



KURT P. HENKE
Fire Chief

Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS – ACTION SUMMARY **Thursday, January 12, 2012 – 6:00 p.m.**

City of Rancho Cordova City Hall-Council Chambers
2729 Prospect Park Drive
Rancho Cordova, California

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Jones. Board Members present: Goold, Jones, Kelly, Monk, Newcomer, Pierson, Scheidegger. Directors Clark, Orzalli, absent. Staff: Fire Chief Henke, Board Clerk Tilson, Attorney John Lavra.

PLEDGE TO FLAG led by the Girl Scouts.

METRO CABLE 14 ANNOUNCEMENT

The open session meeting is videotaped for cablecast on Metro Cable 14. Replay on Saturday, January 14 at 1:00 PM and Monday, January 16 at 6:00 PM on Channel 14; Webcast at www.sacmetrofire.ca.gov. A DVD copy is also available for checkout from any library branch.

The open session meetings are also available for viewing on the District website at www.sacmetrofire.ca.gov

PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST WITHIN DISTRICT JURISDICTION INCLUDING ITEMS ON OR NOT ON THE AGENDA

AWARDS—(Fire Chief Henke)

CIVILIAN LIFE SAVING COMMENDATION – ROGER WISE

- On September 12, 2011, Metro Fire units responded to a structure fire at 5812 Gibbons Drive. After the fire was extinguished, it was learned that a homeowner was rescued by a bystander. Roger Wise just moved to Sacramento and was driving through the area when he spotted smoke coming from the house and someone yelling inside. He forced the door open and pulled the homeowner out of the house while her adult son self-rescued. It was later learned that Mr. Wise was a volunteer firefighter for a short time while he lived in Ohio.

Roger Wise was presented with a Life Saving Commendation Certificate in recognition of his extraordinary efforts to protect and preserve human life.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Board Meeting Action Summary—November 10, 2011**
2. **Board Meeting Action Summary—December 8, 2011**
3. **Resolution No. 2012-01 – Declaring Specific Fleet Vehicles as Surplus**
4. **Resolution No. 2012-02 – Creating Leased Property Fund 212-L**
5. **Resolution No. 2012-03 – Creating Simulator Grant Fund 212-S**

- ***Board Action:***

- *Monk/Scheidegger—Approve the Consent Agenda items. Directors Goad, Jones, Kelly, Monk, Pierson, Scheidegger, AYE. Director Newcomer, abstained. Directors Clark, Orzalli, absent. Motion passed.*

ACTION ITEM(S):

1. **Ordinance No. 2012-01 – Amending Medical Aid and Ambulance Transport User Fees for Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District—(A/C Daniels)**

- A four-page staff report was submitted proposing to initiate a change from the District's current "itemized" billing of medic transport fees to a "bundled" approach to streamline the billing process and requesting that the Board institute a First Responder Fee to recover a portion of the cost of providing advanced life support ("ALS") response to medical emergencies. The changes would be effective upon adoption of the proposed Ordinance on January 12, 2012.
- The District has experienced over a \$20 million decline in property tax revenue over the past two years. The community expects the same level of emergency response services to be maintained. Last year the District placed a paramedic on 100% of its engine companies to ensure ALS is delivered in a timely manner to its citizens. Providing a paramedic on each engine company comes at a cost to the District and the taxpayers. Establishing a First Responder Fee would allow the District to recoup a part of the cost to provide this essential public service.
- The District is typically the first responder to emergency medical calls with the capability of providing advanced life support services. However, the District currently only recovers the cost of transporting patients to a medical facility.
- The "bundling" of transport fees would streamline the EMS billing process, enhance cash flow to the District by reducing the time it takes to receive payment, and would facilitate the transition to electronic patient care reporting, or "e-pcr." There is no increase in fees as a result of bundling.

Below is the proposed bundle fee schedule. The only change in rates listed below are the bundle base rates which now include the average medical supplies/procedure utilized per incident.

Medic Transport Fee

ALS Bundle Base Rate	\$1,615.00
BLS Bundle Base Rate	\$1,470.00
Mileage (no change)	\$ 28.78
Oxygen-when used (no change)	\$ 119.58
Night (no change)	\$ 105.34
Monitor- when used (no change)	\$ 93.23

First Responder Fee

First responders, typically an engine or truck company, are dispatched with a medic unit to assess the patient and initiate, as necessary, BLS or ALS emergency care. In FY 10/11, our first responder units responded to approximately 46,761 emergency medical calls. Of these, 30,700 calls resulted in our first responders arriving on scene and performing an assessment or initiating patient care.

Pursuant to state law, the District can recover the cost of providing the first responder service by adopting a First Responder Fee. The fee would also be applicable to treat & no transport calls.

The cost of responding to and evaluating the patient on our first responder units is estimated to be \$275.58 which includes the following:

- **Dispatch fee- \$52.50**
- **Personnel cost- \$183.08, consisting of the following:**
 - Firefighter/Paramedic- \$58.17
 - Engineer/EMT- \$59.38
 - Captain/EMT-\$65.53
- **Fuel, supplies, and misc cost- \$40.00**

(Note: personnel costs are based on an average of one hour per response for a three-person engine company; a four-person truck company response would result in higher costs.)

