

EL DORADO HILLS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

SEVEN HUNDRED TWENTY NINTH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, September 17, 2015

6:00 p.m.

District Office, 1050 Wilson Boulevard, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762

I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Winn called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and Chief Roberts led the Pledge of Allegiance. Directors in attendance: Durante, Hartley, Hidahl, Hus, and Winn. (Director Hidahl arrived at 6:01 p.m.) Staff in attendance: Chief Roberts and Chief Financial Officer Bair. Counsel Cook was also in attendance.

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approve minutes of the 728th meeting held August 20, 2015
- B. Approve Financial Statements for August 2015
- C. Ratify thirteenth payment to SW Allen Construction Inc. for Station 84 in the amount of \$508,256

Director Durante made a motion to approve the consent calendar, seconded by Director Hartley and unanimously carried.

III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

- A. EDH Professional Firefighters – No Report
- B. EDH Firefighters Association – No Report
- C. EDH Volunteer Firefighters – No Report
- D. Latrobe Advisory Committee – Blaine Stumpf, former director of Latrobe Fire Protection District, requested the Board approve 24/7 coverage for Latrobe.
- E. Public Comment – Sherrie Peterson, citizen, asked that the Department post the video of the Knight Road fire to the website. Richard Ross, citizen, recommended that the Board consider the COIN (Civic Openness In Negotiation) approach to negotiations of labor contracts to increase transparency.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE – None

V. ATTORNEY ITEMS – None

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Administrative Committee (Directors Hidahl and Winn)
 - 1. Review and update construction progress of Station 84 – Director Hidahl reported that the department moved into the new building and has started operations and plans to be out of the temporary facility by the end of September. He acknowledged the committee, staff, and project managers for an excellent job in controlling the cost with change orders at about one percent of the total contract value. An open house is tentatively scheduled for some time in November. Director Hidahl also stated that

the contractor missed the deadline on the extended contract by one day and further discussions are in progress to be sure the taxpayers get the value from the delay.

Director Hidahl requested that **Closed Session Item VI-A.2**, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6, conference with labor negotiators; items under negotiation: Memorandum of Understanding with the El Dorado Hills Professional Firefighters; District negotiators are Directors Hidahl and Winn be moved on the agenda until after Old Business and the Board concurred.

Director Hidahl asked Counsel Cook to clarify the restrictions of the Brown Act with regards to negotiations and respond to Mr. Ross' recommendation of using the COIN approach. Counsel Cook responded that the department is operating within the two governing statutes as required and he would be happy to review Mr. Ross' documentation on the COIN approach. Richard Ross, citizen, asked Counsel Cook if the general statement of the Government Code is adequate detail for the public to know what will be discussed in closed session. Counsel Cook responded that he would have liked Closed Session Item VI-C.1.b to be more specific in its wording, but they are appropriately placed and stated on the agenda to allow for the discussion. Director Hus added that he would like the public to review the MOU and present their concerns to the Board.

B. Fire Committee (Directors Hus and Winn)

1. **Review and discuss Tentative Final Budget for FY2015/16** – The Committee will report under Fiscal Items.

C. Ad Hoc Committee Reports

1. **Regional Operations Committee (Directors Hartley and Hidahl)**

- a. **Rescue Fire Protection District** – Director Hartley reported that there will be a community information night on October 6, regarding the potential Rescue Fire Protection District annexation. Chief Roberts added that the meeting will be noticed in the local newspapers and on the website, facebook, and twitter.

Darwin Throne, citizen, suggested that a citizens committee get involved in collecting data to complete a thorough analysis on the potential annexation of Rescue Fire Protection District. Sherrie Peterson, citizen, asked that the analysis span a period of five or six years to show the changes over time and give the public a point of reference.

- b. **Closed Session** pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6, conference with labor negotiators; items under negotiation: Memorandum of Understanding with the El Dorado Hills Professional Firefighters; District negotiators are Directors Hidahl and Hartley

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 6:52 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 8:04 p.m. The Board took no action during closed session.

- c. **Review and approve side letter to MOU with El Dorado Hills Professional Firefighters regarding Latrobe (Station 91) staffing** – The Board referred Item VI-A.1.c back to committee.
2. **Solar Committee (Directors Hus and Hidahl)** – Counsel Cook reported that final agreements should be done next week and the install will likely happen by the end of January 2016.
3. **Communications Committee (Directors Durante and Winn)**
 - a. **Review and approve Request for Proposal for Consultant for Communications Center Operations analysis** – Chief Keating explained that the Department would like to hire a consultant to evaluate the communication system and give recommendations on improvements.

Director Hartley made a motion to approve Request for Proposal for Consultant for Communications Center Operations analysis, seconded by Director Durante and unanimously carried.
4. **Volunteer Stakeholders Committee (Directors Hidahl and Durante)** – No Report
5. **Training Facility Committee (Directors Hartley and Durante)** – No Report
6. **Report from the Committee for Collaborative Fire Departments (Directors Hidahl and Hus)** – No Report

VII. OPERATIONS REPORT

- A. **Operation Report (Received and filed)**
 1. **Overview of Mutual Aid System** – Chief Keating presented the information on the different types of mutual aid, the regions in El Dorado County, the process of sending available units, and how the Department gets funding.
- B. **Review and update regarding Joint Powers Authority**
 1. **Review and approve final 2015/16 JPA Budget** – Chief Roberts stated

that the JPA Budget is comparable to their Preliminary Budget and Staff is recommending approval. He reported that the Department is still working on trying to get a fixed rate contract with the JPA.

