

# SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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MINUTES OF THE

SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING OF

September 9, 2020

**Notice of Teleconferenced Meeting** 

Pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-25-20 regarding COVID-19, members of the Scotts Valley Fire Protection District Board of Directors and staff participated in this meeting by teleconference. To reduce the spread of COVID-19, members of the public were encouraged to listen to the meeting from their homes via teleconference by calling +1 408-638-0968, enter the meeting number when prompted (95864606404) and entering Access Code 710819 or connecting to the meeting online via their computer, smart phone or tablet at the following link: https://zoom.us/i/95864606404?pwd=c0FzL2RxTG5jcHljY1RqbW1PME9Bdz09

#### 1. Call to Order

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

At 6:00 p.m., President Pisciotta called for the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence to follow.

1.2 Roll Call

A. Directors Present:

Directors Campbell, Harmon, Parker, Patterson and Pisciotta

B. Directors Absent:

None

C Fire District Staff:

Chief Kovacs, Battalion Chief Whittle and Administrative

Secretary Walton

D. Total Compensation Systems:

Consulting Actuary Will Kane

President Pisciotta moved Item 7.1 prior to the Closed Session for the report from the Consulting Actuary Will Kane.

Chief Kovacs explained that the Board discussed this item at the August 12, 2020 Board Meetings to consider proposed amendments to Post-Employment Benefits. The money that had been going into the VEBA will be reallocated to the new program.

Consulting Actuary Will Kane explained that the current program provided the statutory minimum and \$3,000 annually per employee to the VEBA. The new program provides pre age 65 coverage, up to \$1,000 per month and increases the cost from \$2.3 to \$2.9 million dollars. Based on the calculations, repurposing the VEBA funds will provide a sustainable approach to offering this additional benefit.

7.1 <u>Post-Employment Healthcare Benefits for Local 3577 Represented Unit and Chief Officers.</u>
<u>Discussion/Action</u>

On motion of Director Campbell seconded by Director Harmon Accept the Statement of the Actuarial Impact upon Future Annual Costs for Proposed Post-Employment Benefits as Presented was approved by the following vote:

AYES:

Campbell, Harmon, Parker, Patterson and Pisciotta

NOES:

None

ABSENT:

None

ABSTAIN:

None

2. Closed Session: Government Code §54957.7

2.1 Conference with Labor Negotiators: Government Code §54957.6

Agency Designated Representatives: Robert Campbell and Joe Parker

Employee Organization: All

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At 6:10 p.m., President Pisciotta announced that the Board would be going into Closed Session for Item 2.1.

3. Open Session

3.1 Report on Closed Session: Government Code §54957.1

At 6:43 p.m., the Board reconvened to open session and President Pisciotta reported that no Action was taken for Item 2.1.

4. Public Comment (GC §54954.3)

None

5. Agenda Amendments (GC §54954.2) – Discussion/Action
None

6. Consent Calendar

- 6.1 Minutes: Approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes of August 12, 2020
- 6.2 Minutes: Approve Special Board Meeting Minutes of August 27, 2020
- 6.3 Payroll: Approve August Payroll 17 and 18 in the amount of: \$447,674.21
- 6.4 Expenditures: Approve Expenditures for August in the Amount of:

General Fund:

\$66,943.28

SCHMIT:

\$ 5,703.94

TOTAL:

\$72,647.22

6.5 Review Four CalPERS Annual Valuation Reports as of June 30, 2019 (Classic & PEPRA Safety and Miscellaneous Plans)

On motion of Director Campbell seconded by Director Parker Approve Consent Calendar Items 6.1 through 6.5 was approved by the following vote:

AYES:

Campbell, Harmon, Parker, Patterson and Pisciotta

NOES:

None

ABSENT:

None

ABSTAIN:

None

#### 7. Action Item

7.1 Post-Employment Healthcare Benefits for Local 3577 Represented Unit and Chief Officers, Discussion/Action

Item 7.1 was moved to discussion prior to Closed Session Item 2.1.

7.2 Approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Chief Officers for July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, Discussion/Action

Chief Kovacs stated that the Final Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Chief Officers and Scotts Valley Firefighters I.A.F.F Local 3577 have been completed and requires approval by motion.

On motion of Director Pisciotta seconded by Director Harmon Approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Chief Officers for July 1, 2020 Through June 30, 2021 was approved by the following vote:

AYES:

Campbell, Harmon, Parker, Patterson and Pisciotta

NOES:

None

ABSENT:

None

**ABSTAIN:** 

None

7.3 Approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Scotts Valley Firefighters I.A.F.F. Local 3577 for July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, Discussion/Action

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On motion of Director Patterson seconded by Director Pisciotta Approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Scotts Valley Firefighters I.A.F.F. Local 3577 for July 1, 2020 Through June 30, 2021 was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Campbell, Harmon, Parker, Patterson and Pisciotta

NOES: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

7.4 Adoption of a Revised Publicly Available Pay Schedule per Government Code §20636, Discussion/Action

Chief Kovacs stated that the Publicly Available Pay Schedule has been revised to reflect the current MOUs and will be posted on the SVFPD website as required.

