## SIX HUNDRED SEVENTIETH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE

## **EI DORADO HILLS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT**

The six hundred seventieth meeting, a Special Meeting, of the Board of Directors of the El Dorado Hills County Water District was held on Wednesday, June 29, 2011 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 Barber, Hartley, Hidahl and Winn with Vice President Hidahl presiding. (President Durante attended via teleconference.) Counsel Cook was also in attendance. Chief Roberts, Deputy Chief O'Camb, and Chief Financial Officer Bair were present. Vice President Hidahl called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Bob Luca, resident of El Dorado Hills, addressed the Board stating that as a citizen and tax payer, he is embarrassed at the lashing the El Dorado Hills Fire Department and the Board took from the Grand Jury. He requested that the Grand Jury response be prepared in enough time so that the citizens will have the opportunity to thoroughly review it and actively participate in discussions.

Ron Mikaluco, resident of El Dorado Hills, addressed the Board with concern that the existing MOU does not give the Chief authority to make the appropriate determination as to staffing levels. He also raised concern that the MOU allows for excessive overtime stating that overtime should only be incurred in emergency or very special situations.

The meeting adjourned to closed session at 6:10 p.m. to discuss Item II-B.1, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 and 54957.6, Conference with Chief Transition Committee to develop terms and conditions of employment contract for the new Fire Chief and Item II-B.2, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 and 54957.6, review and discuss El Dorado Hills Associated Firefighters and Administrative wage and benefit negotiations; Conference with Negotiating Committee.

The meeting resumed at 6:45 p.m. (Director Durante was no longer available to teleconference.)

Chief Roberts gave a PowerPoint presentation of the B.A.N.C. (Budget and Negotiations Committee) Report and commended the Board, Admin and Union for their collaborative team effort. He summarized the planning process and decisions that needed to be made in order to overcome a 2.1 million dollar deficit, taking into consideration the County Assessor's projected negative five percent reduction in tax revenue for 2011-2012. He outlined the areas that were cut from the Budget and the concessions taken in the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Chief Roberts reviewed the proposed MOU in its entirety highlighting the changes. He stated that the MOU will be in effect for a 27 month period effective July 1, 2011.

Vice President Hidahl reviewed the six reopener clauses in the MOU. These clauses define the parameters that allow for opening discussions with the Union should tax revenues exceed a negative ten percent reduction in property tax in one year, it becomes necessary to hire, changes occur in JPA funding, legislative changes are made, or other unforeseen circumstances make it necessary to look for alternative solutions to balance the budget.

Richard Ross, resident, suggested that reopener Clause No. 4 be clarified to state, "in the event that previously unforeseen legislative or governmental mandates are imposed upon the District *which create budgetary issues* ...". Counsel Cook and the Board agreed with this change.

The Board took input from the public during the presentation. Some felt the MOU didn't allow for the Chief to make discretionary management decisions; however, Chief Roberts felt confident that the reopener clauses allowed for flexibility in the MOU and that the Staff, Board and Union would work together to make necessary concessions if need be.

Richard Ross suggested that Staff provide Department personnel with an explanation of costs for their total benefit package so that they would have a better appreciation of the value of their benefits.

Tom Anselmo, President of the El Dorado Hills Professional Firefighters Association, expressed his appreciation to Chief Roberts, Chief O'Camb, Director Winn and others who worked together to get this contract completed. He said that his number one concern was that no one would lose their job and that the Association will gladly come back to the table and work together to meet any future deficit.

Director Winn made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with El Dorado Hills Associated Firefighters and summary of wages for other non-represented groups amending the reopener Clause No. 4 as stated.

The motion was seconded by Director Hartley and unanimously carried. (Roll Call: Ayes, all: Absent: Durante.)

Vice President Hidahl complimented the crew on the effectiveness of their efforts during the Marina Village Fire and stated that if we had downsized to a two person engine company, the outcome of this fire could have been totally different thus the reason why he is committed to providing the best staffing possible within our means. Director Hartley thanked Richard Ross for his suggestion to provide a cost analysis of the employee benefits package to Department personnel and agreed that it was important for employees to have an appreciation of the value of these benefits.

Vice President Hidahl commented on the work being done on the Chief's contract stating that there will be more emphasis on polling information to evaluate the Chief's performance as well as provisions for termination with a severance package for nonperformance.

Chief Financial Officer Bair distributed the Semi-Annual Campaign Disclosure Statements Form 470 and asked that they be returned directly to elections.

Director Barber made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Director Hartley and unanimously carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Approved:

Connie Bair, Board Secretary

John Hidahl, Vice President