



Moraga-Orinda Fire District  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
March 17, 2021  
(APPROVED APRIL 21, 2021)

---

**1. OPENING CEREMONIES**

The Board of Directors convened a teleconference Open Session at **6:45 p.m.** on **March 17, 2021**, via the Zoom application <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85971585317>, webinar id: 85971585317 and by phone 669-900-6833. Pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20, teleconferencing restrictions of the Brown Act have been suspended. MOFD is closely following the latest Public Health Order from the Contra Costa Health Services issued on March 17, 2020. At this time, all formal public meetings will continue remotely.

President Jorgens called the meeting to order and requested an attendance roll call. Present were the following Directors and Staff:

President Jorgens	Director Jex	Jonathan Holtzman, District Council
Director Baitx	Dave Winnacker, Fire Chief	Marcia Holbrook, District Clerk
Director Danziger	Gloriann Sasser, Admin. Services Director	
Director Donner (absent)	Jeff Isaacs, Fire Marshal	

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT - ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA (audio 0:60)**

President Jorgens opened Public Comment. There were no requests to address the Board. President Jorgens closed Public Comment.

**3. SPECIAL AGENDA (audio 1:25)**

**3.1 Authorize Acceptance of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services Community Power Resiliency Grant for Photovoltaic and Battery Storage and Authorize Capital Projects Fund Revenue and Expenditure Budget Adjustment Increases in the amount of \$300,000**

Fire Chief Winnacker provided the report. In October 2020, CAL-OES released the Community Power Resiliency Allocation to Special Districts Program to fund power resiliency projects up to \$300,000 in areas affected by Public Safety Power Shutoffs. Staff determined that three MOFD stations qualified and submitted an application for solar photovoltaic systems with associated battery storage. These systems are explicitly allowed under the grant announcement Section G.2.A. On March 12, 2021, CAL-OES informed MOFD that a grant was approved in the amount of \$300,000. There is no requirement for matching funds. A decision to accept the grant is due to CAL-OES within 20 days of the notification. If accepted, a progress report is due no later than November 30, 2021. Accepting grant funds requires a modification to the budget. A Capital Projects Fund budget adjustment is necessary to increase grant revenue and to increase equipment expenditures in the amount of \$300,000. Fire Chief Winnacker reported that in addition to the resiliency element of the battery storage and solar photovoltaic systems, the system would continue to run at all times and significantly reduce electrical bills, which will free up additional resources and funds for other projects.

Staff recommends authorizing the acceptance of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Service Community Power Resiliency Grant for Photovoltaic and Battery Storage and Authorize Capital Projects Fund Revenue and Expenditure Budget Adjustment Increases in the amount of \$300,000.

Director Jex inquired which stations would receive the Systems. Fire Chief Winnacker answered Stations 42, 43, and 44. Stations 41 and 45 are outside the CPUC elevated tiers, therefore not eligible.

Director Danziger asked if the project will go through the normal RFP bidding process. Fire Chief Winnacker confirmed. Director Danziger asked if the project would include outlets for electric vehicles. Fire Chief Winnacker replied the grant does not include outlets for electric vehicles.

President Jorgens asked if it was similar to having solar on the roof and backup batteries. Fire Chief Winnacker confirmed and explained the stations have existing generators that involve moving equipment. The photovoltaic systems will augment our critical vulnerabilities in the event of a large earthquake preventing our ability to refill generator fuel tanks. This augmentation allows us to stretch existing fuel longer and take some of that load off the generators. President Jorgens asked how it will be decided about how

much solar versus battery. Fire Chief Winnacker answered that would be determined through the bidding process and the best way to size the system.

Director Jex asked if the panels will be on the roof and if sufficient sun hours were available on all three roofs. Fire Chief Winnacker confirmed.

Directors Danziger commended the Staff on obtaining the grants for the District.

**President Jorgens opened Public Comment.**

Jonathan Goodwin, Canyon resident, asked for clarification in the grant that referenced disadvantaged communities with outreach. Mr. Goodwin asked about the replacement cost for failed components and if a balance of funds remains after installation, are the funds restricted. Fire Chief Winnacker reviewed the components collection ability grades over 30 to 50 years, inverters come with a 10-year warranty, and the batteries replacement cost would be a decision for a future board. Fire Chief Winnacker explained that any balance of funds is to be returned to the State and reviewed that the outreach term or phrase aligned with how the State established priorities on issuing the grant. Mr. Goodwin asked if the District was planning outreach. Fire Chief Winnacker explained that the outreach was an element of creating powered islands within depowered communities.

President Jorgens added that some of the panels come with inverters with the same 25-year warranty. The batteries are guaranteed to last 10-years, and depending on use, may last longer. Director Danziger added that if the system fails and replacement is necessary, the District can still use PG&E as a supplement.

**There were no further requests to address the Board. President Jorgens closed Public Comment.**  
No further discussion by the Board.

**Motion by Director Baitx and seconded by Director Jex to Authorize Acceptance of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services Community Power Resiliency Grant for Photovoltaic and Battery Storage and Authorize Capital Projects Fund Revenue and Expenditure Budget Adjustment Increases in the amount of \$300,000. Said motion carried 4-0-1-0 roll call vote (Ayes: Baitx, Danziger, Jex, and Jorgens; Noes: None; Absent: Donner; Abstain: None).**

**12. ADJOURNMENT (audio 13:20)**

**At 6:59 p.m., Director Danziger motion and seconded by Director Jex to adjourn the meeting. Said motion carried 4-0-1-0 roll call vote (Ayes: Baitx, Danziger, Jex, and Jorgens; Noes: None; Absent: Donner; Abstain: None).**



Marcia Holbrook,  
District Secretary/District Clerk

For an audio recording of this and other Board meetings, please visit the MOFD District Board Meeting webpage  
<http://www.mofd.org/board/meetings>.