

NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

330 S. Main Avenue • Fallbrook, California 92028-2938 • Phone: (760) 723-2005 • Fax: (760) 723-2072 • Web: www.ncfire.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RUTH HARRIS
BOB HOFFMAN
FRED LUEVANO
KENNETH E. MUNSON
JOHN VAN DOORN

STEPHEN J. ABBOTT - Fire Chief/CEO - sabbott@ncfire.org
ROBERT H. JAMES - District Counsel - roberthjameslaw@gmail.com
LOREN A. STEPHEN-PORTER - Executive Assistant/Board Secretary - lstephen@ncfire.org

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: STEPHEN ABBOTT, FIRE CHIEF/CEO
SUBJECT: BOARD MEETING PACKAGE
DATE: AUGUST 25, 2020

Enclosed is your Board package for the Regular [August 25, 2020](#) Board Meeting. We have tried to include the information you will need to effectively consider and act on agenda items.

Due to the Covid-19 Outbreak and pursuant to the Declarations by Governor Newsome and the County of San Diego, until further notice, all Board Meetings will be **TELEPHONIC ONLY**.

The Board, Staff and Public may participate by calling into the following number: 1-408-419-1715. Meeting ID is 834 677 344, followed by #.

All Board documents are on line at:
<https://www.ncfire.org/2020-08-25-board-tuesday-august-25-2020-regular-meeting>

Please note this month's meeting is scheduled for [Tuesday, August 25, 2020](#), beginning at 4:00 p.m.

It is our goal to be prepared to respond accurately to Board questions and concerns. You can help us achieve this goal by contacting me *prior to* the Board meeting with your questions and concerns. This will allow time for the Staff and me to provide the appropriate information for review at the Board meeting.

To ensure a quorum is present, please call Loren in advance of the meeting if you will be unable to attend. She may be reached at (760) 723-2012.

Respectfully,



Stephen Abbott
Fire Chief/CEO



PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF FALLBROOK, BONSALE AND RAINBOW

DUTY ~ INTEGRITY ~ RESPECT



NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

AGENDA FOR REGULAR BOARD MEETING

AUGUST 25, 2019 - 4:00 p.m.

DUE TO THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK AND PURSUANT TO THE DECLARATIONS BY GOVERNOR NEWSOME AND THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, ALL BOARD MEETINGS WILL BE TELEPHONIC ONLY.

The Board, Staff and Public may participate by calling into the following number: 1-408-419-1715. Meeting ID is 834 677 344, followed by #.

All Board documents are on line at:

<https://www.ncfire.org/2020-08-25-board-tuesday-august-25-2020-regular-meeting>

PUBLIC ACTIVITIES AGENDA

For those joining us for the Public Activities Agenda, please feel free to depart at the close of the agenda. We invite you to stay for the remainder of the business meeting.

CALL TO ORDER ROLL CALL INVOCATION PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1. PUBLIC COMMENT — PRESIDENT LUEVANO

(pgs. 1-2)

- *Standing Event:* Members of the Public may directly address the Board of Directors on Events of interest to the Public provided no action will be taken on non-agenda Events. The Board President may limit comments to three minutes per speaker (Board of Directors Operations Policy § 4.2.6.3.).

ACTION AGENDA

CONSENT EVENTS:

All Events listed under the Consent Events are considered routine and will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these Events prior to the Board action on the motion, unless members of the Board, Staff or public request specific Events be removed from the Consent Agenda.

2. REVIEW AND APPROVE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR JULY 2020

(pgs. 3-10)

- *Standing Event:* Review and approve minutes from July meeting as presented.

3. REVIEW AND ACCEPT FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JULY 2020

(pgs. 11-20)

- *Standing Event:* Review and Accept Financial Report for July as presented.

4. REVIEW AND APPROVE POLICIES & PROCEDURES

(pgs. 21-22)

- *Standing Event:* None.

