

**SOUTHERN INYO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2012 6PM**

The Governing Board held a regular meeting of the Southern Inyo Fire Protection District on Thursday, March 22, 2012, at the Hurlbutt Rook Community Center, Tecopa Hot Springs Road.

Present: Chairwoman, Robin Flinchum, Vice Chairwoman Amy Noel, Marie Sanborn,
Rich Regnell

Staff: Larry Levy, Carl Dennett

Absent: Joseph Marks, Treasurer

Visitors: Sam Fann, Billy Eichenbaum, Jim Ramm, Jan Ledbetter, Brad Goans

I. Call to order and determination of quorum

- **Robin Flinchum, Chairperson**
- **Amy Noel, Vice Chairperson**
- **Joseph Marks, Treasurer**
- **Marie Sanborn**
- **Rich Regnell**

Chair Flinchum called the meeting to order at 6pm, called roll and established a quorum.

II. New Board Orientation.

A. Swearing In

Chair Flinchum swore in new Board members Rich Regnell and Marie Sanborn

B. Paperwork (Signatures, SAFER grant, etc.)

Billy Eichenbaum explained the SAFER grant opportunities for Board Members

6:17 Joseph Marks entered the meeting.

C. Board Responsibilities/Brown Act

Chair Flinchum briefly reviewed Big Book, Brown Act reading, the online Ethics Course requirement and general Board responsibilities.

D. Election of District Secretary

Member Noel nominated Rich Regnell to be Secretary and volunteered to continue making meeting minutes. Member Marks 2nd There was some discussion. Vote taken and passed 5,0,0

III. Confirmation of agenda / Reading of Minutes

- Approved minutes from the January 17, 2012 Regular Business Meeting—*Motion*

Chair Flinchum moved to accept the approved January minutes Member Marks 2nd, vote taken and passed 5,0,0

- Unapproved minutes from the February 22, 2012 Regular Business Meeting—*Motion*

Chair Flinchum moved to approve the minutes of the unapproved minutes from the February meeting with corrections. Member Regnell 2nd, vote taken and passed 5,0,0.

IV. Public Comment

Any person may address the District Board on any subject pertaining to District business, which is not listed on the agenda. This comment period is provided by the Ralph M. Brown Open Meeting Act (Government Code § 54950 et seq.)

There was no public comment.

V. Correspondence for possible Board action and/or review

Chair Flinchum shared a draft letter to Bill Christian of the Nature Conservancy regarding the impact of Amargosa and Nature Conservancy effects of land acquisition to the District. There was discussion and the board approved.

VI. Consent Calendar

Consent calendar items are considered routine and are acted upon by the Board with a single action. Members of the audience wishing to provide public input may request that the Board remove the item from the Consent Calendar.

VII. Board, Officer, and Committee Reports:

A. Board Member Reports

1. Chairperson's Report
Nothing new to report.

2. Treasury Report—*Motion Required*

- a. Transaction Report—*Motion Required*

Treasurer Marks reported he is starting to work on next year's budget. Chair Flinchum moved to accept the Treasury report, Member Noel 2nd there was dicussion, vote taken and passed 5,0,0.

Chair Flinchum moved to accept the transaction report Member Regnell 2nd, vote taken and passed 5,0,0.

B. Fire Chief's Report

Chief Levy reported worked 20 hours this week, repaired the turbo charge on the ambulance, but it still has a running problem. Chief Levy borrowed some diagnostic equipment to help figure it out. Since ICEMA is due to inspect our ambulance, Chief Levy and Admin Dennett made an agreement to borrow an ambulance from Lone Pine for up to 6 weeks. Sierra 13 (?) ambulance had the wrong oil filter in it, basically not filtering the oil. Chief Levy has assembled service records, and ordered a fuel injector and gaskets. Command vehicle may have fuel leaks.

Fire academy students progressing, mid-terms this coming weekend and will be retesting for HAZMAT cert. Working on SCBA's (Spell out—what is this?) fit tests and practice. Still working on Bright Source wish list.

C. Chief Administrator's Report

Admin Dennett reported 5 calls this month. He reported on the Bright Source project at the recent County Supervisor's meeting. Steven Scow, attorney for the Wiley estate, offered 2 1/2 acres to SIFPD to house a fire station in Charleston View with a choice of lots. Mr. Scow followed up with a letter to SIFPD which Admin Dennett shared. This offer is contingent on Bright Source being licensed to proceed with their project. Chief Levy will review and pick out the lot we want.

