

**SIX HUNDRED TWENTIETH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE  
EL DORADO HILLS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT**

The six hundred twentieth meeting of the Board of Directors of the El Dorado Hills County Water District was held on Wednesday, May 21, 2008, at 6:00 p.m., at the regular meeting place of the District, the District Office, 1050 Wilson Blvd., El Dorado Hills, California. Present were Directors Hartley, Hidahl, Knight and Thomsen with President Hidahl presiding. Counsel Mike Cook was also in attendance. Chiefs Veerkamp, Planje, and Chief Financial Officer Bair were also in attendance.

President Hidahl called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Hidahl stated that the Board was planning to select a Director to fill the vacant position on the Board. This appointment would be good until the end of November and the person selected, along with any other interested citizens, would have an opportunity to run for election of the two-year unexpired term. He welcomed all eight of the applicants, who were applying for the open Director position. He explained that there would be total of ten minutes allowed for each applicant to address the Board; this time allotment would be broken down into a two-minute statement from the applicant with the remaining eight minutes left for answering the questions from the Board.

He also stated that although this was an open meeting which would allow for applicants to be present for all interviews, he suggested that as a courtesy and in fairness to the process, it would be appreciated if the applicant being interviewed be the only one to remain in the room. He restated that this was an open meeting.

After a roll call Director Hidahl stated that all applicants were in attendance. The order had been predetermined randomly and the applicants would be interviewed in the following order:

1. Michael Stockham
2. Paul Raveling
3. John Brenner
4. Noelle Mattock
5. Greg Durante
6. Jim Stewart
7. Mark Ghilarducci
8. Edward Zine

The questions that were prepared for the candidates were:

1. If selected, how would you balance the interests of the community, volunteers and paid staff?
2. The Grand Jury recently recommended consolidating the various west slope fire agencies. What are your thoughts/positions(s) on consolidation(s)?
3. What would you like to see change within the Fire Department and/or Board (if anything)?
4. Have you ever attended an EDH Fire Department Board meeting, an EHD CSD Board Meeting, an EDC Board of Supervisors' meeting or a similar elected board meeting? If so, which, and what were your overall impressions?
5. Will you run for re-election in November?
6. What are three strategic issues that face the District in the next five years and how will you govern to handle these issues?
7. Are you satisfied with the current level of emergency medical transport within the County of El Dorado? Please explain your answer.
8. Why do you seek to join the El Dorado Hills Fire Department Board of Directors?

Each interviewee was given a chance to read the questions and respond. President Hidahl used a stop watch and kept all interviews to the ten minutes allotted. Mark Ghilarducci stayed for his interview, however, based on the caliber of applicants, withdrew his application.

This interview process concluded at 7:34 p.m. There were no comments from the public. President Hidahl stated that he was very impressed with the quality of the candidates and all Board members concurred. There were various letters of endorsement from individuals in the packets. Discussion occurred that there should be a letter of support from the El Dorado Hills Associated Firefighters endorsing Greg Durante. President Hidahl requested the letter at which time David Merino, President of the Associated Firefighters, left the meeting and returned with a copy of the letter of support.

President Hidahl stated that he would like the process to be for a Board Member to make a motion, get a second, and vote.

Director Thomsen stated that he would like to see the Board put in someone who had been in the election process from the last election. Director Thomsen moved to appoint Michael Stockham to the Board, seconded by Director Knight. The motion failed. (Roll Call: Ayes: Knight/Thomsen. Noes: Hartley/Hidahl.)

Director Knight moved to appoint Greg Durante to the Board of Directors, seconded by Director Hidahl and unanimously carried. (Roll Call: Ayes: Knight/Thomsen/Hartley/Hidahl. Noes: none.)

President Hidahl again thanked all the candidates for being at the meeting.

*A break was taken from 7:43 to 7:55 p.m.*

Greg Durante was sworn in by Connie Bair, the Board Secretary and took his seat on the Board.

Director Knight moved to approve the Consent Calendar, which included the minutes of the six hundred nineteenth meeting held April 30, 2008, and the expenditures for April 2008, seconded by Director Thomsen and unanimously carried.

Director Thomsen questioned the minutes from the last meeting. He stated that he did not want to amend the minutes; he wants to agendaize a request for a recording device at the District Board meetings. He requested that staff bring back costs to the next meeting. Staff stated that they would research this, but it is also a policy decision of the Board whether or not to record meetings. Staff will pursue this issue with Counsel Cook.

The issue of the minutes came back up. Director Thomsen did not feel that they correctly stated what happened. After much discussion Counsel Cook stated that the minutes of the April 30, 2008, page 4, paragraph 3 following "...substantive issues with both." would be amended to read, "The Association representative was advised that the matter would be continued."

Director Knight moved to amend the minutes to reflect the changes suggested by Counsel Cook, seconded by Director Thomsen and unanimously carried.

Two letters were received the previous month from Firefighters. Counsel Cook stated that there was no new information to report. They had been referred to outside Counsel who worked with Chief Veerkamp who responded operationally. No closed session was required at this time. President Hidahl placed it on the agenda in the event it was needed to avoid further delays.

Dr. Curtiss Weidmer wished to continue his complaint regarding Chief Veerkamp. Counsel stated that a citizen would air a complaint in open session and the Board would review the Chief's performance in closed session. The Board stated that they assumed the matter was resolved as there was no further follow up from Chief Veerkamp's response. President Hidahl stated that he had a request from Dr. Weidmer to address the Board formally.

