chair Moore opened the Public Hearing at 3:12 p.m. Chair Moore read a portion of the Ordinance and asked if there was any public testimony.

Dan Warren said that he was in favor of the new Ambulance Fee schedule. He inquired as to whether it was possible to link the fees to the Cost of Living index. Chair Moore responded by saying yes, this type of formula was built into the schedule.

The Board would like to have the following wording (taken in part from the User Fee Study) put into the Ordinance: "The fee schedule will allow the Board, either by ordinance or resolution, to annually increase or decrease the fees based upon published information such as the *Employee Cost Index for State and Local Government Employees, Total Compensation* as released by the United States Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics."

The Public Hearing was closed at 3:16 p.m.

On motion by Valinoti and second by Taylor, the **Introduction of the Schedule of Fees for Ambulance Rate Services, Ordinance NO. BFPD 2008-01, and waive full reading, was approved by the following vote:**

Ayes: Moore, Taylor, Valinoti, Caldwell, Miller
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

A Public Hearing to conduct the 2nd Reading of BFPD Ordinance 2008-01 is scheduled for Thursday, May 29, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.

4. DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

- a. **Ambulance Fee Study.** This item was addressed in the Public Hearing. There was no further discussion.
- b. **CFD / Mello Roos.** Board Member Miller spoke to BFPD's attorney, Jack Reese about the possibility of placing a moratorium on the CFD. Mr. Reese said that it is appropriate for the Board to implement a moratorium on the CFD while they explore other revenue funding options for the District. Mr. Reese said that the moratorium must be for a specific amount of time and must be done by a Resolution. Mr. Reese spoke to County Counsel, Mike Ralston, who said he did not see any problem with a moratorium. The moratorium can be enacted and changed by the governing board via Resolution. It can be put into place or cancelled at anytime. The Board discussed the pros and cons of the CFD at great length. Members agreed that a one-year moratorium would be best.

On motion by Caldwell and second by Taylor, the **Board authorizes staff and legal counsel to develop a Resolution to place a retroactive moratorium on the BFPD CFD for a one-year time period, with an annual review, approved by the following vote:**

Ayes: Moore, Taylor, Valinoti, Caldwell, Miller
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

- c. **Advanced Beneficiary Notice Form (ABN).** Chief Barber reviewed the new form. He said it helps to recover the ambulance costs that Medicare will not cover. The patient has the option to have the services provided, and agrees to pay for these out-of-pocket expenses.

On motion by Caldwell and second by Valinoti, the **Advanced Beneficiary Form is accepted by the following vote:**

Ayes: Moore, Taylor, Valinoti, Caldwell, Miller
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

- d. **2006 International Fire Code / 2007 California Fire Code / Sprinkler Ordinance.** Chief Barber said that the State of California has adopted the 2006 International Fire Codes, and created the 2007 California Fire Codes. Typically in the past, BFPD has adopted the use of California Codes with some minor changes. A countywide sprinkler ordinance is also being brought forward as an amendment to the 2007 California Fire Codes. Chief Barber will be presenting the Fire Codes for adoption consideration at a later meeting, but is requesting that the Board support the efforts for the countywide sprinkler ordinance.

On motion by Miller and second by Caldwell, the **Board supports the countywide sprinkler ordinance by the following vote:**

Ayes: Moore, Taylor, Valinoti, Caldwell, Miller
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

- e. **Proposed 2008-09 Fiscal Year Budget Draft.** Chief Barber presented the initial draft budget and reviewed the various accounts. He said that due to the County changing systems last year (after our budget was done), it would be difficult to compare accounts as numbers and categories had changed and some had been combined. This year's budget is a balanced budget.

On motion by Caldwell and second by Valinoti, the **Board accepts the proposed 2008-09 Fiscal Year Budget Draft and sets a Public Hearing for final budget adoption for the June 18, 2008 Regular Board Meeting by the following vote:**

Ayes: Moore, Taylor, Valinoti, Caldwell, Miller
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Public Hearing for 2008-09 FY Budget Adoption.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

- Chief Barber attended the most recent Fire Chief's meeting in Happy Valley. He will be attending the Volunteer Chief's meeting in Oak Run.
- The Ambulance Fee Study is finished.
- Other fire departments are discussing the countywide sprinkler ordinance.
- Chief Barber has been attending community meetings such as Rotary, and Chamber.
- The Budget draft for FY 2008-09 has been completed.
- Chief Barber has conducted a facility walk-thru.
- There is a cleanup / work party set for Saturday, May 17th at Station 18.
- Chief has reviewed and revised the Apparatus Inspection A.I. This A.I. will be distributed in the next week to the Board.
- Every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 1-2 p.m., paid employees will have their own specific training time.
- Chief Barber is working on Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG). He is making them specific to our operations here in the intermountain area and will ultimately create a "Field Operation Guide" for the crews to carry with them.
- Chief Barber has created a firefighter recruitment ad to run on Channel 6, and at the Burney Theater. He is looking into getting a sign to post out front also.
- The job announcement for the Seasonal Firefighter has been distributed.
- BFPD will host an Advanced Auto Extrication class in the fall.
- Chief Barber has donated a new desktop computer to Station 18.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Due to conflicting schedules, the Board will reschedule the June 11th regular meeting to the following Wednesday, June 18, 2008 at 3:00 p.m.

In July or August, Board Member Miller would like to have the User Fees reviewed (plan checks, etc.).

Board Member Caldwell spoke to Glenn Hawes regarding the windmill project. Mr. Hawes suggested BFPD request support funds from the company proposing the project. Chief Barber will send a letter to the windmill company requesting that they make a donation to BFPD since we will be the first responders to the project. These funds could be used for rescue training and education.

Chair Moore said that the application deadline for the Rotary scholarship money was approaching and that it was important to have the applications in on time.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Moore adjourned the meeting at 4:55 p.m.

Board President

District Secretary, Cindy Cooley

Date: May 14, 2008