

MINUTES

ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY

Board of Directors Regular and Concurrent Joint Special Meetings
Thursday, May 26, 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 May 26, 2022, at 6:04 p.m. by Chair Steggell.

INVOCATION

The invocation was led by Chaplain Devin Chase.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL

Michele Steggell, La Palma, Chair
Lisa Bartlett, County of Orange*
Ross Chun, Aliso Viejo*
Shelley Hasselbrink, Los Alamitos*
Joe Kalmick, Seal Beach
Austin Lombard, Tustin*
Sunny Park, Buena Park*
Vince Rossini, Villa Park*
Don Sedgwick, Laguna Hills
Tri Ta, Westminster*
Richard Viczorek, Dana Point*
Kathleen Ward, San Clemente

Anthony Kuo, Irvine, Vice Chair
Troy Bourne, San Juan Capistrano*
Carol Gamble, Rancho Santa Margarita*
Noel Hatch, Laguna Woods
Jessie Lopez, Santa Ana*
John R. O'Neill, Garden Grove
Sandy Rains, Laguna Niguel*
Ed Sachs, Mission Viejo*
Dave Shawver, Stanton
Mark Tettermer, Lake Forest
Donald P. Wagner, County of Orange*

Absent Gene Hernandez, Yorba Linda

Anne Hertz-Mallari, Cypress

Also present were:

Fire Chief Brian Fennessy
Deputy Chief Kenny Dossey
Assistant Chief Stephanie Holloman
Assistant Chief TJ McGovern
General Counsel David Kendig
Clerk of the Authority Maria D. Huizar

Deputy Chief Lori Zeller
Assistant Chief Jim Ruane
Assistant Chief Lori Smith
Assistant Chief Randy Black
Director of Communications Matt Olson
Assistant General Counsel Keith Dobyns

**Those members attending via Teleconferencing.*

REPORTS

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

Budget and Finance Committee Chair Ta reported at its May 11, 2022, Committee meeting, the Committee reviewed and recommended forwarding the Third Quarter Purchasing Report and the Organizational Service Level Assessment Update, to the Board of Directors to receive and file the reports. The Committee also reviewed the Fiscal Year 2022/23 Proposed Budget concluding with the recommendation that the Board conduct the Public Hearing and approve the recommended actions.

Directors Sedgwick and Hatch arrived at this point (6:12 p.m.).

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

Board of Directors Chair Steggell reported at its May 3, 2022, regular meeting of the Human Resources Committee, the Committee received the Professional Standards Unit / Employee Relations Update from Assistant Chief Stephanie Holloman. Risk Manager Rhonda Haynes introduced the Amendment of Professional Services Agreements for Third Party Workers Compensation Administration. The Committee reviewed and approved to forward the item to the Executive Committee for its approval of the recommended actions.

C. Report from the Fire Chief (FILE 11.14)

Fire Chief Brian Fennessy summarized current significant events; Mental Health Awareness Month, Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month; and the beginning of Wildfire Awareness and Drowning Prevention Season; which creates a heightened impact on the OCFA's responsibilities. Additionally, this past month firefighters demonstrated their strengths and fortitude fighting the Coastal Fire, and responding to the Laguna Woods Active Shooter incident. OCFA continued to work with the Red Cross installing 500 free smoke alarms for residence, and celebrating its 15th Annual Best and Braves Awards event, honoring its own.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (FILE 11.11)

Kris, no phone number provided, addressed the vision for OCFA, recruitment plan, women in OCFA and diversity.

Libby, no phone number provided, addressed an incident of a fallen resident attended to by firefighters without masks.

Cynthia, no phone number provided, spoke regarding the Orange County Register newspaper article of April 17, 2022, addressing gender separate bathrooms for firefighters.

Cory Johnson, resident of Orange County, addressed concerns about the integrity of the OCFA leadership.

Kathleen, resident with the phone number ending in 1770, spoke of concern regarding the recent survey conducted by Firefighter Local 3631 and its results.

Ann, resident with the phone number ending in 6036, addressed the survey results conducted by Firefighter Local 3631.

1. PRESENTATIONS

No items.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion of Vice Chair Kuo and second by Director Rossini, and following a roll call vote, approved 23-0 Agenda Items 2A-2D (Directors Hernandez and Hertz-Mallari absent).

A. Minutes for the Board of Directors (FILE 11.06)

Actions:

1. Approve the Minutes for the April 14, 2022, Concurrent Joint Special Meeting as submitted.
2. Approve the Minutes for the April 28, 2022, Regular and Concurrent Joint Special Meeting as submitted.

B. Award of Public Works Contract for Tenant Improvements at OCFA Fire Stations 14 & 16 (FILE 19.07C)

Actions:

1. Approve the plans and specifications for Tenant Improvements at OCFA Fire Stations 14 & 16. (See Attachment Three to this staff report).
2. Accept the Neuroth Construction, Inc bid dated March 8, 2022.
3. Approve and award the public works contract to Neuroth Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$821,227.

C. Third Quarter Purchasing Report (FILE 11.10H1)

Action: Receive and file the report.

