

MINUTES

ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY

Board of Directors Regular and Concurrent Joint Special Meetings
Thursday, July 28, 2022
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 July 28, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Steggell.

INVOCATION

The invocation was led by Chaplain Gerardo Arenado.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL

Michele Steggell, La Palma, Chair
Ross Chun, Aliso Viejo*
Noel Hatch, Laguna Woods
Anne Hertz-Mallari, Cypress
Jessie Lopez, Santa Ana*
Sunny Park, Buena Park*
Don Sedgwick, Laguna Hills*
Tri Ta, Westminster*
Richard Viczorek, Dana Point*
Kathleen Ward, San Clemente*

Lisa Bartlett, County of Orange*
Carol Gamble, Rancho Santa Margarita*
Gene Hernandez, Yorba Linda*
Joe Kalmick, Seal Beach
John R. O'Neill, Garden Grove*
Vince Rossini, Villa Park
Dave Shawver, Stanton
Mark Tetteimer, Lake Forest
Donald P. Wagner, County of Orange*

Absent Troy Bourne, San Juan Capistrano
Anthony Kuo, Irvine
Sandy Rains, Laguna Niguel

Shelley Hasselbrink, Los Alamitos
Austin Lumbard, Tustin
Ed Sachs, Mission Viejo

Also present were:

Fire Chief Brian Fennessy
Deputy Chief Kenny Dossey
Assistant Chief Jim Ruane
Assistant Chief Lori Smith
General Counsel David Kendig

Deputy Chief Lori Zeller
Assistant Chief Robert Cortez
Assistant Chief Stephanie Holloman
Assistant Chief TJ McGovern
Clerk of the Authority Maria D. Huizar

**Board Members attending via teleconferencing*

REPORTS

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

Budget and Finance Committee Chair Tri Ta reported at its July 13, 2022, meeting, the Committee reviewed and recommended to forward the OCFA Aircraft Replacement Review Process – Review of Remaining Phase 3 through 6 of the Work Plan to the full Board inclusive of additional Committee requested information for the Board’s consideration of the item.

B. Report from the Fire Chief (FILE 11.14)

Fire Chief Brian Fennessy, Chair Steggell, and Division Chief Jim Henery presented the highest honor the agency can bestow upon a civilian for saving a life in a near-drowning incident. The Lifesaving Certificate was presented to Jesselle and Cecilia Perez, whose heroic measures stopped a near drowning of a family member. Also acknowledged was the crew on duty of Fire Station 70 who attended to the victim, Fire Captain Eric White, Firefighter/Paramedic Carter Kitley, Firefighter Tyler Sendrak, and Engineer/Paramedic Jeremy Yorke.

Fire Chief Fennessy highlighted the Cadet Academy, a week-long camp with 60 cadets ages 14-21 to become full members of the Cadet Program and ride-along certified. He thanked Chair Steggell, Vice Chair Kuo, and Director Hertz-Mallari who attended the Cadet graduation. He reviewed the Goals and Objectives 4th Quarter Update, and draft of the 1st Quarter 2022-23 Update. Lastly, Chief Fennessy reported on the Girls Empowerment Camp, thanking both the Board Chair and Vice Chair for their attendance at the graduation.

Director Sedgwick arrived at this point (6:05 p.m.).

PUBLIC COMMENTS (FILE 11.11)

Lilly Frolichman, no phone number provided, presented her view of the management of OCFA.

Phone number ending in 7575, addressed the California Fair Employment and Housing Act, and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU).

Phone number ending in 6036, addressed drowning prevention and lifesaving programs.

Phone number ending in 1770, commented on the dismissal of Desiree Horton.

Cory Johnson, resident of Orange County, addressed the tenure of the Fire Chief.

Justin Dillon, OCFA Fire Captain and Vice President of Local 3631, addressed staffing and forced overtime.

Chris Hamm, OCFA Fire Captain, addressed forced overtime and lack of time off.

Kelly Luca, OCFA employee, addressed forced hours.

Steve Kriha, Negotiator for Local 3631, addressed labor negotiations with the Board of Directors.

Todd Baldrige, President Local 3631, addressed the firefighters contract and current OCFA negotiations.

Aaron Peardon, Senior Labor Relations for OCEA, addressed the firefighter's contract and current OCEA negotiations.

Adele Tagaloa, OCEA Board Secretary and Trustee, addressed the need for fair labor negotiations with both the firefighters and the members of OCEA.

Luis Alleman, Orange County Labor Federation, addressed the current ongoing labor negotiations.

Charles Barfield, General Manager of OCEA, addressed the need for fair labor negotiations.

1. PRESENTATIONS

No items.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion of Director Rossini and second by Director Tettermer, and following a roll call vote, approved 19-0 Agenda Items No. 2A-2C (Directors Bourne, Hasselbrink, Kuo, Lumbard, Rains, and Sachs absent).

