

# MINUTES

## ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY

**Budget and Finance Committee Regular Meeting**  
**Wednesday, April 13, 2022**  
**12:00 Noon**

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

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### CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Orange County Fire Authority Budget and Finance Committee was called to order on April 13, 2022, at 12:01 p.m. by Chair Ta.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Kuo led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.

### ROLL CALL

**Present:** Tri Ta, Westminster, Chair\*  
John O'Neill, Garden Grove, Vice Chair\*  
Shelley Hasselbrink, Los Alamitos\*  
Gene Hernandez, Yorba Linda\*  
Anthony Kuo, Irvine\*  
Austin Lombard, Tustin\*  
Ed Sachs, Mission Viejo\*

**Absent:** Troy Bourne, San Juan Capistrano  
Vince Rossini, Villa Park

### Staff present were:

|                                       |                                     |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Fire Chief Brian Fennessy             | Deputy Chief Lori Zeller            |
| Assistant Chief Robert Cortez         | Assistant Chief TJ McGovern         |
| Assistant Chief Jim Ruane             | Assistant Chief Lori Smith          |
| Assistant Chief Stephanie Holloman    | General Counsel David Kendig        |
| Ex-Officio Member Jennifer Cervantez* | Clerk of the Authority Maria Huizar |

*\*Those members attending via Teleconferencing*

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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

### **1. PRESENTATION**

No items.

### **2. CONSENT CALENDAR**

On motion of Director Hasselbrink and second by Director Sachs, and following a roll call vote, approved 7-0 Agenda Items 2A-2B (Directors Bourne and Rossini absent).

#### **A. Minutes for the Budget and Finance Committee Meetings (FILE 12.02B2)**

Action:

1. Approve the Minutes for the March 9, 2022, Regular Meeting as submitted.
2. Approve the Minutes for the March 24, 2022, Concurrent Joint Special Meeting as submitted.

#### **B. Monthly Investment Reports (FILE 11.10D2)**

Action: Review the proposed agenda item and direct staff to place the item on the agenda for the Executive Committee meeting of April 28, 2022, with the Budget and Finance Committee's recommendation that the Executive Committee receive and file the reports.

### **3. DISCUSSION CALENDAR**

#### **A. Communication with Auditors for Fiscal Year 2021/22 Financial Audit (FILE 15.02B)**

Finance Manager Julie Nemes presented the Communication with Auditors for Fiscal Year 2021/22 Financial Audit. She introduced Managing Partner Bryan Gruber of Lance, Soll Lunghard, LLP, who provided a summary of the work performed for OCFA.

On motion of Director Kuo and second by Director O'Neill, and following a roll call vote, approved 7-0 (Directors Bourne and Rossini absent) to receive and file the report.

#### **B. Fiscal Year 2020/21 Backfill/Overtime and Calendar Year 2021 Total Earnings/Compensation Analysis (FILE 15.11)**

Finance Manager Julie Nemes presented the Fiscal Year 2020/21 Backfill/Overtime and Calendar Year 2021 Total Earnings/Compensation Analysis.

On motion of Director Hasselbrink and second by Director Sachs, and following a roll call

vote, approved 7-0 (Directors Bourne and Rossini absent) to review the proposed agenda item and direct staff to place the item on the agenda for the Board of Directors meeting of April 28, 2022, with the Budget and Finance Committee's recommendation that the Board of Directors take the following actions:

1. Direct staff to continue pursuing reductions in overtime by filling permanent vacancies as quickly as possible after the positions become vacant.
2. Authorize staff to temporarily exceed the number of authorized firefighter positions on the Master Position Control to maximize the number of firefighters hired into each academy, pending attrition/promotions that occur during and following academy graduations.
3. Direct staff to continue using overtime to fill temporary vacancies rather than hiring additional personnel, recognizing this as a cost-effective practice for temporary needs.

**C. Community Risk Reduction Fee Study and Adoption of Associated Fee Schedules (FILE 15.05A)**

Finance Manager Julie Nemes presented the Community Risk Reduction Fee Study and Adoption of Associated Fee Schedules.

On motion of Director Kuo and second by Director O'Neill, and following a roll call vote, approved 7-0 (Directors Bourne and Rossini absent) to review the proposed agenda item and direct staff to place the item on the agenda for the Board of Directors meeting of April 28, 2022, with the Budget and Finance Committee's recommendation that the Board of Directors take the following actions:

1. Conduct a Public Hearing.
2. Find that, in accordance with California Government Code Section 66014, the proposed fees do not exceed the cost of providing services and are only for the purpose of meeting operational expenses and are, therefore, exempt from compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.
3. Approve and adopt Resolution entitled A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY SUPERSEDING ALL PREVIOUS RESOLUTIONS AND APPROVING CHANGES IN COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION (FORMERLY FIRE PREVENTION) AND MISCELLANEOUS FEES approving changes in Community Risk Reduction and Miscellaneous fees and effective date.

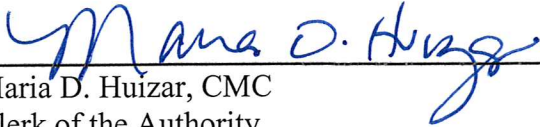
**REPORTS**

No items.

**COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

The Committee Members offered no comments.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Chair Ta adjourned the meeting at 12:59 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Budget and Finance Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, May 11, 2022, at 12:00 noon.

  
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Maria D. Huizar, CMC  
Clerk of the Authority