
MORAGA-ORINDA FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 17, 2007

(Approved on February 21, 2007)

Regular Business Meeting

The Board of Directors convened in Open Session at 6:32 p.m. on January 17, 2007 at the Moraga Fire Administration Building, 1280 Moraga Way in Moraga, California. President Wyro called the meeting to order. He requested that the agenda be amended to add a Special Presentation after the Closed Session to celebrate a District personnel promotion and introduce a new Battalion Chief.

It was M/S/C, by unanimous vote to amend the agenda. President Wyro then led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were the following Directors and Staff:

Director Gottfried	Chief Nowicki
Director Weil	Administrative Manager Soler
Director Wilson	
Director Wyro	

At 6:35 p.m., the Board went into Closed Session and returned at 7:00 pm.

Special Presentation

At 7:02 p.m., President Wyro adjourned the meeting to the Apparatus Bay to celebrate the promotion of Engineer Mike Marquardt and to introduce Battalion Chief Jeff Maxwell.

Report of Action Taken in Closed Session

Upon return from the Special Presentation at 7:24 p.m., President Wyro reconvened the regular business meeting of the Moraga-Orinda Fire District Board of Directors. Present were the following Directors and Staff:

President Wyro	Chief Nowicki	Administrative Manager Soler
Director Gottfried	B/C Borden	Secretary Pokorny
Director Weil	B/C Collins	
Director Wilson	Fire Marshal Hoover	
Director Sperling (present at 7:00 p.m.)		

President Wyro reported that there had been no reportable action taken on either of the two items: 2.1 Conference with Labor Negotiators (Government Code Section 54957.6) Agency Designated Representatives: Austris Rungis, Chief Negotiator, IEDA; and Fire Chief Pete Nowicki, Employee Organizations: Association of Federated Firefighters IAFF, Local 1230; and 2.2 Conference with Labor Negotiators (Government Code Section 54957.6) Agency Designated Representative: Fire Chief Nowicki, Employee Organization: Battalion Chiefs.

Public Comment

Mr. Clyde Vaughn (59 Donna Maria Way) expressed his opinion regarding the salaries and benefits of Moraga-Orinda Fire District employees.

Felipe Barreto (Captain for the Moraga-Orinda Fire District (MOFD), 33 Orinda Way, Orinda) expressed his concern about additional staffing in the District. He feels that the District should not be thinking of adding additional personnel until the current contract with the existing firefighters is settled. He also added his praise of for Nancy Daniel, Continuing Quality Instruction Coordinator for the District.

Mike Quontamatteo (Eng/FF for MOFD, 33 Orinda Way, Orinda) expressed his appreciation for all the hard work and dedication that Nancy Daniel, RN, EMS Liaison, and CQI coordinator for MOFD gives to all District personnel. Ms. Daniel has brought the District up to an extraordinary high level of service.

Gary Pearl (Capt/P for MOFD, 33 Orinda Way, Orinda) also expressed his appreciation to Ms. Daniel. He feels without her tutelage, the District would not be what it is today. Many other agencies in the area look up to MOFD because of its high standards.

**Moved/Secoded/Carried*

Mike Whitchurch (Capt. for MOFD, 33 Orinda Way, Orinda) supports Ms. Daniel. He feels that under the training and supervision of Ms. Daniel, the District has been brought to a higher level of standards that other agencies envy.

Jonathan Goodwin (Canyon, Ca) thanked the District for installing the new water tank in Canyon and for adding to the installation cost beyond the Grant amount.

Steve Anaya (Captain/P for MOFD, 33 Orinda Way) added his support for Nancy Daniel. He spoke of her many skills as a Paramedic CQI coordinator, a high quality CPR instructor, and the many hours she has contributed to the community with the AED and CERT Programs.

Stephen Healy (BC for MOFD) echoed the praises that have been directed to Ms. Daniels. She is well respected by her peers.

Sabina Imrie (EMS & Disaster Preparedness Manager) gave accolades to Ms. Daniels. She praised her for bringing nurses together in her efforts to organize them at the State level.

Carol Yates (Lamorinda liaison for Supervisor Uilkema) introduced herself as the Supervisor's new liaison.

Linda Pearl (Personnel Technician for MOFD) added that because of Ms. Daniels' dedication to the District, MOFD is the leading agency in emergency care.

Public Hearing

Fire Marshal Hoover opened the Public Hearing for the 2006 abatement season. She provided background information as to how the District follows in the vegetation management process. Approximately 3,000 exterior hazard notifications were sent out in the Orinda and Moraga areas. Those not in compliance were given several notices before the District's contractor was sent out to abate those properties. Affected property owners have the opportunity to be heard on this issue.

