

# Moraga-Orinda Fire Protection District



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 21, 2018  
(Approved March 21, 2018)

### 1. Opening Ceremonies

The Board of Directors convened in Open Session at 6:00 P.M. on February 21, 2018 at the Hacienda Mosaic Room, Moraga, California. President Barber called the meeting to order. Present were the following Directors and Staff:

President Barber	Director Jorgens	Jeff Sloan, Labor Negotiator
Director Anderson	Dave Winnacker, Fire Chief	Jonathan Holtzman, District Counsel
Director Famulener	Gloriann Sasser, Admin Services Director	Grace Santos, District Clerk
Director Jex	Christine Russell, HR Manager	

### 2. Public Comment

There was no comment from the public.

### 3. Closed Session

At 6:00 P.M., the Board adjourned into Closed Session.

### 4. Reconvene the Meeting

President Barber reconvened the regular business meeting of the Moraga-Orinda Fire District Board of Directors at 7:14 P.M. Present were the following Directors and Staff:

President Barber	Director Jorgens	Jonathan Holtzman, District Counsel
Director Anderson	Dave Winnacker, Fire Chief	Grace Santos, District Clerk
Director Famulener	Gloriann Sasser, Admin Services Director	
Director Jex	Christine Russell, HR Manager	

### 5. Report of Closed Session Action

President Barber reported that there was no reportable action taken on items 3.1 Conference with Labor Negotiator (Local 1230), 3.2 Conference with Labor Negotiator (Local 2700), and 3.3 Conference with Labor Negotiator (MOFCOA).

President Barber took items out of order and started with item 10.3.1 December Strike Team Deployment Presentation by Captain Jon Bensley.

#### 10.3.1 December Strike Team Deployment Presentation by Captain Jon Bensley

Captain Jon Bensley gave a report about the strike team deployment to the Creek and Thomas fires in Southern California. Director Famulener asked if there were signs of impending mudslides. Captain Bensley stated that when wildland fires destroy vegetation and erodes hillsides, there is always a threat of mudslides. Director Jex inquired if the cause of the fires was determined. Captain Bensley believes the fires were caused by the utilities due to the high winds.

The Board thanked Captain Bensley for his presentation.

### 6. Public Comment

Jud Hammon, member of the Orinda Citizens Infrastructure Oversight Commission, commented on their interest on the fire flow topic, and invited Chief Winnacker to give a talk at their next meeting on March 14, 2018. They look forward to hearing from The Chief on this topic.

### 7. Consent Agenda

President Barber asked to pull item 7.2 Monthly Incident Report and discuss separately.

Motion by Director Anderson and seconded by Director Famulener to approve and file item 7.1 Meeting Minutes. Said motion carried a unanimous 5-0 roll-call vote (Ayes: Anderson, Barber, Famulener, Jex and Jorgens).

On item 7.2, President Barber inquired on the median turn-out time of 0.10 for a structure fire in Moraga. Chief Winnacker explained that it was more than likely that the crew received the call, was already available on the radio, and went on route almost simultaneously.

Motion by Director Anderson and seconded by Director Famulener to approve and file items 7.2 Monthly Incident Report. Said motion carried a unanimous 5-0 roll-call vote (Ayes: Anderson, Barber, Famulener, Jex and Jorgens).

## **8. Regular Agenda**

### **8.1 North Orinda Fire Flow Report**

In January 2018, the Board directed staff to review the status of North Orinda Fire Flow issues and deliver a report at the regular meeting on February 21. In accordance with this direction, staff conducted research regarding the history of the fire flow issue, met with EBMUD representatives, and developed a proposed action plan to field actionable and cost effective measures to mitigate the known problem of fire flows in North Orinda.

Chief Winnacker gave a PowerPoint presentation on the North Orinda Fire Flow Report.

President Barber congratulated Chief Winnacker on his report and looks forward to getting the results of the water flow testing once they are complete.

Director Jorgens asked if PG&E would supplement their tree trimming work near the high tension lines by also getting rid of fire fuels on the bottoms of the trees. Chief Winnacker stated that PG&E and EBMUD are very responsive partners, and he anticipates their partnership to continue based on their additional interest. One of the discussion items is to make sure that everyone's goals align.

President Barber asked staff to make the presentation available on the website. Chief Winnacker explained that they are working on getting the elements of the report, as well as revamping the Fire Prevention and FireWise webpages so that best practice information is available. They are working to expand the outreach.

Richard Olsen, resident, congratulated Chief Winnacker on his report.

### **8.2 Review of Apparatus and Equipment**

MOFD currently fields (4) Type III wildland fire apparatus for responses to areas that require high clearance and all-wheel drive. Historically, the district operated several Type VI apparatus (commonly referred to as power wagons at the time), however between 2002 and 2010 these were replaced by the larger Type IIIs in accordance with broader fire service trends. A brief summary of the two apparatus is included in the attachment. Type VI apparatus are generally built on a F-450 or equivalent chassis with 150-300 gallons of water and small firefighting pump. They cost between \$90,000 and \$150,000 to purchase depending on specifications. Type III apparatus are generally built on a medium duty commercial chassis and carry 500 gallons of water with a larger firefighting pump and additional compartment space. They cost in excess of \$300,000.

