

ROSS VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Minutes of the Ross Valley Fire Board Meeting of October 11, 2023

Note: These are summary action minutes only. The zoom recording can be accessed by clicking [here](#). The passcode is Rvfd101123#

RVFD BOARD MEETING MINUTES

1. 6:30 pm Call to order.

Board Present: Brekhus, Robbins (Remotely), Burdo, Hellman, Shortall, Finn, Colbert, Cooler (7pm)

Board absents: Cutrano

Staff Present: Mahoney, Lim

Town Managers Present: Donery, Johnson (Remotely), Abrahams (Remotely)

Lim informed Hellman about the slight change in laws regarding appearing remotely. Robbins is allowed to appear remotely if she has a medical emergency or extenuating circumstances, she does not need to provide details, then the Board can come to a consensus of agreement to have her appear remotely. Robbins stated she is attending remotely because of a medical issue.

Consensus - All Ayes. No Nays

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2. Chief Report – Verbal Update by Interim Fire Chief Mahoney

PG&E Helicopter Event: Chief Mahoney thanked Directors Hellman, Finn, and Colbert for attending.

SAFER Grant: Chief Mahoney has not received an official notice whether we received the award or not, but on the website it appears that all award money has been allocated. He will provide an update as he receives more information.

Dispatch Services: Chief Mahoney has not received the final agreement yet, but has been working with legal to review the draft agreement on the RVFD side. Chief Mahoney will bring the final agreement to the November 8, 2023 Board Meeting with a stipulation that the actual agreement will need to be approved by the November 9, 2023 due date.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month: All fire agencies in Marin County have approved wearing breast cancer awareness shirts in the month of October to show support.

Hellman appreciated the PG&E helicopter event and thinks it's important to show the program support if we want it to continue.

Hellman reiterated her comments from the previous Board Meeting in regards to dispatch services - that all Board Members do their due diligence and review the Board Packet as soon as possible, and to reach out to Chief Mahoney or Zuba with questions. Hellman asked what happens if the agreement is not signed on November 9, 2023. Chief Mahoney stated that if the agreement was not signed, RVFD would technically be without an agreement of dispatch services effective July 1, 2024. November 9, 2023 is the deadline because Marin County Fire Department needs to begin the build out process.

Finn asked if there would be an opportunity to get compliant if the Board was not timely in their approval. Chief Mahoney stated probably not since what MCFD needs is an agreement, so they can count on funding. Chief Mahoney offered to schedule a special meeting prior to November 8th to allow the Board to receive the presentation and answer questions and concerns. The remaining option would be starting our own dispatch, which would not be feasible.

Brekhus asked if it would be possible to get the dispatch information before Friday when the packet is normally posted. Chief Mahoney said he already has a majority of the staff report done and could send the Board Packet out Monday or Wednesday. The lead time will give him the opportunity to meet with members if they have special questions, rather than calling a special meeting.

Chief Mahoney will send the Board Packet out prior to the Friday it needs to be posted for the November 8, 2023 meeting. If there are supplementary items, Chief Mahoney will have them posted by the Friday deadline.

3. 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.

No public comment concerning this item.

M/S Finn/Burdo to approve consent agenda – roll call vote, seven ayes: Brekhus, Robbins, Colbert, Burdo, Shortall, Finn, Hellman. One absent: Cutrano.

4. Receive Staff Report Presented to the Labor Management Subcommittee and Consider Recommendation From the Labor Management Subcommittee Relating to Increased Staffing per The “2022 Staffing/Deployment” Side Letter. Recommendation Includes a Funding Plan and Position Start Date. - Interim Fire Chief Mahoney

Chief Mahoney presented the staff report.

Funding plan option one states that each Member Agency will begin paying their respective percentage shares from the position date of hire. The position start date is July 1, 2024.

Cooler notified the Board that she is the alternate for Fairfax, and wasn't aware Cutrano wouldn't be at the meeting. Cooler read the staff report and offered to sit at this Board Meeting.

No public comment.

Hellman reported that there was good discussion at the Labor Management Subcommittee Meeting and is delighted that the Subcommittee Members were unanimous in bringing their recommendation to the entire Board.

Hellman asked the Town of Ross members if they have been able to confer when they would agendaize this item and discuss it at their Town Council Meeting. Brekhus stated it would not be included in October's meeting, but would be discussed at the Town of Ross' November Council Meeting. Following the Town of Ross' Town Council Meeting, more guidance will be available to inform Chief Mahoney's action item on the December Board Meeting agenda. Chief Mahoney stated we typically do not have a Board Meeting scheduled in December, so between November 9th and January, we would need to schedule a special meeting.

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

No comment concerning this item.

6. 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.

No public comment concerning this item.

7. Adjourn

The next meeting is scheduled for November 8, 2023, San Anselmo Town Council Chambers, at 525 San Anselmo Ave. San Anselmo, CA 94960, and via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,
s/Samantha Stettler
Administrative Assistant