- Historically, the EMS Division had two Office Technicians processing Patient Care Reports (PCR's). Through attrition it now has one Office Tech performing the same tasks. The workload to process additional PCRs has risen due to the EMS Redesign earlier this year. In addition more accountability has been placed on the billing process to ensure efficiency. To support the proposed First Responder Fee, one additional Office Technician position will be required to assist with the monitoring, billing and processing of First Responder reports. Staff feels this position is also needed to ensure the District maximizes its medic fee revenue. The top step salary for Office Technician with full benefits is \$6,990 or \$83,880 annually.
- A First Responder Fee and Treat No Transport Fee of \$275.58 would recoup approximately \$1,734,000 of the cost of providing first responder units staffed with a paramedic on medical emergencies based on 30,700 first responder emergencies. The annual cost to add an Office Technician position to the EMS Division would be \$83,880. Bundling our current medic transport fee would not result in any fiscal change to our revenue.
- Staff recommended the Board (1) adopt the Ordinance instituting a First Responder and Treat No Transport Fee and bundle the Medic Fees as reflected in Exhibit A of the Ordinance, effective January 12, 2012 and (2) add a full time Office Technician position to the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) division effective with the adoption of the Ordinance.

Director Goold stated he felt that EMS is understaffed and recommended that priority be given to the recruitment of individuals that were laid off by the District.

- The public hearing was opened for comment in favor of or in opposition to the adoption of this proposed ordinance. There being none, the public hearing was closed.
- **Board Action:**
Scheidegger/Kelly—Approve the staff recommendation and adopt the Ordinance. Directors Goold, Jones, Kelly, Monk, Newcomer, Pierson, Scheidegger, AYE. Directors Clark and Orzalli, absent. Motion passed.

2. Division Redistricting—(President Jones)

The proposed Redistricting Map—Version Day 3, individual maps of each division, and the statistical population data chart were distributed to the Board.

President Jones stated a Board Workshop was held this week with a lot of technical work done to establish the new redistricting boundaries. The recommendation of the Sacramento County Registrar of Voters was followed to establish six divisions north of the American River and three south of the river to accommodate population changes. The Redistricting Map – Version Day 3 being considered tonight has a 9% population differential which meets the legal requirement of no more than 10%.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, District GIS Specialist Denis Murray and County GIS Analyst Steve Demers were acknowledged for their technical expertise and help in the process. A thank you letter was also sent to the County.

- **Board Action:**
Monk/Scheidegger—approve the proposed Division Redistricting Map and direct staff to prepare the necessary documents and Resolution to officially adopt the final map. Directors Gould, Jones, Kelly, Monk, Newcomer, Pierson, Scheidegger, AYE. Directors Clark and Orzalli, absent. Motion passed.

PRESENTATION ITEM(S): None

PRESIDENT’S REPORT—(Gay Jones)

- Welcomed Director Newcomer.
- There are vacancies on committees and requested the Directors to let her know if they would like to continue in their current committee assignments. A short Executive Committee meeting will be scheduled before one of our next Board meetings to formalize the appointments.

FIRE CHIEF’S REPORT—(Fire Chief Henke)

- Congratulated Jim Newcomer on his appointment as Board Director.
- WebEx Meetings – second series were held.
- December 12, 2011 – Met with Fire Chief Chris Couper of Latrobe Fire. Will be meeting later this month with a presentation to the Latrobe Board of Directors regarding the possibility of merger acquisition or regionalization.
- December 13, 2011 – Interviewed by Lance Armstrong for the Arden Carmichael News.
- December 13-14, 2011 – Attended the Local 522 Holiday Open House

- December 14, 2011 – Attended the Rancho Cordova 2 x 2 Meeting. Thanked the City of Rancho Cordova for allowing the District to use their Council Chambers at no cost.
- December 15, 2011 – JPA Governing Council Meeting regarding the Zinfandel site. Making progress.
- Held several Benefit Assessment and Simulator Project meetings throughout the month of December.
- December 20, 2011 – Assistant Chief Cockrum and Firefighters delivered pillow pets and toys to children at UCD Children's Hospital for Christmas.
- January 10, 2012 – Attended Special Board Workshop on Redistricting.
- January 12, 2012 – League of Cities conference call with emphasis on pension reform. Metro Fire District personnel are ahead of others in working to solve the deficit problems by paying current concessions of 9% with 12% next July.
- January 14, 2012 – Guns and Hoses Crab Feed, Scottish Rite Center, 6 PM
- January 18, 2012 – Old Station 111, 9AM – 11AM – Supervisor Roberta MacGlashan will be visiting the museum project to see the progress.