MOFD currently fields a Type I rescue boat and a technical rescue trailer equipped for trench rescue. The rescue boat was put in service in 2011 as replacement for a smaller IRB that was fielded in the early 2000s in response to a mass PIW event on the Briones reservoir. A review of response records indicates the rescue boat has not been utilized for a response in the district since the current record keeping system was installed and has been requested for out-of-district responses (2) times. The technical rescue trailer was put in service 2011 to better transport trench and mine rescue equipment that was fielded in response to (2) trench collapse responses in the mid to late 1990s. This program was expanded to include mine rescue during the Caldecott Tunnel project. A review of records indicates (2) trench rescue calls for service outside the district and (2) mine rescue responses during the Caldecott construction.

Both the boat and the trailer are pulled by converted medium duty chassis 1999 ambulance which carries additional technical rescue equipment.

Director Anderson asked Chief Winnacker if the information presented was for the Board's review, consideration and input on policy decision. Chief Winnacker confirmed.

President Barber thinks that it is good practice to discuss this in open session and feels that Chief Winnacker made a strong case that a Type VI is needed for the type of topography in the district. He feels that this sort of decision should be within the competency of the Fire Chief to make. Chief Winnacker stated that he does not have the authority to surplus equipment. It requires Board approval.

Director Anderson asked what type of equipment would be used on the bridges at Bollinger Canyon, if a Type III could go down El Toyonal, and if either a Type III or Type VI could be driven over the "Bailey" bridge at the far end of El Toyonal. Chief Winnacker stated that he would use a Type VI on the bridges at Bollinger Canyon and he would have to find out about which engine could be used over the "Bailey" bridge. Captain Mark McCullah explained that a Type III could make it down El Toyonal, however, in the event of a fire, for egress access issues, absolutely not because there would be no room. There are limited access points.

Director Jex asked about the capital costs. Chief Winnacker stated that specs are still being developed, but he thinks that after the surplus of the Type III and other equipment, and the ambulance and gurneys that were recently sold, it will come out close to being a wash.

### **8.3 Fee Waiver**

On January 17, 2018, Fire Prevention staff was directed by the Board of Directors to create a policy that would allow a fee waiver for non-profit organizations who apply for a special event permit from MOFD.

Director Jorgens stated that schools are not necessarily 501c(3) organizations but the District should waive the fees for inspections of special events. Chief Winnacker stated that there is an informal policy of waiving their fees in the past. One of the intents of the policy is to capture and codify that so the District is consistent across the board. If the event triggers a fee per the adopted fee schedule, the policy would recommend waiving it. Director Jorgens also suggested not limiting the number of fee waivers per calendar year.

President Barber stated that there are many community organizations that are too small to obtain tax exempt status that the District should include. Non-profit and volunteer community organizations including, but not limited to, 501c(3) organizations should be included in the waiver.

Director Famulener suggested removing number three (3) in the policy.

President Barber directed staff to remove the language that limits organizations to one fee waiver per year and drop the requirement of the determination letter from the IRS.

## **9. Committee Reports**

### **9.1 Finance Committee (Directors Anderson and Jorgens)**

The Committee has not met.

### **9.2 Pension Review Ad Hoc Committee (Directors Barber and Jorgens)**

The Committee has not met.

### **9.3 Board of Directors and Fire Chief Roles & Responsibilities and Rules of Procedures Update Ad Hoc Committee (Directors Famulener and Jorgens)**

The Committee has not met.

### **9.4 Audit Ad Hoc Committee (Director Jex)**

The Committee has not met.

### **9.5 Long Range Financial Plan Ad Hoc Committee (Directors Barber and Jex)**

The Committee met and discussed changes in tax law and the likelihood of increased interest rates and inflation. The revenue projections by the District's consultants should be reviewed. They would also like to discuss the assumptions on the Long Range Financial Plan.

### **9.6 Labor Negotiations Ad Hoc Committee (Directors Anderson and Jorgens)**

The Committee met but has nothing to report.

## **10. Announcements**

### **10.1 Brief information only reports related to meetings attended by a Director at District expense**

Director Famulener announced that the County Fire Boards and Commissioners Association will be meeting on March 8, 2018. MOFD Retired Fire Chief Healy will be giving a presentation on how he brought the District's ISO rating to 2. She encouraged the other members to attend.

**10.2 Questions and informational comments from Board members and Staff**

Director Anderson announced that Station 44 hit their standards of coverage in under four minutes.

Chief Winnacker announced that the Battalion Chief application deadline is May 4, 2018 and the exam date is May 23, 2018. There should be a number of internal applicants.

**10.3 Communications Received**

There was nothing to report.

**10.4 Future Agenda Items**

Director Famulener asked for clarification on when the Board would be meeting to discuss the Station 43 bids.

Chief Winnacker stated that the bids will be opened on March 5, 2018, after which there is a 10-day period before the Board can take action. The selected bidder has to produce their documents, and once the documents are produced they will be presented to the Board for final action. Staff is working on determining how much time the District needs after the bids have been unsealed to make the staff recommendation.

**11. Adjournment**

At 8:43 P.M., President Barber called for adjournment of the regular meeting.



Grace Santos  
Secretary to the Board