

ROSS VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Minutes of the Ross Valley Fire Board Meeting of July 13, 2022

Note: These are summary action minutes only. The zoom recording can be accessed by clicking [here](#)

1. 6:31 pm Call to order.

Board Present: Hellman, Kuhl, Shortall, Finn, Goddard, Burdo, Greene, Brekhus

Board absent:

Staff present: Weber, Yeager, Martinelli, Zuba

Town Managers Present: Donery, Johnson

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2. Announce action in closed session, if any.

Beach Kuhl announced the board accomplished reaching agreement with various fire unions.

3. **Open time for Public Expression: The public is welcome to address the Board on matters not on the agenda. Please be advised that pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2, the Board is not permitted to take action on any matter not on the agenda unless it determines that an emergency exists and that the need to take action arose following the posting of the agenda.**

None.

4. **Board requests for future agenda items, questions, and comments to Staff, staff miscellaneous items.**

Director Goddard requests Chief Weber to provide a brief summary of where our firefighters are deployed.

No public comment concerning this item.

5. **Chief Report – Verbal Update by Chief Weber**

- Ready & Resilient Program Friday in Fairfax
- Ross evacuation drill July 30
- Sidewalk CPR and Stop the Bleed Saturday August 13th

All events listed about will be communicated to the Town Managers, Council and Fire Board Members.

MWPA Ross Valley Hill Break has gone through its environmental review. The project will resume after bird nesting season.

Local & CORE Projects:

Mechanical removal will kick off after August due to environmental restraints.

Defensible Space Inspectors completed over 7,000 inspections this season.

Welcome Monique.

Deployment:

There are Several deployments out of the county. Marin County contracts out with Cal Fire. Marin County participates in the mutual aid system. Ross Valley is not currently deployed. The county backfills behind those that are gone to ensure suitable resources are present to support any fires in the community.

Ross Valley Fire has a Type 3 Wildfire Engine and the OES Assigned Engine. The OES is owned by the state of California and staffed by RVFD. All are reimbursed by the state to the agency. Because of this financial setup there is no loss of revenue to the agency. Thank you to our firefighters for their hard work.

No public comment concerning this item.

- 6. Consent Agenda: Items on the consent agenda may be removed and discussed separately. Discussion may take place at the end of the agenda. Otherwise, all items may be approved with one action. 7 action items.**

Director Burdo/ Director Greene – roll call vote, all ayes

- 7. Authorized Executive Officer and Board President to Finalize and Execute Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) between the Ross Valley Fire Department and the International Association of Firefighters Local 1775, and the Ross Valley Fire Chief Officers Association for years July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2025, and Approve Resolutions for Unrepresented Staff for FY22- 23 – Chief Weber.**

Chief Weber thanks our firefighters as this was a collaborative effort. This is proof of the impeccable teamwork between all agencies. The Firefighters Board, Executive Officers, Managers presented a strong and collaborative nature. Thank you to the Negotiations team and President of the Association as the term sheet is brought forward. The term sheet will be memorialized in the MOU. Asking that the Board approves the Executive Officer and in Director Kuhl's absence the Vice President to execute and sign the MOU to bring back to the Firefighters for review. Asking the board to publicly authorize and move forward tonight.

No public comment concerning this item.

Director Greene / Director Burdo – roll call vote, all aye

8. Authorize the Fire Chief to Enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Local Motion Solutions for the Leadership / Governance Study. -Chief Weber

3 companies: City Gate, Local Motion Solutions and Matrix responded to the RFP.

The management team consisting of fire executive staff including Director Shortall reviewed the three proposals. The group has recommended to move forward with Local Motion Solutions with a total cost not to exceed \$60,000.

The other proposal costs were City Gate \$90,000 and Matrix \$59,500.

Local Motion was chosen because the consultants provide and have an understanding of local fire services in the county, along with smaller town municipal services. Fire Chief Jim Irving is one of the fire consultants who spent his career in Southern Marin. Fire Chief Jim Irving was also part of many annexation consolidation. He is responsible for bringing the Sausalito Fire Department under the Southern Marin Fire District.

Adam Politzer spent some time as the acting city manager of Fairfax and has a long career in city management. Adam has an extensive career in municipal government and understands the county well.

Matrix lacked an understanding of what the RFP does.

This will be a very inclusive process with consistent check ins to the board.

RVFD will not be hiring a consultant to make a recommendation to us. RVFD will be hiring a consultant to review options to bring back to the board for policy level discussion and decision.

A host of options will be provided for leadership and governance.

Director Burdo stated that Local Motion owners were staffed to this board a number of years ago and staffed to one of the member agencies. Director Burdo Supports the recommendation. Director Burdo feels good about hiring someone that understands our County. Was there any discussion about any perception issue when making the decision?

Chief Weber stated, the discussion was had with the group. The group based its decision on this being a public process with lots of public engagement. The community really needs to be included and informed thus Local Motion really has the ability to do that.

Director Goddard verbalized how wonderful it is to see Adam and Jim pop up. Jim is a neighbor she trusts. With the relationship that already exists, RVFD and the Board are going to be very well served. Director Goddard is happy to support the recommendation.

Goddard/Greene -roll call vote, all ayes except director Hellman who dropped off the call.

There will not be an August meeting.

No public comment concerning this item.

9. Adjourn 6:56pm

The next meeting is scheduled for September 14, via zoom video conferencing.

Respectfully submitted,

s/Monique Black
Temporary Administrative Assistant