
**Moraga-Orinda Fire District
Board of Directors
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 17, 2010
(Amended and Approved April 21, 2010)**

Opening Ceremonies

The Board of Directors convened in Open Session at 5:30 p.m. on March 17, 2010, at the Moraga Orinda Fire Administration Building, 1280 Moraga Way in Moraga, California. President Sperling called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were the following Directors and Staff:

President Sperling	Fire Chief Bradley
Director Mancinelli	Steve Meyers, District Counsel
Director Weil	
Director Wyro	

At 5:31 p.m., the Board went into Closed Session.

Business Meeting

President Sperling reconvened the regular business meeting of the Moraga-Orinda Fire District Board of Directors at 7:03 p.m. Present were the following Directors and Staff:

President Sperling	Fire Chief Bradley	Sue Casey, Financial Services Manager
Director Mancinelli	Steve Meyers, District Counsel	Secretary Pokorny
Director Weil		Battalion Chief Lee
Director Wyro		

Report of Closed Session Action

President Sperling stated that there was no action taken on Item 3.1 Conference with Labor Negotiator, Employee Organization: Association of Federated Firefighters IAFF, Local 1230, Item 3.2, Conference with Labor Negotiator, Employee Organization: Moraga-Orinda Fire Chief Officer's Association (MOFCOA), Item 3.3 Public Employment Performance Evaluation, Title Fire Chief, or Item 3.4 Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Director Wyro and seconded by Director Weil to approve all items of the Consent Agenda except item 4.1 Board Meeting minutes of February 17, 2010. Jonathan Goodwin requested that his comments listed under the Public Comment section be stricken from the minutes. With the requested changes, it was M/S/C by a vote of 4-0 to approve Item 4.1, Board Meeting minutes of February 17, 2010.

Presentation of the District's new Burn Trailer

Chief Bradley explained that the Moraga-Orinda Fire District, El Cerrito Fire Department and the East Bay Regional Parks Fire Department were jointly awarded a Firefighter Assistance Grant by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to purchase a Live Fire Training Trailer. The Trailer is currently located at Fire Station 41.

At 7:08, President Sperling called for a short recess. The Board and members of the public were given a tour of the new Live Fire Training Trailer. Staff explained that the trailer allows MOFD firefighting personnel to train under realistic fire conditions while maintaining a safe training environment. The trailer has numerous props that simulate actual firefighting and rescue conditions. At 7:25 p.m., President Sperling reconvened the meeting.

Board of Directors Ad Hoc Board Member Selection Member Committee

Chief Bradley updated the Board on the process to choose and possibly appoint a Director to fill the vacant position created by Director Pete Wilson's resignation on February 18, 2010. At a Special Board meeting on March 6, 2010, the Board chose to assemble a Citizens' Ad Hoc Advisory Panel to assist in the selection process. A Board of Director's Ad Hoc Committee was also appointed to develop the selection process for both the vacancy and the Citizens' Ad Hoc Advisory Panel. The Board of Director's Ad Hoc Committee met on March 16, 2010 to discuss the selection process.

Ad Hoc Committee member Weil reported on the committee meeting of March 16. He stated there were three applicants that applied for the Board vacancy. In addition, out of thirteen applicants that applied for the Citizens' Ad Hoc Advisory Panel, seven were selected, balancing the panel geographically across the District. The committee presented their proposal for the selection process. After Board discussion, it was M/S/C by a vote of 4-0 to accept the Board's changes and the proposal made by the Board of Director's Ad Hoc Committee.

Long Range Financial Forecast

Sue Casey, Financial Services Manager, reported that at the Finance Committee meeting held on March 10, 2010, Staff was directed to make additional changes to the Draft Long Range Financial Forecast.

Changes included removing the Training Facility from "Factors not included in the Forecast". In addition, on that schedule, the amounts for the Station 41 replacement and New Administration Facility were changed to "Unknown at this Time". The 2010/11 trend for Medical & Dental Expenditures was changed from 10% to 20%. Property tax trend percentages were changed to reflect actual receipts for 2008/09 and the negative 2009/10 California CPI Index of -.237%. Finally, on the Capital Replacement Budgeting Schedule the asset life was changed to reflect actual asset life based on District use rather than asset life based on prescribed capital depreciation schedules.

Staff recommended that the Board accept the current format of the Draft Long Range Financial Forecast, including the assumptions and forecasted figures.

The Board and members of the public discussed the changes that were made to the Long Range Financial Forecast. It was M/S/C by a vote of 4-0 to accept the Long Range Financial Forecast.

Strategic Plan

Chief Bradley updated the Board on the Strategic Plan progress. He said he met with Larry Bienati in order to gain an understanding of the underlying concepts and development of the Strategic Plan. He also stated he has been working with Staff to ensure the goals outlined in the Plan are being met. President Sperling would like the Board to address the item of meeting with union representatives. He will meet with the Chief to set dates for those meetings. Board and Public discussion continued regarding the value of the Strategic Plan. The Chief said he would continue to meet with Mr. Bienati to review and evaluate the components of the Strategic Plan and will begin developing an adjunct business plan for the District.

Committee Reports

Director Weil reported that the Finance Committee met on March 10, 2010 and the committee's suggestions were incorporated into the Long Range Financial Forecast presented earlier in the meeting.

Ad Hoc Committee Reports

Director Mancinelli attended the March 10 meeting of the Contra Costa County Employees Retirement Association (CCCERA) during the depooling segment and presented an overview of the following information. On October 14, 2009, CCCERA voted to depool large, (over 50 employees), employee groups to determine and set employer contribution rates. CCCERA's actuaries have been performing special studies designed to correctly attribute the unfunded liability for each large employer separately (depooling). Smaller employers, with 50 or fewer employees remained pooled together. The initial study attempted to separate CCCERA's experience and assets since December 31, 2002. However, according to CCCERA's actuary, some of the required information may not be accessible, due to tracking variables, such as employee tier transfers and employer changes. At the March 10 meeting CCCERA's actuaries presented possible options to continue the study under different parameters. The CCCERA Board decided to form an ad hoc committee to consider the issues and determine an appropriate path to complete the study.

Ms. Casey added that the CCCERA Board also voted not to change which compensation is included in the calculation of final retirement pay for current employees and retirees. However, the Board voted to make changes for new members who join the system on or after January 1, 2011. Compensation items included in final retirement pay calculations for new employees will be covered under a Retirement Board policy addendum. The addendum will be posted on CCCERA's website after its Board adopts a final version.

Correspondence

President Sperling acknowledged and expressed appreciation for the correspondence received.

Announcements

Chief Bradley recommended that the bi-annual District Newsletter be discontinued. He feels the time and expense to produce it outweighs the benefits and that the funds could be spent more wisely. After discussion by members of the Board, the Chief was directed to make the appropriate decision.

Adjournment

At 9:10 p.m., President Sperling called for adjournment of the regular meeting. It was M/S/C to adjourn to the Work Session to be held on April 7, 2010 at 7 p.m.