

# MINUTES

## ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY

**Board of Directors Special Meeting**  
**Thursday, September 1, 2016**  
**6:00 P.M.**

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

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### CALL TO ORDER

A special meeting of the Orange County Fire Authority Board of Directors was called to order on September 1, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Hernandez.

### INVOCATION

Senior Chaplain Dave Keehn offered the invocation.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

### ROLL CALL

Robert Baker, San Clemente  
Lisa Bartlett, County of Orange  
Shelley Hasselbrink, Los Alamitos  
Robert Johnson, Cypress  
Al Murray, Tustin  
Dwight Robinson, Lake Forest  
Vicente Sarmiento, Santa Ana  
David Shawver, Stanton  
Todd Spitzer, County of Orange  
Elizabeth Swift, Buena Park  
Phillip Tsunoda, Aliso Viejo

Rick Barnett, Villa Park  
Craig Green, Placentia  
Gene Hernandez, Yorba Linda  
Joseph Muller, Dana Point  
John Perry, San Juan Capistrano  
Ed Sachs, Mission Viejo  
Don Sedgwick, Laguna Hills  
David Sloan, Seal Beach  
Michele Steggell, La Palma  
Tri Ta, Westminster

**Absent:** Laurie Davies, Laguna Niguel  
Noel Hatch, Laguna Woods

Carol Gamble, Rancho Santa Margarita  
Jeffrey Lalloway, Irvine

### Also present were:

Fire Chief Jeff Bowman  
Assistant Chief Brian Young  
Assistant Chief Lori Zeller  
General Counsel David Kendig  
Clerk of the Authority Sherry Wentz

Assistant Chief Dave Thomas  
Assistant Chief Mike Schroeder  
Assistant Chief Lori Smith  
Communications Director Sandy Cooney

## **PRESENTATIONS**

No items.

## **REPORTS**

No items.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS (F: 11.11)**

Stephen Wontrobski, Mission Viejo resident, spoke in opposition to Closed Session Item No. 1; his support of labor negotiation reform; his opposition to the existing labor negotiator; and the need for pension reform.

Ray Geagan, President Orange County Professional Firefighters' Association Local 3631, spoke in support of the Closed Session Item No. 1.

## **CLOSED SESSION (F: 11.15)**

General Counsel David Kendig reported the Board would be convening to Closed Session to consider the matter on the Agenda identified as CS1, Conference with Labor Negotiator.

Chair Hernandez recessed the meeting to Closed Session at 6:13 p.m.

### **CS1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR**

Chief Negotiator: Peter Brown, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore

Employee Organizations: Orange County Professional Firefighters' Association,  
Local 3631 and Chief Officers Association

Authority: Government Code Section 54957.6

Chair Hernandez reconvened the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

## **CLOSED SESSION REPORT (F: 11.15)**

General Counsel David Kendig stated there was no reportable action.

### **2. MINUTES**

No items.

### **3. CONSENT CALENDAR**

No items.

**4. PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

No items.

**5. DISCUSSION CALENDAR**

**A. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding – Orange County Professional Firefighters Association (F: 17.04B1)**

Assistant Chief Brian Young introduced the staff report.

Stephen Wontrobski, Mission Viejo resident, spoke in opposition to the contract.

On motion of Director Murray and second by Director Shawver, the Board of Directors voted by those present to approve the proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the Orange County Fire Authority and the Orange County Professional Firefighters Association for a term of September 1, 2016, to August 31, 2020. Director Barnett voted in opposition.

**B. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding – Language Amendments Chief Officers Association (F: 17.04C1)**

Assistant Chief Brian Young introduced the staff report.

Stephen Wontrobski, Mission Viejo resident, addressed opposition to the Memorandum of Understanding.

On motion of Vice Chair Swift and second by Director Shawver, the Board of Directors voted unanimously by those present to approve the proposed non-economic language amendments to the existing Memorandum of Understanding between the Orange County Fire Authority and the Chief Officers Association.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS (F: 11.13)**

Director Spitzer commented to the upcoming events taking place in remembrance of 9-11. He suggested the Board initiate a resolution memorializing the event and the protocol for future planned events, if a prior resolution was not already in place.

Director Murray praised Fire Station 21 for stepping beyond its call to a patient experiencing low blood sugar by preparing the patient breakfast and ensuring their safety before leaving the home. He noted the city of Tustin will have an event honoring the victims of 9-11.

Director Baker stated he supports formalizing a resolution to honor those of 9-11. Speaking as a former airline pilot, he would encourage attendance at the various fire stations on September 11.

Director Barnett noted the annual sponsorship of Camp Pendleton Marines by Villa Park residences will occur at Thanksgiving. He commented his son-in-law who is a firefighter, parachuted in to help fight a fire on his birthday. He asked how many firefighters were injured in a recent local fire.

Assistant Chief of Operations Dave Thomas reported four firefighters injured during this incident that took place in the Cleveland National Forest. Routinely, the US Forest Service (USFS manages and protects 154 national forests and 20 grasslands in 44 states and Puerto Rico) oversees incidents occurring in the forest: however, due to all ongoing wildfire activity the USFS reached out to the OCFA to oversee this fire's incident command. OCFA was commended by the USFS for OCFA's oversight of the incident team that supported over 400 firefighters. It was also noted that the air operations program made a direct contribution in helping to save the injured firefighter's lives on this incident.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Chair Hernandez adjourned the meeting at 7:18 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Orange County Fire Authority Board of Directors is scheduled for Thursday, September 22, 2016, at 6:00 p.m.

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Sherry A.F. Wentz, CMC  
Clerk of the Authority