Dr. Weidmer was invited to make his presentation to the Board. He handed out packets with information and copies of letters enclosed. Director Knight requested that he state his initial complaint, which was Chief Veerkamp had pressured an editor not to publish his letter because the Fire Chiefs would be mad. The subject matter of the letter was the Diamond Springs withdrawal from the JPA and the potential of El Dorado Hills withdrawing from the JPA. He stated that he was openly opposed to the Chief take-over of the JPA. A letter was received from the editor of the Village Life, Roberta Long that stated she did not run the second letter from Dr. Weidmer due to space limitations and had nothing to do with Chief Veerkamp.

The Board adjourned to closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54957, Public Employee Evaluation at 8:32 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 9:02 p.m. President Hidahl announced that no action was taken during closed session.

President Hidahl will work with Counsel to prepare a reply to Dr. Weidmer.

The Administrative Committee reported that the architect is working on the permits with El Dorado County and with the Army Corps of Engineers.

The Administrative Committee also met regarding the Five Year Plan and Development Fee. The Development Fee is currently at \$1.02, and with the changes to the Five Year Plan, the fee is calculated to be \$1.40. The Committee recommended that the fee be set at \$1.16 per square foot, based on the fact that the Administrative/Fire Station 85 will be dropping off in the next year. The Committee was also concerned about what was occurring in the economy and the community.

There were no comments from the public.

Director Knight moved to approve Resolution 2008-02, adopting the Five Year Plan for 2008-2013 and setting the Development Fee at \$1.16 per square foot for residential and

commercial. The motion was seconded by Director Hartley and carried. (Roll Call: Ayes: Knight, Hartley, Thomsen, Hidahl. Noes: none. Abstain: Durante.)

President Hidahl requested that the evaluation of the Chief be conducted using old evaluation forms that he will try and locate. He will work with the Board members on this issue.

There were no Committee Meetings related to the Rules and Regulations or the Solar Power. This will be continued to the next meeting.

Chief Veerkamp, Directors Knight and Hartley, and the Latrobe Fire Chief and Acting Chief, and Directors Haverty and Ridgeway of Latrobe Fire met together to discuss reorganization plans between the two Districts. Assignments were given out within the group and they will continue to meet.

The Fire Chiefs' Association requested El Dorado County Supervisor Briggs and the County Auditor, Joe Harn help make consolidation work. They requested that the County bring money to the table to help with the smaller Districts.

Chief Planje gave the Operations Report. It was reported that Medic 285 is picking up calls as expected. Chief Kennedy gave the Training Report and stated that he hopes to open Station 84 back up to volunteer response July 1.

Chief Veerkamp reported that the JPA's System Status Management group is getting statistics to bring back to the JPA Board in June for a recommendation on where system needs to be augmented. Chief Veerkamp also announced that Gayle Erbe-Hamlin is the new Interim CAO for the County. The JPA is still working on their budget issues. Chief Veerkamp hopes to have this resolved by the June meeting.

Chief Piper reported that the grant for the new computers on the engines in the County is still in process. He is still working on getting M.O.U.s from all of the Districts but has enough signed MOUs now that he is comfortable proceeding with the purchase. Chief Piper gave the Board a document outlining everything that he needed to purchase or contract for the

Grant. The District is the fiscal agent and will be making the purchase with the grant funding 80% and the other District's 20%.

Director Thomsen moved to approve staff recommendation 1-6 on the Mobile Computer Grant Project, seconded by Director Durante and unanimously carried.

The First Quarter Goals Reports were reviewed.

Director Hartley moved to receive and file the First Quarter Goal Report, seconded by Director Thomsen and unanimously carried.

Chief Financial Officer Bair explained the Actuarial Analysis of the Retiree Health Benefits. Staff, at the recommendation of the Board, will establish a Trust Fund for Retiree Health Benefit Reserves. The Board has the option of whether or not to fully fund the Trust. Fully funding would be an annual contribution starting at \$706,000 increasing over the years. The District currently has nearly one million dollars in reserve which could be used to supplement the annual payments, maybe over a three-year period. The Board directed Staff to proceed with establishing the Trust fund with CalPERS and to bring back the paperwork to adopt the plan to the next meeting.

Chief Financial Officer Bair also advised the Board that if the District prepays the retirement contribution through CalPERS, which is paid with every payday, they could save a substantial amount of money. She estimated a savings of over \$500,000. The Board directed that this be brought back for approval at the next meeting.

A request was received for a refund of Development Fees from Yahya Javan in the amount of \$2,941. He had withdrawn his building permit.

Director Hartley moved to refund Development Fees to Yahya Javan as recommended by staff, seconded by Director Thomsen and unanimously carried.

The Grand Jury Report was reviewed and discussed. The Board requested that the Chief respond and summarize the District's efforts as soon as possible. The Chief will bring this back to the Board for approval.

The Board reviewed the draft Resolution of Appreciation for Ramona "Moni" Gilmore.

Director Knight moved to approve the Resolution of Appreciation for Ramona "Moni" Gilmore, Resolution 2008-03, seconded by Director Hartley and unanimously carried.

The Board requested Ethics Training as required by Law. Chief Financial Officer Bair will find a class and notify the Board. Director Thomsen requested that the District's name be changed. This will be agendized for the July Board Meeting.

The Board welcomed Greg Durante as the new Board member.

Chief Veerkamp requested that the District go ahead and purchase a Fuel Card Lock system at a cost of \$35,000 and bring it back to the next meeting for ratification.

The Chiefs are arranging a county-wide meet and greet of Board Members. There will be more information to follow. The Annual July Picnic will be July 19 at Bertelsen Park.

Director Knight moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Director Durante and unanimously carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

Approved:

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John Hidahl, President

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Connie Bair, Board Secretary