
**MORAGA-ORINDA FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 11, 2013
(Adopted September 18, 2013)**

1. Opening Ceremonies

The Board of Directors convened in Open Session at 6:00 P.M. on March 11, 2013, at the Sarge Littlehale Rm, 22 Orinda Way, Orinda, California. President Sperling called the meeting to order. Present were the following Directors and Staff:

President Sperling	Director Evans	Jerry Lee, Battalion Chief
Director Wyro	Randall Bradley, Fire Chief	Darrell Lee, Division Chief
Director Weil	Sue Casey, Admin Services Director	Stephen Healy, Division Chief
Director Anderson	Grace Santos, District Clerk	

2. Public Comment

There were no comments.

3. Regular Calendar

3.1 Update on Fire Station 43/16 Concept

On February 6, 2013, and on February 20, 2013, staff provided the Board with the conceptual framework to combine Moraga-Orinda Fire District (MOFD) Station 43 with Contra Costa Consolidated Fire District (ConFire) Station 16. The stations are located 1.5 miles apart in low-density residential neighborhoods with relatively low call volumes. The fire protection model in the Orinda, Moraga and Lafayette areas positioned fire stations three miles apart. The proximity of FS-43 to FS-16 is the exception (1.5 miles) which causes redundant overlap of valuable public safety resources.

In June 2012 Con Fire relocated the crew from FS-16 to FS-15 due to mold and a rodent infestation. In January of 2013 the FS-16 crew was eliminated due to budgetary cutbacks. MOFD is in the process of replacing Station 43 due to age, seismic, space and gender separation concerns. The District was prepared to go out to bid when the closure of Station 16 prompted an evaluation regarding the feasibility of combining the two stations in order to improve efficiencies by reducing costs. The concept includes the purchasing of land and the construction of a new joint station at the Orinda/Lafayette City boundary on El Nido Ranch Road. As proposed, the cost and operation of the new station would be split equally among both jurisdictions. Staff conducted preliminary service level analysis that showed 122 homes in Orinda would move from a four-minute travel time range into a five to six minute travel time range. Further analysis indicated travel times in Orinda would increase by 1 to 90 seconds to 531 homes and travel times would decrease by 1 to 90 seconds to 595 homes. The estimated cost savings for both agencies would be \$950,000 annually in addition to the shared cost of the new station and future apparatus purchases.

On February 12, 2013, Con Fire's Fire Chief presented a staff report to the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors (BOS) in their capacity as Con Fire's District Board of Directors. After significant debate, the Board approved the Chief's request to begin discussions with MOFD concerning combining the two stations. Chief Louder will return to the BOS on March 12, 2013 with a feasibility study and a recommendation to enter into an agreement with MOFD to combine the two stations.

Staff continued to support evaluating the concept of combining FS- 43 and FS-16. It is very rare to have two fire stations within 1.5 miles in a very low density residential area with a very low call volume.

Division Chief Healy gave a short slideshow presentation to show the Board the analysis conducted by staff.

On a motion by Director Wyro and seconded by Director Anderson, the Board directed staff to move forward with the project following the steps outlined below:

1. Attend the Lafayette Planning Commission work session with the District's contract architect to provide a preliminary project overview for the public and Planning Commissions review, comment and consideration.
2. Issue a press release and notification letters to the residences that are impacted and invite them to the public workshop on March 20, 2013.
3. Work with District Counsel to evaluate the components of the project from a legal perspective.
4. Develop any additional service level impact analysis as identified by the Board.
5. Schedule a March 27, 2013 Special Board Meeting to consider purchasing the property under consideration.

The motion carried by a voice vote of 4-1 (Aye: Wyro, Weil, Anderson, Evans; Noes: Sperling).

3.2 Update and Review of the Draft Long Range Financial Plan

At the Board meeting on January 16, 2013 the Board reviewed the District's Long Range Financial Plan with a primary focus on the plan's structure. Based upon input from the Board, staff and the public, the following changes were made to the plan:

- "Permanent Employees" (9a) title was changed to "Regular Employees"
- An additional "Assumption" column was added on the right of the spreadsheet to better clarify the assumptions. This was in lieu of footnotes.
- Clarification was included on the Plan's design to repay any capital funds used for operational purposes
- Staff created an electronic file to capture all historic versions of the Plan.

The Board took action on the following discussion points:

- Utilizing a Market Value unfunded liability verses an "Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability" value in the Plan (14)
 - Action: Show both
- Utilizing historical data or current data (or a combination of data) to develop Plan assumptions
 - Include important assumptions on a separate page
- Add a year to the plan each year or keep the plan a 14 year plan
 - The Plan should be long enough to zero out the long term liabilities (but not shorter than 5 years)

President Sperling asked staff to place the item on the agenda for the next regular meeting for further discussion.

4. Announcements

4.1 Brief information only reports related to meetings attended by a Director at District expense

(Government Code Section 53232.3(d))

There were no comments.

4.2 Questions and informational comments from Board members and Staff

There were no comments.

5. Adjournment

At 10:30 P.M., President Sperling called for adjournment of the special meeting.



Grace Santos
Secretary to the Board