
**Moraga-Orinda Fire District
Board of Directors
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
April 21, 2010
(Amended and Adopted May 19, 2010)**

Opening Ceremonies

The Board of Directors convened in Open Session at 6:30 p.m. on April 21, 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 – excused absence	Steve Meyers, District Counsel
Director Olsen	
Director Weil – excused absence	
Director Wyro	

At 6:32 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 7:00 p.m. Present were the following Directors and Staff:

President Sperling	Fire Chief Bradley	Sue Casey, Financial Services Manager
Director Olsen	Steve Meyers, District Counsel	Nancy Daniel, CQI Coordinator
Director Wyro		Battalion Chief Lee

Report of Closed Session Action

President Sperling stated that there was action taken on Item 3.1 Conference with Labor Negotiator, Employee Organization: Association of Federated Firefighters IAFF, Local 1230. The Board approved a Side Letter of Agreement between MOFD and United Professional Firefighters of Contra Costa IAFF Local 1230 modifying the MOU for the period 01/01/09 through 12/31/10.

Consent Agenda

It was M/S/C to approve all items of the Consent Agenda except Item 7.1.1 Board Meeting minutes of March 17, 2010, Item 7.1.2 Special Board Meeting Minutes from March 25, 2010, and 7.1.3 Special Board Meeting minutes from April 7, 2010. The March 17, 2010 Board Meeting Minutes were amended by deleting part of a sentence under Strategic Plan, line 4 and adding CCCERA before Board on the last sentence under Ad Hoc Committee Reports. The March 25, 2010, Special Board Meeting minutes were amended by changing Acting President Wyro to Vice-President Wyro and changing the wording under Public Comment, second line from “that supports”, to “regarding the Fire District”. The April 7, 2010 Special Board Meeting minutes were amended under Public Comment by adding the sentence to Vince Maiorana’s comments of “including inquiring about the specific date that the Board knew there would be an opening.” With the requested changes, it was M/S/C to approve Item 7.1.1 Board Meeting Minutes of March 17, 2010, item 7.1.2 Special Board Meeting Minutes from March 25, 2010, and Item 7.1.2 Special Board Meeting minutes from April 7, 2010.

Resolution No. 10-04, Authorizing Investment of Moraga-Orinda Fire Protection District Monies in Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF).

Sue Casey, Financial Services Manager explained that the Contra Costa County Treasurers’ Office requested that the District update the individuals who are authorized to deposit and withdraw funds from the Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF). Approval of Resolution 10-04 authorizes Frank Sperling, President, John Wyro, Vice President, and Randall Bradley, Fire Chief or their successors to deposit or withdraw funds in LAIF for the purpose of investment.

It was M/S/C by a vote of 3-0 (Directors Mancinelli and Weil were absent) to adopt Resolution 10-04, updating the individuals who are authorized to make investments and withdrawals of Moraga-Orinda Fire Protection District monies in Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF).

Master Fee Schedule for Ambulance Transport and possible adoption of Resolution 10-05, adopting the Proposed 2010 Master Fee Schedule for Ambulance Transport.

Chief Bradley reported on the proposed Master Fee Schedule for ambulance transport. He stated that Staff periodically evaluates and recommends changes in the ambulance transportation fee schedule. The last change to the fee schedule occurred in October 2008. Nancy Daniel, CQI Coordinator stated that currently, the District ambulance service payer reimbursement comes from Medicare (60%), MediCal (1%), Private Insurance (30%), and Private Pay (9% no insurance).

Medicare patients represent over 60% of ambulance transports and the District only receives 80% of the amounts established by the Medicare fee schedule. These fees are established and controlled by Medicare and are substantially lower than the fees established by the District. Staff conducted a review of the District's ambulance service payer reimbursement, along with fee schedules from AMR (American Medical Response), San Ramon Valley, Petaluma, and Vacaville. Based on these reviews, a comparison of fees charged and a review of internal operational efficiencies, staff proposes a restructuring of the Districts' ambulance fee schedule by eliminating itemized billing, and breaking ALS services into two categories, ALS 1 and ALS 2 rather than charge for individual itemized services. This will streamline billing practices and capture the costs that were originally itemized and billed on a per service basis. MOFD does not currently bill for non-transport EMS services when patients are assessed and treated on scene but decline transport services. Current industry standards supports cost recovery for non-transport and the following cost recovery schedule is proposed: Basic Assessment at Scene - \$110.00; BLSM – Basic Medical Aid - \$140.00; ALSM – Advanced Medical Aid - \$316.50.

Ms. Daniel recommended that the Board approve the resolution that sets new fee schedules for ambulance transport and provides for cost recovery for non-transported patients who are assessed and/or treated.

After discussion by the Board and members of the public, it was M/S/C by a vote of 3-0 (Directors Mancinelli and Weil were absent) to adopt Resolution 10-05 Adopting the Proposed 2010 Master Fee Schedule for Ambulance Transport.

Committee Reports

No report. A Finance Committee meeting will be scheduled for early May 2010.

Ad Hoc Committee Reports

Director Wyro stated that his report on the Public Information Committee has been completed. Copies of the report were distributed to Staff and members of the public. Director Wyro along with the Board President will continue their efforts to get information to the public through the Tri-Agency Sub-Committee meetings. President Sperling thanked Director Wyro for his effort and detailed report. President Sperling reported on the Tri-Agency Sub-Committee meeting that was held on April 16, 2010. The first meeting was primarily an organizational meeting to identify who would chair the meeting, how it would work procedurally, and what the committee was trying to accomplish. The committee agreed that Tom McCormick, Mayor of Orinda would act as Chair of the sub-committee. With Director Wyro's guidance, an agenda of discussion items were proposed to help Councilmember's in Orinda and Moraga more fully understand how MOFD works.

Correspondence

President Sperling acknowledged and expressed appreciation for the correspondence received.

He requested that an item be placed on the next regular Board meeting to discuss the Correspondence section of the agenda.

Announcements

Director Wyro reported on the Special District's meeting that was held on April 19. During the meeting, elections were held to elect two representatives to represent the Special District's on the LAFCO Board. Director Olsen was nominated to run for one of the positions but was not elected. Director Wyro requested that an item be placed on the next regular Board meeting agenda to appoint Dick Olsen as the District's ~~LAFCO~~ *Special District's* meeting representative.

Director Olsen reported on the LAFCO meeting that he attended that day. The Fire Service Workshop report was discussed. This ongoing Workshop followed the acceptance of the Fire and Emergency Municipal Service Review. The main discussion of the workshop centered on consolidation. Director Olsen added that the agenda and the staff reports regarding the meeting and the Fire Service Workshop report are available on LAFCO's website. Director Wyro requested that the Fire Service Workshop be agendaized for the next meeting for Board discussion. The next Fire Service Workshop meeting will be held on May 21, 2010 at the Martinez City Hall.

Chief Bradley reported on the presentation that he gave to the Moraga Rotary Club on April 20. During the meeting, he answered a lot of pertinent and intelligent questions and feels that Fire District has the full support of the Rotary Club.

Director Olsen also reported on the Fire Commissioners meeting of ConFire's Advisory Board that he attended. The reports from Interim Fire Chief John Ross and their Financial Service Director Michael George regarding their 2010/2011 preliminary budget are dire and they are contemplating closing four companies on July 1. This could have a profound effect on MOFD. ~~The Advisory Board did however~~ It was also subsequently announced that a new Fire Chief for ConFire has been ~~hired~~ selected.

Adjournment

At 8:07 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 May 2, 2010 at 7 p.m.