

**Ross Valley Fire Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday, November 14, 2012**  
**Ross Valley Fire Station 19**  
**777 San Anselmo Ave.**  
**San Anselmo, CA**

**Board Members present:** Reed, Weinsoff, Shortall, Berto, Kroot, Small, McInerney;  
Hoertkorn arrived at 6:50pm

**Staff Present:** Stutsman, Meagor, McCarthy, Hanson, Stasiowski, Lewis

Call to order – 6:35pm

**Open time for public** – Member Reed asked about obtaining another grant for the Town of Fairfax. Chief Meagor responded that this item should be discussed at Fairfax and to provide the staff assistance for the grant. Member Reed asked about interest from the other agencies. Member Shortall expressed interest in working with Fairfax if they do receive the grant. They will discuss and coordinate times. The Town of Fairfax had staff that applied for the grant and activities. Chief Meagor also responded that the department would look into the possibility of a jurisdiction wide grant. Member Small announced that Measure D passed with 72%.

1. **Board requests/staff miscellaneous items:** No requests from the board or staff items at this time.
2. **Consent Agenda:** M/S Weinsoff/Kroot all ayes.
3. **Monthly call report and out of jurisdiction report:** Nothing out of the ordinary to report.
4. **Financial Report:** Revenue trends are continuing to exceed expectations. The numbers are up from prior years. Overtime is above where it should be this time of year, however, it is leveling off currently. Chief Meagor explained that the department has received all invoices for the out of county responses and they have been sent back to the state for reimbursement.
5. **Report on the Pension Reform Act Legislation recently enacted by the California Legislature:** Chief Meagor presented the staff report and explained the background of the Pension reform plan of Governor Brown. The provisions and how the Act will affect the Department are listed in the staff report. Member Small asked what is the contribution the employer makes now. The current rate 22.744%. Only a portion of that is the “normal cost”. The normal cost is a portion of the employer contribution plus the employee contribution, which makes 50% (of the normal cost) close to the 12% for safety. New members would be

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paying 50% of the normal cost per the reform act. Member McInerney asked about the benefit level amounts and if they apply to only new members. Chief Meagor responded yes, and explained the new formula that would be 2.7 @ age 67. Discussion about what would impact the new formula and that it would "impair" the current MOU until it expired. He then asked about what it means that the discussion would be held at the collective bargaining unit? Member Shortall said that the provisions are still being interpreted. Member Small remarked that Ross wasn't able to do this with the Safety group, as the MOU doesn't expire until 2013 and they have set up second a tier for Miscellaneous and plan to set up for Safety as well. Chief Meagor responded that the change for Miscellaneous is a very large change from what is currently available. For Safety, a 2.7@57 tier has lowered the benefit levels to pre-1982 levels for RVFD and is a significant difference in current benefits. Chief Meagor gave a background on the retirement system and how they came about in San Anselmo and Fairfax.

Member Shortall spoke on his experience as a firefighter, this legislation has a purpose but shouldn't be an assumption that the employee will be motivated to work longer.

Member Small remarked that the check that is deposited is the largest that the town pays out. Chief Meagor responded that RVFD is a cost effective organization per employee costs and that Ross' costs for labor have reduced since the merger.

The three-year final compensation change is to help to eliminate final year spiking in other organizations.


By the end of November the Department we will receive the current valuation reports for our current plans.

Board appreciated the staff report and thanked Chief Meagor for the information.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

Adjourned to closed session.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

  
JoAnne Lewis  
Administrative Assistant