A 3-bay metal building in Coso Junction is available to us as a donation. Admin Dennett is working with Supervisor Marty Fortney and county road works to obtain building plans and secure transportation from Coso to our site.

It was a heavy billing month. Sheldon Fire was in town re-certing fire extinguishers. SAFER grants submitted, no word yet, likely June. Investigating new grant opportunities.

Pahrump Fire Board has officially accepted and recorded our mutual aid agreement.

D. Committee Reports

1. Property Tax

Member Marks reported that he just got the info to begin this project and he'll meet with Chief Levy to make a plan of action.

2. Budget

Chief Levy suggested we ask the County Supervisors to waive their parcel tax collection fee of \$5 per acres. They did that at the foundation of the District. 4,000 acres have been taken off our measure J assessment rolls due to acquisitions by Nature and Amargosa Conservancy. Chief Levy is going to look for documentation from previous waiving of this fee.

Chair Flinchum moved that we pursue asking Supervisors to waive this fee. Member Regnell 2nd there was further discussion vote taken and passed 5,0,0.

3. Fundraising

Admin Dennett presented possibility for funding a green house and proceeds able to help fund the Fire District, and plans for doing EMT training locally. SIFPD will have a booth at the Music Festival. Member. Regnell proposed a Dinner fund raiser at the Opera House as our tourist season slows. All ideas enthusiastically received.

4. Development Committee

Still working on concerns regarding Bright Source and the actual transportation routes used to access the site along 127 and Old Spanish Trail and the road conditions. We'll ask Bright Source to include staffing EMT's in Charleston View.

There was also discussion on Payment In Lieu of Taxes from federal government to Inyo county. Member Regnell reported there was \$1.2 million to Inyo County last year.

5. Ad Hoc

None.

Chair Flinchum called a break at 8:10pm

8:20 Chair Flinchum called the meeting back to order.

VIII. Old Business

A. Approve policy change regarding District's Regular Business meeting time and place

Amendment of Article 2 sec 2.2 meeting of our by-laws are required to change the meeting time and place. This meeting and agenda serve as written notice of this change.

B. Discuss and consider options for District Board Member training

Brad Goans presented a history of past board training and offered to pay CSDA membership for the District.

Chair Flinchum moved to authorize Brad Goans to move forward investigating bringing Board training here to Tecopa with Member Regnell as liason. Member Marks 2nd. There was further discussion, vote taken and passed 5,0,0.

C. Discuss Conflict of Interest code

700 disclosure forms and ethics training need to be completed by new board

members

- D. Discuss possible strategies for retrieving donated steel building from up north
Discussed under Fire Chiefs report.
- E. Preliminary budget review for 2012-2013
Already discussed under Treasures report.

IX. New Business

- A. Discuss and consider action on donation to the District of land parcel in
Charleston View
Discussed under Admin report
- B. Pros & Cons of upgrading District service to Intermediate Life Support
Insurance goes up \$240 / EMT per year, \$1,500 - \$2,000/ ambulance to
bring up to standard. Training offered in Lone Pine 1 day 2 times per
month for 4 months (no charge). Desert View has already agreed to
provide clinical training experience. Baker has offered ride along
experience.

Chair Flinchum moved that we send EMTs Eichenbaum and Dennett to
Lone Pine for EMT Intermediate training at a cost of up to \$1,200 for
travel expenses. Member Marks 2nd. There was discussion, vote taken
and passed 5,0,0.

- C. Ambulance service provider agreement; approve/sign
Chair Flinchum signed the agreement with the county.

X. Evaluate Distribution of Work Load

All's well

XI. Good of the Order

It was good and people feel like we're finally moving forward.

XII. Suggested Agenda Items for the next meeting.

Update on Board Training

XII. Adjournment to the next Regular board meeting on Thursday, April 19, 2012 at 6:00 P.M. at the Tecopa Community Center.

Chair Flinchum moved to adjourn, Member Marks 2nd, vote taken 5,0,0
Chair Flinchum adjourned the meeting at 9:34pm.

Prepared by Amy Noel

I, Robin Flinchum, Chair and Rich Regnell, Secretary hereby certify that the foregoing is

a true and correct copy of the Regular Board Minutes of the March 22, 2012 Regular meeting of the Southern Inyo Fire Protection District.



Robin Flinchum, Chairman



Rich Regnell, Secretary