On motion of Director Parker seconded by Director Harmon Adopt the Revised Publicly Available Pay Schedule per Government Code §20636 was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Campbell, Harmon, Parker, Patterson and Pisciotta

NOES: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

7.5 Approved Revised Policy 1608: Reserve Guidelines, Discussion/Action

Chief Kovacs explained that Policy 1608 has been revised to reflect the minimum amount necessary to fund the change in Post-Employment Healthcare Benefits discussed earlier in the meeting. The \$200K for Emergency Reserves has been reallocated for Post-Employment Healthcare Benefits with the minimum amount of \$155K. Language was also added for Reserve levels above the minimum amounts should be used to prepay existing debt, with priority given to prefund the California Employers' Retiree Benefits Trust (CERBT) for Post-Employment Healthcare and the California Employers' Pension Prefunding Trust (CEPPT) and/or paying down the CalPERS Unfunded Accrued Lability (UAL). Establishing the CalPERS Trusts will be discussed in the following Action Items.

The Board discussed the changes to Policy 1608 and since the Finance Committee had not reviewed the changes, Item 7.5 was moved to the October Board Meeting pending Finance Committee review. No action was taken.

7.6 Adopt Resolution 2020-9: Resolution Approving Agreement to Prefund Other Post-Employment Benefits, Discussion/Action

Chief Kovacs stated that the documents included in the Board Packet are required by CalPERS to establish Trusts to prefund Other Post-Employment Benefits and Defined Benefit Pension Plans. Resolution 2020-9 and 2020-10 are only to establish the Trusts. CalPERS does not have any specific funding requirements so future funding will be determined by the Board

On motion of Director Harmon seconded by Director Campbell Adopt Resolution 2020-9: Resolution Approving Agreement to Prefund Other Post-Employment Benefits was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Campbell, Harmon, Parker, Patterson and Pisciotta

NOES: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

7.7 Adopt Resolution 2020-10: Resolution Approving the Agreement to Prefund the California Employer Contribution to a Defined Benefit Pension Plan, Discussion/Action

On motion of Director Parker seconded by Director Pisciotta Adopt Resolution 2020-10: Approving the Agreement to Prefund the California Employers Contribution to a Defined Benefit Pension Plan was approved by the following vote:

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**AYES:** 

Campbell, Harmon, Parker, Patterson and Pisciotta

NOES:

None None

ABSENT: ABSTAIN:

None

#### 8. Board of Directors and Administrative Reports – Information/Discussion

(No action will be taken on any questions raised by the Board at this time.)

#### 8.1 Board of Directors Report - Directors

President Pisciotta reported that the monthly Finance Committee met and reviewed the Budget.

Director Parker reported that he and Director Harmon revised the previous Fire Chief Recruitment for an internal recruitment process.

Director Patterson reported that the Scotts Valley General Planning Meeting will meet next month.

### 8.2 <u>Administrative Report – Chief Officers</u>

The Administrative Report was included in the board packet and Chief Kovacs added the following:

- The Interagency Committee completed a road map for development within the Scotts Valley City Limits.
   The document will be posted on the Scotts Valley Water District's website and will include links to the various Agencies for building requirements.
- At this time, the CZU Lightning Complex Fire has burned 86,500 acres, 83% contained, destroyed 925 residences and the Incident Management will be transitioned back to to the Santa Cruz/San Mateo Unit.
- From the start of the CZU Lightning Complex Fire, the SVFPD has provide two Engines, a Strike Team Leader (Battalion Chief McNeil/Theilen), Damage Inspection (Captain Vandervoort) and a Fireline Medic (Captain LoFranco/Engineer Rothweiler). Of the 3 SVFPD Shifts, 2 have been staffed for the last 25 days.
- Since this morning, 14,000 Firefighters have been assigned to 28 major fires, which have burned 2.5 million acres and has destroyed 3,700 structures. This is the largest fire season to date.

Director Parker and the Board thanked staff for the tremendous effort working the fire and Staffing the SVFPD.

#### 9. Correspondence - Information

- 9.1 Thank You Note to A-Shift Sonia O'Brien
- 9.2 Thank You Note to B-Shift Suzanna Garden
- 9.3 Thank You Note Gavin Pouw
- 9.4 Thank You Drawing

The Board received and filed the correspondence.

#### 10. Request for Future Agenda Items

None

#### 11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

ATTEST

Daron Pisciotta
Board President

Steve M. Kovacs
Board Secretary