Director Harley made a motion to approve the final 2015/16 JPA Budget, seconded by Director Durante and unanimously carried.

- C. **Review and approve surplus of metal garage and storage shed** – Chief Roberts reported that the metal garage and storage shed used at temporary Station 84 need to be removed by October 31. He stated that Staff is looking at all options for resale and recommends the surplus of both items allowing the Department to move or sell the units as needed.

Director Hartley made a motion to approve the surplus of a metal garage and storage shed, seconded by Director Durante and unanimously carried.

VIII. FISCAL ITEMS

- A. **Public Hearing: Review and approve Resolution 2015-11 adopting the Appropriation Limits for fiscal year 2015/16** – Counsel Cook stated that every year the Department adopts the appropriation limits which limit the tax revenue the Department can receive. He explained that the number is calculated by multiplying the cost of living and population growth by the prior years appropriation limit. This year's appropriation limit is \$32,707,911.

Director Hartley made a motion to approve Resolution 2015-11 adopting the Appropriation Limits for fiscal year 2015/16, seconded by Director Hidahl and unanimously carried. (Ayes-5; Noes-0).

- B. **Public Hearing: Review and approve Resolution 2015-12 approving the Final Budget for fiscal year 2015/16 and authorize expenditures from Reserve Funds** – CFO Bair reviewed and summarized the Tentative Final Budget highlighting changes from the Preliminary Budget. Director Hartley asked if the prior OES Type III Engine offered to the Department was still available or if that should remain in the budget. Chief Roberts responded that the OES Engine will not be assigned out this year, but may be a possibility in the future. Directors Hus and Durante expressed their concerns about the personnel costs consuming 89% of the total budget. Director Hus recommended reversing the Boards decision to approve the organizational changes and remove the new Deputy Chief position. Chief Roberts expressed the need for the new positions to provide the necessary additional resources to the Administrative Staff. Director Hidahl asked what portion of the 2014/2015 budget was not spent and stated that the Department has historically been very conservative on the budget leaving a good portion to roll over into the next year. CFO Bair responded that she was not yet prepared to give

a solid number, but she expects that the money budgeted for salaries and operations would be underspent by about \$500,000. Chief Roberts stated that if the new Deputy Chief position is eliminated, the whole organizational change recommendation would need to be revised and many of the upcoming programs and projects would need to be placed on hold or removed. CFO Bair recommended that the Board adopt the budget with the caveat that the promotional changes and hiring are frozen until further Board approval.

Richard Ross, citizen, stated his concern about the personnel cost being such a large portion of the budget with an MOU negotiation still ahead.

Director Hus made a motion to reverse the Boards approval of the staffing and organizational changes at the August Board meeting, seconded by Director Durante. The motion failed. (Ayes-2, Directors Durante, Hus; Noes-3, Directors Hartley, Hidahl, Winn).

Director Hidahl made a motion to approve Resolution 2015-12 approving the Final Budget for fiscal year 2015/16 and authorize expenditures from Reserve Funds with the caveat that Board approval is required prior to implementation of staff changes, seconded by Director Hartley and carried. (Ayes-3, Directors Hartley, Hidahl, Winn; Noes-2, Directors Durante, Hus).

Director Winn asked what changed since the last Board meeting where the staffing and organizational changes were approved by the Board. Director Hidahl responded that the final budget revealed new concerns.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Review and approve Resolution 2015-13 in appreciation to Retired Firefighter Jenò Inzerillo** – Chief Roberts explained that upon approval, Retiree Jenò Inzerillo will be presented with the Resolution of Appreciation at a future Board meeting.

Director Hartley made a motion to approve Resolution 2015-13 in appreciation to Retired Firefighter Jenò Inzerillo, seconded by Director Durante and unanimously carried. (Ayes-5; Noes-0).

Director Hus asked if the Admin Committee would look at the Board Policy and review his proposed policy to modify the standing committees. He added that he reviewed the current bylaws and recommends amendments including changing the CFO title to Director of Finance and an increase in Director's pay.

X. OLD BUSINESS – None

The Board continued with open session referring Closed Session Item VI-A.2 back to committee.

Mathew Eckhardt, union representative, stated that he is the lead on negotiations for the union and would like to get a meeting scheduled.

XI. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Directors** – Director Hus reported that the DA rejected the case against him. Director Hidahl stated that he obtained a contact card from the CSD of a program to replace the external light fixtures for energy saving fixtures. He added that he would like to be acknowledged as an ambassador for the chamber. President Winn shared her appreciation for Chief Keating’s updates on the strike teams.
- B. Staff** – Chief Roberts reported another structure fire and acknowledged the great job by the crews keeping the fire contained to a single home.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Director Durante made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Director Hartley, and unanimously carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

Approved:

Connie Bair, Board Secretary

Barbara Winn, President