A. Minutes for the Board of Directors Regular and Joint Meeting June 23, 2022 (FILE 11.06)

Action: Approve the Minutes for the June 23, 2022, Regular and Concurrent Joint Special Meeting as submitted.

B. Proclamation for Fire Prevention Week (FILE 11.09A)

Action: Approve proclamation designating October 9-15, 2022, as Fire Prevention Week.

C. Award of Public Works Contract for Security Cameras and Access Control Systems Upgrade – RFOTC (FILE 19.07B28a)

Action:

1. Approve the plans and specifications for the installation and upgrade of existing Security Cameras and Access Control Systems at the RFOTC.
2. Accept Convergent Technologies bid dated March 30, 2022.
3. Approve and award the public works contract to Convergent Technologies in the amount of \$549,588.

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Firefighter Staffing/Forced Overtime Update (FILE 15.11)

Deputy Chief Dossey presented the Firefighter Staffing/Forced Overtime Update.

On motion of Director Kalmick and second by Director Rossini, and following a roll call vote, approved 19-0 (Directors Bourne, Hasselbrink, Kuo, Lombard, Rains, and Sachs absent.) to receive and file the report.

B. OCFA Aircraft Replacement Review Process – Review of Remaining Phase 3 through 6 of the Work Plan (FILE 18.09A)

Fire Chief Fennessy presented the OCFA Aircraft Replacement Review Process – Phase 3 through 6 of the Work Plan.

Chief Fennessy introduced Division Chief Tim Perkins, who presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Aircraft Replacement Summary.

Assistant Chief Robert Cortez provided Phase 5 the Affordability Analysis with Potential Financing Solutions. Division Chief Perkins completed the presentation with Phase 6 Development of Recommendations.

Discussion ensued.

On motion of Director Hatch and second by Director Ward, and following a roll call vote, approved 16-3 (Directors Rossini, Steggell, and Tettermer opposed, Directors Bourne, Hasselbrink, Kuo, Lombard, Rains and Sachs absent) to:

1. Receive and file the report documenting the full OCFA Aircraft Replacement Review Process.

2. Direct staff to return the two loaned Federal Excess Property Program (FEPP) UH-1H Super Huey helicopters to the federal government, with CALFIRE serving as the conduit for this FEPP return.
3. Direct staff to initiate administrative actions necessary to facilitate the purchase of two Sikorsky S-70i Type I helicopters, including: (a) procurement process for award of contract, (b) Request for Proposal process for selection of financing consultants, (c) Request for Proposal process for provision of lease-purchase financing, (d) and preparation of draft-proposed budget adjustments.
4. Upon completion of the administrative actions, direct staff to return to the Budget and Finance Committee and the Board of Directors (tentatively in September 2022) for approval to award a purchasing contract, approval of lease financing terms, and authorization of the necessary budget adjustments.

RECESS THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CALL TO ORDER THE CONCURRENT JOINT SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE: BOARD OF DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE, HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE, AND THE LEGISLATIVE & PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (FILE 10.03)

A. Findings Required by AB 361 for the Continued Use of Teleconferencing for Meetings (FILE 11.03).

General Counsel David Kendig presented the Findings Required by AB 361 for the Continued Use of Teleconferencing for Meetings.

On motion of Director Hatch and second by Director Rossini, and following a roll call vote, approved 16-3 (Directors Hertz-Mallari, Steggell, and Tettemer opposed, Directors Bourne, Hasselbrink, Kuo, Lombard, Rains, and Sachs absent), to select Option #1 to make the following findings:

- a. A state of emergency has been proclaimed by California's Governor due to the COVID-19 pandemic and continues in effect; and
- b. The Board of Directors and each Committee has reconsidered the circumstances of the emergency; and
- c. State and local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing to slow the spread of COVID-19.

ADJOURN THE CONCURRENT JOINT MEETINGS AND RECONVENE TO THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

The Board Members offered no comments.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION (FILE 11.15)

CS1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6

Negotiators: Peter Brown, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore and Stephanie Holloman, Assistant Chief/Human Resources Director

Employee Organizations: • Orange County Professional Firefighters Association, IAFF - Local 3631, and • Orange County Employees Association (OCEA)

CS2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.5

Position: Fire Chief

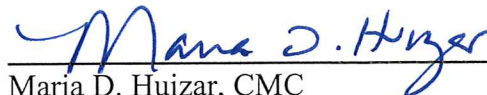
CS3. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE TO LITIGATION pursuant to paragraph (2) and (3) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code: One (1) Case

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

CLOSED SESSION REPORT (FILE 11.15)

General Counsel David Kendig stated the Board of Directors gave direction to its labor negotiators and concluded the performance review of the Fire Chief, and other than that there was no reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT – Chair Steggell adjourned the meeting at 10:59 p.m. The next meeting of the Orange County Fire Authority Board of Directors will be a Concurrent Joint Special Meeting of the Board and all Committees on Thursday, August 25, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.



Maria D. Huizar, CMC
Clerk of the Authority