



ARCATA FIRE DISTRICT

MINUTES

*Regular Board Meeting
April 9, 2024
5:30 p.m.
Location: 631 9th Street, Arcata
Arcata Fire Station Classroom*

Board of Directors

*Eric Loudenslager (Division 4) - President, Jason Akana (Division 5) - Vice President,
Nicole Johnson (Division 2) - Director, Blaine Maynor (Division 1) - Director, Randy
Mendoza (Division 3) - Director*

CALL TO ORDER

The regular session of the Board of Directors for the Arcata Fire District was called to order by President Eric Loudenslager at 5:30 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Loudenslager.

ATTENDANCE AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

The meeting continued with a quorum and the following were present: President Eric Loudenslager, Vice President Jason Akana, Director Nicole Johnson, and Director Randy Mendoza. Director Blaine Maynor was absent.

Additional District administrative staff included Fire Chief Justin McDonald, Assistant Chief Chris Emmons, Assistant Chief Ross McDonald, Board Secretary Becky Schuette, Board Secretary Trainee Katie Hill, and Public Information Officer Alyssa Alvarez.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were no public comments or comments from the Board.

It was moved to approve the agenda.

Motion: Mendoza; Second: Akana

Roll Call: Ayes; Akana, Johnson, Mendoza, President Loudenslager. **Absent;** Maynor
Motion Carries

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

Senior Management Group – Nothing to report.

Local 4981 – Captain Marcus Lillard reported on behalf of the Local 4981.

Arcata Volunteer Firefighters Association (AVFA) – AVFA President Roy Willis made his report.

Prior to approval of the Consent Calendar, Board Clerk trainee Katie Hill advised that Direction Johnson was missing from the attendance portion of the March minutes in Consent Calendar item 1. Her name will be added prior to approval of the Consent Calendar.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Minutes from March 12, 2024, Regular Meeting
2. March 2024 Financial report
3. Adoption of Resolution 24-302 with Exhibit A, Authorizing the Destruction of Certain Fire District Records
4. Approve Employment Agreement Between Arcata Fire Protection District and Fire Chief Christopher Emmons
5. Consider Letter of Support for SAFER Grant Application
 - a. Attachment 1 – Draft Letter of Support
6. Adoption of Resolution 24-303 with Exhibit 1 and Exhibit 2, Authorizing a Secured Property Tax Revenue Exchange between the County of Humboldt and the Arcata Fire Protection District

There were no comments from the public or the Board.

It was moved to approve the consent calendar with noted corrections.

Motion: Akana; Second: Mendosa

Roll Call: Ayes; Akana, Johnson, Mendosa, Loudenslager. **Absent;** Maynor
Motion carries

DISTRICT BUSINESS

1. First reading of Reinstatement of Board Member Compensation:

Chief McDonald summarized his staff note.

Director Akana provided two grammatical corrections on page 77.

There were no comments from the public.

It was moved to introduce Ordinance 24-22, an Ordinance of the Arcata Fire Protection District Reinstating the Compensation for Members of the Arcata Fire Protection District Governing Board, Pursuant to Health and Safety Code § 13857, and set the matter for public hearing and final adoption at the May 14, 2024, Regular Board Meeting with the two corrections identified by Director Akana.

Motion: Johnson; Second: Akana

Roll Call: Ayes; Akana, Johnson, Loudenslager. **Nay;** Mendosa; **Absent;** Maynor
Motion Carries

2. Direct the Budget Committee to Work with Staff to Develop the 2024/25 Budget for Presentation to the Board:

Chief McDonald summarized his staff report aloud.

There were no comments from the public.

Director Mendosa provided comments.

It was moved to direct the committee to work with staff to produce a FY 2024/25 preliminary budget to be presented no later than the June 2024 Board meeting and, direct the committee and staff to have the FY 2024/25 final budget presented no later than the September 2024 Board meeting.

Motion: Mendosa; Second: Johnson

Roll Call: Ayes; Akana, Johnson, Mendosa, Loudenslager. **Absent;** Maynor
Motion Carries

3. Consider Agreement for Consulting Services for the Development of Long-Term Finance Planning with CalMuni Advisors and Authorize the Fire Chief to Sign the Agreement:

Chief McDonald reviewed his staff note aloud.

Directors asked questions that were answered or clarified by Chief McDonald.

The following member of the public made comments:

Captain Marcus Lillard,

No motion was made, no action was taken pending follow up by Chief McDonald.

4. Arcata General Plan and Gateway Area Plan Draft Environmental Impact Report:

President Loudenslager reviewed the staff note aloud.

Board members provided feedback and support of the letter. It was recommended to direct the letter to the Mayor and provide the Arcata City Council with a copy as well.

There were no comments from the public.

No motion was made.

CORRESPONDENCE & COMMUNICATIONS

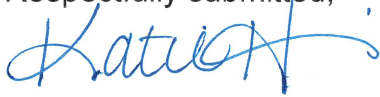
1. Public Correspondence - none
2. Committee Reports:
 - a. Fire Station Committee (Maynor, Akana) – Nothing to report.
 - b. AVFA, L4981, AFD Relations Committee (Maynor) – Nothing to report.
 - c. Budget Committee (Johnson, Loudenslager) – Nothing to report.
3. Fire Chief's Monthly Report – Review of the District's stats and administrative report. He added there is a LAFCo protest hearing scheduled for May 2 at the Masonic Lodge at 5:30pm. Recognition of 2023 employee awards. Discussion of gas tank issue at Mad River Station.
4. Director Matters – President Loudenslager requested that two items be placed on the May agenda. The first to create a subcommittee to develop benchmarks for the new Chief's first-year evaluation. He also requested a presentation from the Fire Station Committee providing the benchmarks for decision-making for lease renewal and a discussion of options.

ADJOURNMENT

President Loudenslager adjourned the meeting at 6:55pm.

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for **May 14, 2024, at the Arcata Downtown Station Classroom, 631 9th Street in Arcata at 5:30 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,



Katie Hill,
Deputy Clerk