

MINUTES

ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY

Board of Directors Regular Meeting
Thursday, February 25, 2021
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 February 25, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Shawver.

INVOCATION

Chaplain Robert Benoun offered the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL

Chair Dave Shawver, Stanton	Vice Chair Michele Steggell, La Palma
Lisa Bartlett, County of Orange*	Troy Bourne, San Juan Capistrano
Letitia Clark, Tustin*	Ross Chun, Aliso Viejo*
Carol Gamble, Rancho Santa Margarita*	Shelley Hasselbrink, Los Alamitos
Noel Hatch, Laguna Woods* (6:30 p.m.)	Gene Hernandez, Yorba Linda*
Joe Kalmick, Seal Beach	Anthony Kuo, Irvine
Jessie Lopez, Santa Ana*	Frances Marquez, Cypress* (6:03 p.m.)
Joe Muller, Dana Point*	John R. O'Neill, Garden Grove*
Sunny Park, Buena Park*	Sandy Rains, Laguna Niguel*
Vince Rossini, Villa Park*	Ed Sachs, Mission Viejo*
Don Sedgwick, Laguna Hills*	Tri Ta, Westminster*
Mark Tetterer, Lake Forest	Kathleen Ward, San Clemente* (6:38 p.m.)
Donald P. Wagner, County of Orange*	

Absent: None

Also present were:

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

*Board of Director Members participating via Teleconferencing

REPORTS

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

Budget and Finance Committee Chair Joe Muller reported at the February 10, 2021, meeting, the Committee voted unanimously to approve and forward the Second Quarter Financial Newsletter and Monthly Investment Reports to the Executive Committee to receive and file the reports. The Committee voted unanimously to approve and forward the Audited Financial Reports for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020, and Emergency Medical Services Optimization Study, to the Board of Directors for approval of the recommended actions. Lastly, the Committee held elections for the Chair and Vice Chair positions, electing, Joe Muller as the Chair and Director Ta as Vice Chair, for the ensuing term.

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

Human Resources Committee Chair Michele Steggell reported at the February 2, 2021, meeting, the Committee received an update from Assistant Chief of Emergency Medical Services, Randy Black, on the OCFA Cancer Awareness & Prevention Month held in January, in cooperation with Local 3631 to fight against firefighter cancer. Assistant Chief of Human Resources Stephanie Holloman provided a 90-Day Report update of strategic goals and objectives underway within the Human Resources department. Assistant Chief Holloman also presented employment law updates that went into effect in 2020/2021 including new Cal/OSHA reporting requirements; the comprehensive Consolidated Appropriations Act signed into law in December 2020; and significant other State legislative actions governing Human Resources processes. Lastly, the Committee held elections for the Chair and Vice Chair positions, electing Director Hernandez as Vice Chair, and Michele Steggell as Chair for the ensuing term.

C. Report from the Fire Chief (FILE 11.14)

Fire Chief Brian Fennessy provided an update and video on OCFA firefighter Dylan Van Iwaarden, who after spending 114 days in the OC Global Burn Unit, was released from the hospital. He was severely injured October 26, 2020, while battling the Silverado Fire. He is transitioning to his next phase of recovery at UC Irvine Hospital. Chief Fennessy thanked all those who provided support and continued well wishes for his recovery. Chief Fennessy also introduced newly appointed Division Chief TJ McGovern. He will be serving as the Division Chief for the Emergency Command Center.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

1. PRESENTATIONS (FILE 11.09)

Chair Shawver and Fire Chief Fennessy recognized former Board Chair Shelley Hasselbrink for her leadership as Chair in 2020. The Board Members also offered thanks for her service.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion of Director O'Neill and second by Director Muller, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 22-0 (Directors Marquez, Hatch, and Ward were absent) Agenda Item 2A, with Agenda Items 2B and 2C pulled for separate consideration.

A. Minutes from the January 28, 2021, Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors (FILE 11.06)

Action: Approve as submitted.

B. Audited Financial Reports for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020 (FILE 15.02B)

Director Bartlett inquired to an overage to the AFG Grant. Assistant Chief Cortez reported there have been two measures implemented to control grant funds expenditures while incorporating the grant manager's review.

On motion by Director Bartlett and second by Director O'Neill, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 24-0 (Director Ward was absent) to receive and approve the report.

C. Very Large Helitanker Program Summary (FILE 18.09E)

Directors Kuo and Bartlett requested a breakdown of the flight hours within and outside county jurisdiction and the breakdown of CAL Fire appropriated funding. Assistant Chief Cortez responded and will provide an itemization of the request.

On motion of Director Kuo and second by Director O'Neill, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 24-0 (Director Sachs was absent) to receive and file the report.

3. DISCUSSION

A. Emergency Medical Services Optimization Study (FILE 17.16)

Fire Chief Fennessy presented the Emergency Medical Services Optimization Study.

A lengthy discussion ensued.

On motion of Director Muller and second by Chair Shawver, and following a roll call vote, declared 25-0 to reject the recommended action in favor of a formal RFP process to solicit proposals for an Emergency Medical Services Optimization Study.

4. PUBLIC HEARING

No Items.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS (FILE 11.13)

Director Wagner expressed concerns with solar panel companies having difficulty getting installation approvals in the OCFA jurisdictional area.

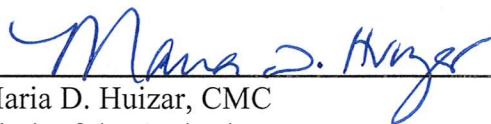
Director Rossini stated due to illness was absent for the last meeting and expressed thanks to those who wished him well.

Director Chun reported on a multi-family structural fire in Aliso Viejo, thanking the firefighters for their service (Station 57), who also called in the Red Cross to attend to the displaced families.

CLOSED SESSION (FILE 11.15)

Chair Shawver reported there will be no Closed Session this evening.

ADJOURNMENT –Chair Shawver adjourned the meeting at 7:49 p.m. in memory of all of the First Responders who lost their lives in the last year because of the Coronavirus. The next regular meeting of the Orange County Fire Authority Board of Directors is scheduled for Thursday, March 25, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.



Maria D. Huizar, CMC
Clerk of the Authority