No property owners came forth. It was M/S/C, by unanimous vote to accept Resolution 07-01, confirming, and adopting the reported costs incurred by the Moraga-Orinda Fire District in abating public nuisances on certain property within the District pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 14912.

Presentation on the Fire Wise website

Fire Marshal Hoover introduced Brian Collins (Hyperspective Data Collector) and recognized his hard work in collecting data for the District. FM Hoover also thanked Reserves Clayton Hoover, Shawn Anderson, and Anthony Grgurevic who did the ground-truthing, providing the science for the project. She gave a brief overview of the program, how it works, data it collects and how it can be viewed on the MOFD website.

Consent Agenda

It was M/S/C by unanimous vote to approve the Consent Agenda, except for Item 8.1, regular Board Meeting Minutes of December 20, 2006. Director Sperling requested the name in the first paragraph be changed from President Nathan to Director Wyro. It was M/S/C by unanimous vote to accept the amended Board Meeting Minutes of December 20, 2006

Report from the Training Workshop for Directors held on January 13th.

President Wyro provided background information on the January 13, 2006 Workshop. The workshop was a way for the Directors to coordinate efforts and process issues for the future. Board members, MOFD staff, Local 1230 Representatives, and the public were present. Cynthia Tablak was the facilitator. President Wyro discussed the 13 tasks developed during the Workshop to use as an action plan for the Board. Director Wilson suggested putting a timeline to each step.

After discussion by members of the Board, staff, and members of the public, it was decided that a 14th step should be added: the Budget, Strategic Plan, and Long Range Plan will be reviewed annually.

Public Comment

Jonathon Goodwin commented that District meetings and announcements are not well disseminated.

Ken Consiglio (Eng/P for MOFD, 33 Orinda Way, Orinda) reported that he was present at the Workshop and asked why negotiations were not on the list of District priorities. President Wyro responded that it is a major issue, certainly a budget issue and on the minds of the Board members but not on a list of tasks.

Director Weil responded that this is not a list of District priorities but a list of tasks to provide better information for Board members.

Felipe Barreto (Captain for the Moraga-Orinda Fire District) directed questions to the Board and Fire Chief regarding District contract negotiations.

Water Pipe Improvements

President Wyro provided an update on the City of Orinda and the possibility of another Bond measure on the June ballot. However, there was not yet consensus of what Orinda Council members wanted to cover in the Bond. The City of Orinda will hold public meetings to discuss the issues regarding the Bond measure on January 25 & 31. On February 6, the Orinda City Council will make a yes/no decision regarding putting the measure on the June ballot. The MOFD Board members feel that the same components should make up the new bond as the previous one

Public Comment

Pat Dunn (36 Los Dedos, Orinda) reported that Orinda needs brush removal, roads, and water to put out fires. She would like to see a Bond passed.

After continued discussion with Board members and members of the public, it was M/S/C by unanimous vote to recommend to the Orinda City Council to support a Bond measure that incorporates a comprehensive plan to include roads, drains, and water pipe improvement. President Wyro will meet with Chief Nowicki to decide if a Special Meeting will be needed regarding this issue.

Adopting Rules of Procedure for Board Meetings.

President Wyro deferred comments to District Counsel. District Counsel explained that Resolution 07-02, Adopting Rules of Procedure for Board Meetings culminated from requests and discussions from previous meetings. After questions and answers by members of the Board, it was agreed that Resolution 07-02 be amended. Page 3 (2.2) the District's address would be inserted and on page 12 (8.1) Voting Procedure would be deleted. It was M/S/C by unanimous vote to accept the amended Resolution 07-02, adopting the Rules of Procedure for Board Members.

Correspondence

President Wyro acknowledged and expressed appreciation for the correspondence received.

Informational Comments from Board Members and Staff

Director Wilson inquired about the status of the Accreditation Process. Chief Nowicki responded that 4 to 6 units have been completed but he had been waiting until the new BC's were hired to further the process.

Fire Chief Nowicki's Comments:

- Chief Nowicki thanked Rescue One for the gift of \$40,000 to purchase rescue equipment. Two thermal imagers and a containment monitor have been ordered.
- He praised the Marine Corp. for organizing the Toys for Tots Program and specifically noted the contributions from the Orinda Country Club.
- Chief Nowicki congratulated the Orinda Public Safety Advisory Committee (OPSAC) for having 150 new CERT trained residents in the areas of Orinda, Moraga, Canyon, and Lafayette.

Adjournment

At 9:30 p.m., President Wyro called for adjournment of the regular meeting. It was M/S/C, to adjourn to the Regular Board meeting to be held on February 21, 2007, at 7:00 p.m.

Christine Pokorny
Secretary to the Board