

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE TWENTYNINE PALMS WATER DISTRICT
72401 HATCH ROAD, TWENTYNINE PALMS, CA 92277**

AUGUST 26, 2015

FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

Call to Order and Roll Call

Vice President Chambers called the meeting to order at 6:29 p.m., 72401 Hatch Road, Twentynine Palms, California. Those responding to roll call were Directors Chancey Chambers, Carol Giannini, Suzi Horn, and Roger Shinaver. Director Sam Moore was absent. Also present were Fire Chief Jim Thompson, Financial Consultant Cindy Byerrum, and District Secretary Cindy Fowlkes.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

None

Public Comments

Ed Vallerand, of Twentynine Palms, spoke to a non-agenda item asking how many firemen are EMTs or Paramedics and questioned the Lew Edward's phone survey.

1. Closed Session – Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Paragraph (2) of Subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9

Director Shinaver moved to enter closed session at 6:31 p.m., seconded by Director Horn and unanimously approved.

The Board returned to open session at 6:52 p.m. Director Chambers announced there was no reportable action.

2. Consideration of Resolution 15-14 a Resolution of Application by the Board of Directors of the Twentynine Palms Water District, as the Governing Body of the Twentynine Palms Fire Department, Requesting the Local Agency Formation Commission to Take Proceedings for a Sphere of Influence Amendment and Reorganization of the Twentynine Palms Fire Department and San Bernardino County Fire Protection District

Chief Thompson informed the Board that the document before them is the official initiation of the LAFCO application and stressed the importance of meeting the end of September deadline. The cost for the application is approximately \$69,000. The Fire Department is requesting a fee reduction for the filing of the application. As part of the application process, the County Board of Supervisors must also pass a resolution in favor of the LAFCO proceedings before the September deadline. Staff recommends approving the resolution and authorizing the Board President to sign all necessary documents.

Ed Vallerand, of Twentynine Palms, spoke in favor of keeping local control of the Fire Department.

Director Horn made a motion to adopt Resolution 15-14 a resolution of application by the Board of Directors of the Twentynine Palms Water District, as the governing body

of the Twentynine Palms Fire Department, requesting the Local Agency Formation Commission to take proceedings for a sphere of influence amendment and reorganization of the Twentynine Palms Fire Department and San Bernardino County Fire Protection District and authorizing the Board President to sign all necessary documents, seconded by Director Shinaver and approved by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Directors Chambers, Horn, and Shinaver
Noes: Director Giannini
Abstain: None
Absent: Director Moore

3. Consent Calendar

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on July 22, 2015 and Minutes of a Special Meeting held on August 5, 2015
- Audit List

Director Shinaver moved to approve the Consent Calendar, seconded by Director Horn and approved unanimously.

4. Items Removed From the Consent Calendar for Discussion or Separate Action
None

5. Department Reports

5.1 Finance

Ms. Byerrum reported that the year ended better than projected due to lower salary expenses as a result of workman's compensation claims, labor management, and deferred capital improvements and funding. LAFCO application costs and legal expenses are being tracked separately. The use of tower revenue for LAFCO expenses will be brought back to the Board next month for consideration.

5.2 Fire Chief's Report

Chief Thompson reported the Department responded to 200 calls for assistance during July. There were three significant alarms reported for the month. County Fire was commended for their assistance during the recent flood. The Fire Department is looking into the Historical Society's taking possession of the vintage fire truck. No public tax dollars were used in the requisition of the vehicle as it was acquired through donations. The Fire Explorer program has seen a steady decline in participation with only three members. October 17th is the Annual Pancake Breakfast. The money is being considered for restoration of the vintage fire truck.

Fire Chief John Chamberlin of San Bernardino County spoke to the possibility of the county assisting in the restoration of the fire truck for the community and the continuation of the Fire Explorer program.

Jim Brakebill, of Twentynine Palms, spoke to the decline in Fire Explorers and the cooperative work/education program that was cancelled by the college.

Six paid call firefighters participated in the month of July.

6. Future Agenda Items and Staff Tasks/Directors' Comments and Reports
Director Chambers voiced concerns regarding the aging sound system in the Board room and the need for newer technology.
7. Adjournment
On motion by Director Shinaver seconded by Director Horn and approved by the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.



Chancey Chambers, Vice President
Board of Directors

Attest:



Ray Kolisz, Board Secretary
Twentynine Palms Water District

APPROVED SEP 23 2015