ACTION ITEMS:

All items listed under the Action Items Agenda will be presented and discussed prior to the Board taking action on any matter. Members of the public may comment on items at the time they are presented. Time Certain Items will commence precisely at the time announced in the Agenda.

5. PUBLIC HEARING DATE AND TIME CERTAIN, AUGUST 25, 2020, AT 4:15 P.M. TO REVIEW AND RATIFY DISTRICT COUNSEL'S RECOMMENDATIONS, MAKING DETERMINATION THAT "AMENDMENTS TO THE CODE ARE NECESSARY" AND APPROVING RESOLUTION 2020-10 AMENDING THE CODE — CHIEF ABBOTT AND B/S STEPHEN-PORTER

(pgs. 23-34)

- *BIENNIAL ITEM:* Review and ratify District Counsel's recommendation that the Code of Conflict of Interest requires amendment, approve Resolution 2020-10 and direct Staff to file appropriate paperwork with County.

Note: The Americans with Disabilities Act provides that no qualified individual with a disability shall be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, District business. If you need assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the District Office 72 hours prior to the meeting at (760) 723-2012.



AGENDA FOR REGULAR BOARD MEETING

AUGUST 25, 2020

PAGE 2 OF 3

6. **REVIEW AND APPROVE ALTERNATIVE REVENUE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN — CHIEF ABBOTT** (pgs. 35-42)

➤ FOLLOW-UP ITEM: Review and approve implementation plan in follow-up to presentation at the July meeting.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

No action shall be undertaken on any Discussion Event. The Board may: acknowledge receipt of the information or report and make comments; refer the matter to Staff for further study or report; or refer the matter to a future agenda.

7. **There are no Discussion Agenda Items for the August 25, 2020, Board Meeting.** (pgs. 43-44)

STANDING DISCUSSION EVENTS: *All Events listed under the Standing Discussion Events are presented every meeting.*

- **LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT:** (pgs. 45-48)
 - "The CCPA's Impact on Public Agencies"
- **WRITTEN COMMUNICATION:** (pgs. 49-54)
 - BOARD RECOGNITION PROGRAM
- **NEWS ARTICLES:** As attached. (pgs. 55-82)
- **COMMENTS/QUESTIONS:** (pgs. 83-84)
- **STAFF:**
 - Chief Abbott
 - Other Staff
- **BOARD**
- **BARGAINING GROUPS**
- **PUBLIC COMMENT**

CLOSED SESSION

The Board will enter closed session to discuss events as outlined herein. As provided in the Government Code, the public will not be present during these discussions. At the end of the Closed Session, the Board shall publicly report any action taken in Closed Session (and the vote or abstention on that action of every member present) in accordance with Government Code § 54950 ET. seq.

- CS-1. **ANNOUNCEMENT — PRESIDENT LUEVANO:** (pgs. 85-86)

➤ An announcement regarding the items to be discussed in Closed Session will be made prior to the commencement of Closed Session.

- CS-2. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE § 54957.6 — MANAGEMENT GROUP**

➤ **NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT:**

NCFPD MANAGEMENT GROUP

DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS:

CHIEF ABBOTT, DISTRICT COUNSEL JAMES, SPECIAL COUNSEL ROGERS



AGENDA FOR REGULAR BOARD MEETING

AUGUST 25, 2020

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CS-3. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE § 54957.6 — NON-SAFETY GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT:

➤ FFA NON-SAFETY GROUP NEGOTIATORS

DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS:

CHIEF ABBOTT, DISTRICT COUNSEL JAMES, SPECIAL COUNSEL ROGERS

CS-4. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE § 54957.6 — SAFETY GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT:

➤ FFA SAFETY GROUP NEGOTIATORS

DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS:

CHIEF ABBOTT, DISTRICT COUNSEL JAMES, SPECIAL COUNSEL ROGERS

CS-5. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR — GOVERNMENT CODE § 54956.8 — DFC MAROVICH AND CHIEF ABBOTT:

➤ PROPERTY LOCATION:

4157 Olive Hill Road, Fallbrook, CA 92028;

PARTIES:

North County Fire Protection District (Seller);

UNDER NEGOTIATION:

Terms of Purchase;

DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS:

Chief Abbott, District Counsel James

CS-6. REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION — PRESIDENT LUEVANO

CONVENE TO OPEN SESSION: The Board will return to Open Session at the conclusion of Closed Session to Report on Closed Session Matters and to Hear Remaining Agenda Items, if any.