D. Organizational Service Level Assessment Update (FILE 17.16)

Action: Receive and file the Organizational Service Level Assessment (SLA) update for Field Deployment, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Command Center, Fleet Services, Executive Leadership/Human Resources, Business Services, and Community Risk Reduction.

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS

No items.

4. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Review of the Fiscal Year 2022/23 Proposed Budget (FILE 15.04)

Chair Steggell opened the Public Hearing. There were no speakers and the Hearing closed.

Deputy Chief Lori Zeller presented the Review of the Fiscal Year 2022/23 Proposed Budget.

Brief discussion ensued.

On motion of Director Sachs and second by Director O'Neill, and following a roll call vote, approved 23-0 (Directors Hernandez and Hertz-Mallari absent) to:

1. Conduct a Public Hearing.
2. Adopt the FY 2022/23 Proposed Budget as submitted.
3. Adopt Resolution No. 2022-04 entitled A RESOLUTION OF THE ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS ADOPTING AND APPROVING THE APPROPRIATIONS BUDGET FOR THE ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022/23.
4. Approve and authorize the temporary transfer of up to \$90 million from the Fund 190 Workers' Compensation Reserve Fund to the General Fund 121 to cover a projected temporary cash flow shortfall for FY 2022/23.
5. Approve and authorize the repayment of \$90 million borrowed funds from Fund 121 to Fund 190 along with interest when General Fund revenues become available in FY 2022/23.
6. Approve changes to the Master Position Control list to unfreeze, reclassify and/or add 38 positions as detailed in Attachment 3.
7. Approve transfers from the General Fund 121 to CIP Funds and Settlement Agreement Fund totaling \$26,110,226.

RECESSED THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CALLED TO ORDER THE CONCURRENT JOINT SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE: BOARD OF DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE, AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE AT 7:24 P.M.

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.

Brief discussion ensued.

On motion of Director Wagner and second by Director Ta, and following a roll call vote, approved 19-4 (Directors Kuo, Rossini, Steggell, and Tetterer opposed, Directors Hernandez and Hertz-Mallari 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 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.

ADJOURNED THE CONCURRENT JOINT MEETINGS AND RECONVENED TO THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT 7:45 P.M. WITH SAME MEMBERS PRESENT

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS (FILE 11.13)

Director Hasselbrink commented to the professionalism exhibited during a large industrial building fire in Los Alamitos by both OCFA's Seal Beach and Los Alamitos firefighters.

Director Chun offered to volunteer for the Legislative and Public Affairs committees.

Director Ward offered to serve on both the Legislative and Public Affairs committees. Director Ward asked if OCFA would consider submitting a proposal should San Clemente go out for a Request for Proposal (RFP) for ambulance service.

Director Shawver recognized Assistant Chief Lori Smith and her department who helped to expedite a care facility for seniors recently built in Stanton.

Vice Chair Kuo announced his recent appointment by the City Selection Committee to the County-wide Emergency Medical Care Committee.

Director Bartlett commented that the firefighters did a tremendous job with the Coastal Fire, gave compassion and care to the residents; went over and above the call to duty. Additionally, she

thanked the firefighters who worked in concert with the Sheriff's Department after the Laguna Woods mass shooting.

Director Lumbard praised the firefighters who saved the life of a recent drowning victim.

Chair Steggell thanked Communications Director Matt Olson for his great correspondence and noticing to the Board Members, she also noted attending the Best and Bravest Award night, praising the firefighters for their work they do daily in saving lives and caring for the public.

Director Hatch reported on the Laguna Woods mass shooting, expressing what a tragedy it was, noting many firefighters, Battalion Chiefs, and Assistant Chiefs were present to assist. He expressed thanks to OCFA's leadership and staff, and the fire fighters and responders for their presence, and the mayors of the neighboring cities who offered to provide support.

Director Sedgwick reported receiving text messages about the Laguna Woods shooting, recognizing the hero was a physician who had attended to his family in the past. He spoke highly of his character and integrity. He requested the meeting be closed in memory of Doctor John Cheng.

RECESSED TO CLOSED SESSION AT 8:05 P.M. (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,
- Orange County Employees Association (OCEA), and
- Orange County Fire Authority Management Association (OCFAMA)

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

Position:

Fire Chief

CS3. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.5

Position:

General Counsel

CS4. 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: Two (2) Cases

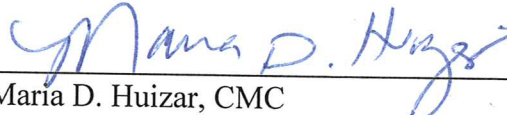
RECONVENED TO OPEN SESSION AT 10:11 P.M.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT (FILE 11.15)

General Counsel David Kendig stated there was no reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT - Chair Steggell adjourned the meeting at 10:12 p.m. The next meeting of the Orange County Fire Authority Board of Directors is scheduled for Thursday, June 23, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

In the Memory of Doctor John Cheng
who lost his life after heroic efforts to stop the recent mass shooting in Laguna Woods.



Maria D. Huizar, CMC
Clerk of the Authority