

MINUTES

ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY

Board of Directors Regular Meeting
Thursday, September 24, 2020
6:00 P.M.

Regional Fire Operations and Training Center Board Room
1 Fire Authority Road
Irvine, CA 92602-0125

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Orange County Fire Authority Board of Directors was called to order on September 24, 2020, at 6:03 p.m. by Chair Hasselbrink.

INVOCATION

Chaplain Robert Benoun offered the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Rains led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Chair, Shelley Hasselbrink, Los Alamitos	Vice Chair, Vince Rossini, Villa Park*
Lisa Bartlett, County of Orange*	Letitia Clark, Tustin*
Sergio Farias, San Juan Capistrano*	Carol Gamble, Rancho Santa Margarita*
Noel Hatch, Laguna Woods*	Gene Hernandez, Yorba Linda*
Robert Johnson, Cypress*	Anthony Kuo, Irvine
Thomas Moore, Seal Beach*	Joseph Muller, Dana Point
John R. O'Neill, Garden Grove*	Sandy Rains, Laguna Niguel*
Dave Shawver, Stanton*	Don Sedgwick, Laguna Hills*
Elizabeth Swift, Buena Park*	Tri Ta, Westminster*
Mark Tetterer, Lake Forest	Juan Villegas, Santa Ana
Donald P. Wagner, County of Orange*	Kathleen Ward, San Clemente*

Absent: Dave Harrington, Aliso Viejo
Michele Steggell, La Palma

Ed Sachs, Mission Viejo

Also present were:

Fire Chief Brian Fennessy	Deputy Chief Pokey Sanchez
Assistant Chief Randy Black	Assistant Chief Robert Cortez
Assistant Chief Kenny Dossey	Assistant Chief Jim Ruane
Assistant Chief Lori Smith	Dir. of Communications Colleen Windsor
General Counsel David Kendig	Assistant Chief Stephanie Holloman
Clerk of the Authority Maria Huizar	

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Hasselbrink opened the Public Comments portion of the meeting. Chair Hasselbrink closed the Public Comments portion of the meeting without any comments from the general public.

REPORTS

A. Report from the Budget and Finance Committee Chair (FILE 11.12)

Budget and Finance Committee Chair Gene Hernandez reported at the September 9, 2020, regular meeting, the Committee voted unanimously to approve and forward the Fourth Quarter Financial Newsletter, Annual Investment Report, and the Monthly Investment Reports to the Executive Committee to receive and file the reports. The Committee also voted unanimously to approve and forward the Carryover of FY 2019/20 Uncompleted Projects, and Organizational Service Level Assessment Results & Approval of Next Phase of Citygate Services to the Board of Directors for approval of the recommended actions.

B. Report from the Human Resources Committee Chair (FILE 11.12)

Human Resources Committee Chair Vince Rossini reported at the September 1, 2020, meeting, the Committee received and filed presentation updates on both the Fleet Services and Orange County Fire Authority Management Association (OCFAMA) Classification and Compensation Studies. The Committee also voted to approve and forward the Amended and New Classification Specifications to the Executive Committee for approval.

C. Report from the Fire Chief (FILE 11.14)

Fire Chief Brian Fennessy provided a short video and presented a plaque commemorating OCFA's 25th Anniversary to Chair Hasselbrink. He provided an update to the series of fires throughout California noting OCFA has provided several strike teams to assist, reported on Suicide Prevention and Awareness Safety Stand Down, reminded everyone to be vigilant and focus on COVID Safety Stand Down, and provided an update regarding helicopter maintenance service.

1. PRESENTATIONS

No items.

Director Clark arrived at 6:22 p.m.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion of Director Johnson and second by Director Hernandez, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 22-0 (Directors Harrington, Sachs, and Steggell absent, Director Muller abstained) 2A-2B. Agenda Item 2D pulled for separate discussion.

A. Minutes from the August 27, 2020, Special Meeting of the Board of Directors (FILE 11.06)

Action: Approve as submitted.

B. Carryover of FY 2019/20 Uncompleted Multi-Year Projects (FILE 15.04)

Action:

1. Approve a budget adjustment in the FY 2020/21 General Fund (121) increasing revenues by \$7,853,974 and expenditures by \$10,468,027.
2. Approve a budget adjustment in the FY 2020/21 General Fund CIP (12110) increasing expenditures by \$4,251,843.
3. Approve a budget adjustment in the FY 2020/21 Fire Stations and Facilities Fund (123) increasing expenditures by \$6,021,771.
4. Approve a budget adjustment in the FY 2020/21 Communications and Information Systems Fund (124) increasing expenditures by \$2,948,389.
5. Approve a budget adjustment in the FY 2020/21 Fire Apparatus Fund (133) increasing expenditures by \$2,409,530.
6. Approve a budget adjustment in the FY 2020/21 Irvine Settlement Agreement Fund (139) increasing expenditures by \$1,500,000.
7. Approve a budget adjustment in the FY 2020/21 Structural Fire Entitlement Fund (171) increasing expenditures by \$1,226,020.