- **Retirements –**
 - December 24 – Engineer Mike McGuirk – 26 years
 - December 30 – Engineer Dale Darnell – 22 years
 - December 31 – Assistant Chief Dale Turner – 26 years
 - December 31 – Supervising Inspector Michael Keehn – 10 years
 - December 31 – Battalion Chief Ed Crawford – 32 years
 - December 31 – Deputy Chief Brian Rice – 26 years
 - December 31 – Fire Marshal Mike Stewart – 23 years
 - December 31 – Battalion Chief Jeff Metzinger – 26 years
 - December 31 – Captain Stewart Swift – 28 years

Fire Marshal internal and external recruitment will be announced with someone on board no later than March 1, 2012.

Chief Financial Officer recruitment will be initiated both internally and externally.

- **Promotions – Effective 01/01/2012**
 - Assistant Chief – Darren Taylor
Walt White

 - Battalion Chief – Mark Repetto
William Turner
Chris Siler
Rick Griggs

 - Captain -- Bryan Barthel
Ryan Pittman

- January 17-18, 2012 – Sunrise Mall Boot Drive. Metro Chiefs have won the last two years and will try again.

OPERATIONS REPORT – D/C CHRIS HOLBROOK

Fire Incidents –

- 24 arson fires both north and south of the river. Fire problems have been abated through aggressive outreach by our investigators.
- Two fatality fires. In both of these fires a technique was used where firefighters enter the unburned portion of the home without the support of any hose lines whatsoever to assess the area as quickly as possible. Two victims were found in two separate fires.
- 56 structure fires since the last Board meeting on December 8.
- Welcomed Assistant Chief Walter White, Assistant Chief Darren Taylor, Battalion Chiefs Mark Repetto, William Turner, Chris Siler, and Rick Griggs to the Operations group.

GENERAL COUNSEL’S REPORT – None

LOCAL 522 REPORT – Captain Maurice Johnson

- Reminder – Guns and Hoses charity football game – January 28, 2012, 1:00 p.m., at CSUS
- Brian Rice was sworn in as the new president yesterday morning.
- The Local 522 Vice President position is currently vacant. The IAFF has required a new election and expect a new VP within the next several weeks.
- Thanked Fire Chief Henke and staff who worked on the WebEx project. It is a powerful communications tool.
- Congratulated all those promoted.
- Congratulated Director Jim Newcomer on his appointment as Board Director.

COMMITTEE AND DELEGATE REPORTS:

Executive Committee—(President Jones)

- Next Meeting: TBA

Communications Center Delegate—(Deputy Chief Duane Arend)

- Next Meeting: January 31, 2012 – 9:00 AM

California Fire & Rescue Training Authority—(Kelly)

- Next Meeting: February 8, 2012 – 10:00 AM
Location: California Emergency Management Agency, Media Room
3650 Schriever Avenue, Mather CA 95655

Finance Committee—(Jones)

- Next Meeting: February 9, 2012 – 5:00 PM

Policy Committee—(Orzalli)

- Next Meeting: January 26, 2012 – 5:00 PM
Location: City of Rancho Cordova City Hall – Council Chambers
2729 Prospect Park Drive
Rancho Cordova, CA

BOARD MEMBER QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

Board Members:

- Thanked staff for their work and reports.
- Welcomed and congratulated Director Jim Newcomer.
- Congratulated staff who were promoted.
- Congratulated all individuals who retired and wished each one a long and happy retirement.

Goold:

- Consider capturing the institutional knowledge of those that are retiring and put together a Blue Ribbon panel of retirees to advise policy makers.
- Would like to continue to serve on his current committee appointments as well as continuing to support Director Kelly on the JPA

Scheidegger:

- Thanked Assistant Chief Daniels and staff for their work on the First Responder Program.

Newcomer:

- Thanked the Board for their vote of confidence in him on his appointment.

Kelly:

- Thanked staff for their work in raising the profile of Metro Fire in the community.
- Special thanks to Assistant Chief Scott Cockrum for his work with Eskaton on the Magnet Program; Coats for Kids; and the visit to the children at UC Davis for Christmas on the Pillow Pet program.

Jones:

- Thanked the City of Rancho Cordova for accommodating the District during our move and appreciate the use of their Council Chambers.
- Thanked Assistant Chief Daniels for his work on the revenue collections for the ambulance program. Our tax dollars only go so far and Metro Fire has been able to continue and amplify its public emergency response. Need to look for ways to continue that service and hopefully increase the level of professional dedicated service that we deliver to our community.

CLOSED SESSION 6:07 PM

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION 7:10 PM

Report by Attorney John Lavra:

**1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION—
(Attorney Colin Connor)**

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9 (a) – One (1) matter of Workers' Compensation Settlement Authority

Donald Mette v Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District
Claim # SMDF - 537349 – Attorney Colin Connor

The Board voted 7-0, with Directors Clark and Orzalli absent, to give the District's Third Party Administrator approval to settle the Workers' Compensation claim.

2. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957.6

Agency Designated Representatives: Board President Jones, Director Clark, Director Goold

Unrepresented Employee: Fire Chief's Contract

No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT –The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Gay Jones, President

Randy Orzalli, Secretary

Charlotte Tilson, Clerk of the Board