MINUTES
ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY

Budget and Finance Committee Regular Meeting
Wednesday, April 12, 2023
12:00 Noon

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

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Orange County Fire Authority Budget and Finance Committee was called to order on April 12, 2023, at 12:07 p.m. by Chair O'Neill.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL – Clerk of the Authority

Present: John O'Neill, Garden Grove, Chair
Shelley Hasselbrink, Los Alamitos
Gene Hernandez, Yorba Linda
Austin Lumbard, Tustin
Nitesh Patel, La Palma
Vince Rossini, Villa Park

Absent: John Gabbard, Dana Point
Chi Charlie Nguyen, Westminster
Troy Bourne, San Juan Capistrano

Staff present:

Fire Chief Brian Fennessy	Deputy Chief Lori Zeller
Assistant Chief Jim Ruane	Deputy Chief TJ McGovern
Assistant Chief Robert Cortez	Assistant Chief Rob Capobianco
Assistant Chief Tim Perkins	Assistant Chief Stephanie Holloman
General Counsel David Kendig	Clerk of the Authority Maria D. Huizar
Ex-Officio Member Jennifer Cervantez	

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair O'Neill opened the Public Comments portion of the meeting, and with no comments from the general public closed the Public Comments portion of the meeting.

1. **PRESENTATION**
   No items.

2. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

   On motion of Director Hernandez and second by Director Lumbard, and following a vote by acclamation approved 6-0 Agenda Item Nos. 2A-2B (Directors Bourne, Gabbard, and Nguyen absent).

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

      Action: Approve the Minutes for the March 8, 2023, Regular 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 27, 2023, 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 2022/23 Financial Audit** (FILE 15.02B)

      Assistant Chief Cortez presented the Communication with Auditors for Fiscal Year 2022/23 Financial Audit, and introduced Partner Bryan Gruber of Lance, Soll & Lunghard, LLP, who provided an overview of the Fiscal Year 2022/23 Financial Audit.

      Item to receive and file the report approved by acclamation.

   B. **Fiscal Year 2021/22 Backfill/Overtime and Calendar Year 2022 Total Earnings/Compensation Analysis** (FILE 15.11)

      Chris Hamm, President of Firefighters Local 3631, commended the OCFA Executive Team for its plan to reduce forced overtime.

      Assistant Chief Cortez presented the Fiscal Year 2021/22 Backfill/Overtime and Calendar Year 2022 Total Earnings/Compensation Analysis.

      On motion of Director Hernandez and second by Director Rossini, and following vote by acclamation approved 6-0 (Directors Bourne, Gabbard, and Nguyen 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 27, 2023, 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 vacant positions as quickly as possible after the positions become vacant.

2. Authorize staff to temporarily exceed the number of authorized dispatcher positions on the Master Position Control to maximize the number of dispatchers hired into each academy, pending attrition/retirements/promotions that will occur.
3. Direct staff to continue using overtime to fill shifts which are <u>temporarily</u> vacant rather than hiring additional personnel, recognizing this as a cost-effective practice for temporary needs.

REPORTS
No items.

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS
None.

ADJOURNMENT – Chair O'Neill adjourned the meeting at 12:58 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Budget and Finance Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, May 10, 2023, at 12:00 noon.

Maria D. Huizar, CMC
Clerk of the Authority