C. Biennial Review and Adoption of Revised Conflict of Interest Code (FILE 20.02A1)

Action: Continue consideration of matter to the October 22, 2020, Regular Board meeting at the request of staff.

D. Organizational Service Level Assessment Results & Approval of Next Phase of Citygate Services (FILE 17.16)

Director Tettermer requested insight to Citygate's initial fire service assessment and future process of their services.

On motion of Director Villegas and second by Director Muller, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 22-0 (Directors Harrington, Sachs, and Steggell absent) to:

1. Receive and file the Citygate Organizational Service Level Assessment (SLA) results presentation and final reports for Field Deployment, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Command Center, Fleet Services and Executive Leadership.
2. Approve and authorize the Purchasing Manager to issue individual Purchase Orders to Citygate Associates, LLC, under the general terms and conditions of the previously authorized Master Agreement, for each of the following:
 - a. Business Services Department SLA - \$68,356
 - b. Community Risk Reduction Department SLA - \$70,792

3. Direct staff to increase expenditures in the FY 2020/21 General Fund (121) budget by \$139,148 to fund the SLA's outlined above.

3. DISCUSSION

A. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding Orange County Fire Authority Chief Officers Association (FILE 17.04C)

Deputy Chief Zeller presented the Approval of Memorandum of Understanding Orange County Fire Authority Chief Officers Association.

Director Bartlett inquired to the accrual of sick leave and vacation.

On motion of Director Villegas and second by Director Kuo, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 13-8 (Directors Muller, Sedgwick, Tetterer, Moore, Bartlett, Wagner, Rossini, and Hasselbrink dissented; and Directors Harrington, Rains, Sachs, and Steggell absent) to approve the proposed MOU between the Orange County Fire Authority and the Orange County Fire Authority Chief Officers Association for a term of July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2023.

B. Very Large Helitanker (VLHT) Services (FILE 18.09E)

Fire Chief Fennessy presented the Very Large Helitanker (VLHT) Services report with a video presentation.

A brief discussion ensued. Director Muller proposed an amendment to the recommended action that the million dollar savings from the retirement of two helicopters potentially replaced by State funding, would revert back into the General Fund (121).

On motion of Director Villegas and second by Director Muller, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 22-0 (Directors Harrington, Sachs, and Steggell absent) to include Director Muller's proposed amendment and:

1. Approve Funding Agreement with Southern California Edison in a form substantially consistent with the attachment and approved by legal counsel to accept funding in the amount of \$2,158,000 to fund the fixed daily standby lease cost of one CH-47 Helitanker to enhance the effectiveness of aerial responses to wildland fires.
2. Approve and authorize the Purchasing Manager to execute the Public Aircraft Lease and Service Agreement with Coulson Aviation (USA), Inc. in a form substantially consistent with the attachment and approved by legal counsel utilizing the special procurement provision in the Purchasing Ordinance for the provision of aircraft and other operational related services in an amount not to exceed \$3,283,000.
3. Approve and authorize a FY 2020/21 General Fund (121) budget adjustment to recognize funding from SCE for a revenue increase of \$2,158,000 and to increase appropriations by the same amount.

4. Review the proposed agenda item and approve the updated Cost Reimbursement Rate schedule to include the CH-47 Helitanker hourly flight rate to be effective October 1, 2020.
5. Adopt statutory and categorical exemptions from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to: (1) Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, section 15262 for feasibility and planning studies; and (2) CEQA Guidelines section 15301 for existing facilities.

4. PUBLIC HEARING

No Items.

CLOSED SESSION

No items.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS (FILE 11.13)

Director Kuo noted an upcoming Virtual Wildfire Town Hall meeting hosted by the City of Irvine, Tuesday, September 29, 2020.

Director O'Neill thanked all firefighters and their families who are serving us throughout the State of California, noted the helitankers are needed to save lives, and his appreciation of Division Chief Ron Roberts and the firefighters serving the City of Garden Grove.

Director Swift reported on a small fire along the railroad tracks in Fullerton, just north of Buena Park, stating Fullerton Fire requested help by the OCFA helicopters, which aided in extinguishing the fire.

Director Wagner thanked the Authority and Chief Fennessy for the somber and dignified remembrance of September 11. He also thanked Division Chief Baryic Hunter for his reporting and updates he provides regarding OCFA. He also inquired about the process used to inform the board about personnel matters that may involve exposure to liability for the agency.

ADJOURNMENT – Chair Hasselbrink adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m. in memory of Charles Morton, Squad Boss for the Big Bear Interagency Hotshots, who passed Thursday, September 17, 2020, while battling the El Dorado Fire, in San Bernardino National Forest. The next regular meeting of the Orange County Fire Authority Board of Directors is scheduled for Thursday, October 22, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.



Maria D. Huizar, CMC
Clerk of the Authority