

SOUTHERN INYO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Wednesday, September 16, 2020

The Governing Board of the Southern Inyo Fire Protection District held a regular (teleconference) business meeting on Wednesday, September 16, 2020 at 6pm via Zoom.

I. Call to order and determination of quorum:

Jon Zellhoefer, Chair
VACANT, Vice-Chair
Ed Thomas, Treasurer
Paul Carter, Secretary
Gary Barkley, Director

Present: Chair Zellhoefer, Secretary Carter, Director Barkley, Treasurer Thomas, Fire Chief Macbrohn, Admin Hyde.
Visitors: Tyler Carter, Christy Horne, Larry Levy, Billy Eichenbaum, Robin Flinchum, Lara Murray.

Chair Zellhoefer called the meeting to order at 6:00p, roll call, and established a quorum.

II. Approval of Minutes:

Reminder, minutes are to be distributed 72hrs before meeting.

- **August 19, 2020:** Minutes were not ready for approval. Will be available for next meeting.

III. Public Comment:

- Robin Flinchum (RF): Will be pleased to see Christy Horne should be joining the board. R.F. reiterates her availability in the fall if needed as a board member. R.F. wants to participate in fundraising discussions.

- Billy Eichenbaum: Concerned with possible Resolutions 2020-09-16 A&B inhibiting residents from building.

IV. Board, Officer and Committee Reports

- Board Chair Report: Jon reminder that the board is here to have oversight of the Fire District and to ensure board members are doing their jobs. Noticing high expenditures compared to past histories – renting oxygen cylinders vs. purchased + higher utility costs (AT&T & SCE power bill for water kiosk is ~4x larger then this period last year). Board has an obligation to the tax payers, and to ask questions when signing warrants and to be attentive.

- Treasury Report: Technical difficulties with zoom and hearing the conversation. Unable to provide report.

- Fire Chief's Report: 7/19/20 calls to date – 10 calls total: 1x structure fire, 3x motorcycle accidents (1x cancelled, 1x mutual aid (MA), 1 fire rollover with a fatality), 6x medical calls (1x MA). ICEMA ambulance inspection (all 3x passed, commended Angie for prepping them). Put a temporary fence around the septic system and water outlet and connex buildings to put out of use vehicles and things. Took pictures of the roof to get help. Vent cut into the water kiosk to help mitigate airflow/SCE costs. Has been in contact with Airgas.

- Equipment/Fleet status report: Danny -- everything is doing well except the ASC on the ambulance. Danny, getting titles taken care of. There is an ambulance in Charleston View. SAT PHONE: One in service in the office for runs, the other with Larry for re-programming. Larry, the 2nd will be back w/in the week.

- Committee Reports: Jon states mostly on Ed as they regard financing. (Ed's reception in/out throughout meeting)

- Fundraising: Jon mentions, Inyo county + Covid, unable to do gatherings at this time. Robin Flinchum, don't think we can legally do it, and will not physically be participating during Covid. Mentions virtual options and ideas, and reiterates a need for a Committee with board member participation and meet (by Zoom).

V. Old Business

- Board Vacancy: RE: Christy Horne. Technical Zoom difficulties caused delay in communicating w/ attempts throughout the meeting and is eventually able to join discussion. Christy talks about her qualifications: 1yr running Amargosa Valley board as Secretary, specialty is in Accounting and Financing and Budget tracking and a lot of experience in grant writing and fundraising. Motion to vote Christy onto the Board: Paul, 2nd by Ed. **VOTE: 3-0-0. (Jon, Paul, Gary). AYE.** Discussion: Larry, can Christy acknowledge her Oath of Office so she can immediately have her vote count? Jon, Christy's vote will be shown in "brackets" for now until her oath is

- fulfilled. Resolution 2020-09-16-C: California Website Compliance: Conversation – Jon recommends postponing further discussion, Paul to have Tyler create a proposal for the next meeting.
- Resolutions 2020-09-16 A & B: Fire Mitigation Fees. Conversation – tabled from last meeting. Larry, helped inform the board and public about this resolution. Jon, recommends adding to October's meeting and that he will also review the pertinent information and provide a report. Larry, a one time fee with the building permit. It's up to the supervisors, Schedule is set in County Code, \$2/sq ft of anything w/ a roof on it up to 3-4 floors and \$3/sq ft anything above. Jon, how does this compare to Measure J. Further discussion tabled for next meeting.
 - Water Kiosk: Jon asks who is giving this report. Danny, believes it's not the Fire Chief's job to report. Larry gives a breakdown of the bulleted items: Inyo County Health Dept. Inv \$683, Sarah wrote a letter to Matt Kingley to request a fee waiver; update the board on Testing Schedule & Costs; SCE bills for electrical use post AC replacement.
 - Policy Review: Jon notes that it requires 4/5ths vote. Policy 3080: Discussion, Jon states that the board cannot pre-approve expenditures. Christy, "with Amargosa Valley board, they passed a resolution that stated that recurring bills could automatically be submitted and must still be reflected for meetings." Jon, "Can still sign electronically." Let's make logical easy to understand policy updates.

VI. New Business:

- Ethics Training: All board members need to do before the next meeting. It's mandatory and no members have completion certificates as of this moment.
- Public location for future board meetings: Agreed that in person meetings will be ideal.
- Wells Fargo Account: Currently Wells Fargo checks can only be signed by the Board Chair for a max of \$7,500. Motion to add Board Secretary and Board Treasurer positions to the account. Motion by Paul. 2nd by Gary.
VOTE: 3 [1] – 0 – 0. (Paul, Gary, Jon [Christy]). **PASS.**
- Meet & Greet w/ County Officials: Always welcome, aim to invite for the Oct. 21st meeting.
- Admin Permission to work remotely: Since the Board Secretary is the District Admin's "boss" this can be done with proper supervision.

VII. For the Good of the Order/Public Comment:

- Payroll/Overtime Reminder: The Fire Chief cannot issue overtime without prior board authorization. Projects or hours allocated must be submitted to the board and approved in advance.
- Billy: Supports the fire board and hopes that the board considers the resolution carefully. He shared examples of how the fire mitigation fees may impact residents upgrading their homes from small to larger mobile homes.

VIII. Suggested Items for Next Meeting:

- Discuss requesting \$1500/monthly costs for Water Kiosk operations. (suggested by Jon).
- Review of SIFPD employees, as noted by confusion on Payroll (suggested by Jon).

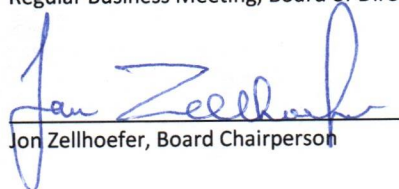
VIII. Adjournment to continue with Agenda topics at the next Regular Board Meeting, Wednesday, October 21, 2020, 6PM, tentatively outside at St. Teresa Mission or w/ proper social distancing measures. Motion to adjourn: Jon. 2nd: Gary. Meeting adjourned 7:30 PM.

Prepared by:



Sarah Paz Hyde, District Administrator/Secretary

I, Jon Zellhoefer, Chair, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Meeting Minutes of the September 16, 2020 Regular Business Meeting, Board of Directors, Southern Inyo Fire Protection District.



Jon Zellhoefer, Board Chairperson



Paul Carter, Board Secretary