ADJOURNMENT

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting is: Tuesday, September 22, 2020, 4:00 p.m.

CERTIFICATION OF AGENDA POSTING

"I certify that this Agenda was posted in accordance with the provisions of the Government Code § 54950 et. seq. The posting locations were: [1] the entrance of North County Fire Protection District Administrative Offices, [2] Fallbrook Public Utility District Administrative Offices and [3] the Roy Noon Meeting Hall; [4] District's website at <http://www.ncfire.org>. The Agenda was also available for review at the Office of the Board Secretary, located at located at 330 S. Main Avenue, Fallbrook (760) 723-2012. Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the District after distribution of the agenda packet, are available for public inspection in the Office of the Board Secretary, during normal business hours or may be found on the District website, subject to the Staff's ability to post the documents before the meeting. The date of posting was August 20, 2020."

Board Secretary Loren Stephen-Porter:



Date: August 20, 2020



**NORTH COUNTY FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT
FIRE CHIEF/CEO**

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: STEPHEN ABBOTT, FIRE CHIEF/CEO
DATE: AUGUST 25, 2020
SUBJECT: PUBLIC COMMENT

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- 1. Members of the Public may directly address the Board of Directors on items of interest to the Public provided no action will be taken on non-agenda items. The Board President may limit comments to three minutes per speaker (Board of Directors Operations – Elections, Officers and Terms SOG § 4.2.6.3.).*

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1 July 28, 2020

2 **REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF**
3 **THE NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

4 Vice President Van Doorn called the meeting to order at 4:00.

5 **THE INVOCATION GIVEN BY CHAPLAIN HELMAN.**

6 **ALL RECITED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

7 **ROLL CALL:**

8 **Present:** Directors Hoffman, Munson and Van Doorn.

9 **Absent:** Directors Harris and Luevano.

10 **Staff Present:** Fire Chief/CEO Abbott, Attorney James and Board Secretary Stephen-
11 Porter. In the audience were: DFC Marovich, D/Cs Mahr and McReynolds, B/C Mann, F/M
12 Fieri, A/C DeCamp, members of the public and Association.

13
14 **PUBLIC ACTIVITIES AGENDA**

15 1. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Vice President Van Doorn addressed the audience and inquired
16 whether there were any public comments regarding items not on the Agenda. There being
17 no comments, the Public Comment Section was closed.

18
19 **ACTION AGENDA**

20 **CONSENT ITEMS:**

21 2. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR JUNE 2020**

22 3. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JUNE 2020**

23 4. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

24 5. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT EMERGENCY SERVICE OVERTIME TRACKING REPORT FOR THE**
25 **FOURTH QUARTER 2019/2020**

26 6. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY PROGRAM RESULTS — SECOND**
27 **QUARTER 2020**

28 7. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT ANNUAL FLEET SERVICES REPORT**

29 8. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT ANNUAL TRAINING REPORT FOR 2020**

30 Vice President Van Doorn inquired whether there were any questions on Consent Items 2-
31 8. There being no discussion, Vice President Van Doorn asked for a motion to approve the
32 Consent Agenda. On a motion by Director Hoffman, seconded by Vice President Van Doorn
33 the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented passed unanimously.

34
35 **ACTION ITEMS:**

36 9. **REVIEW AND APPROVE SALE OF SURPLUS VEHICLES — D/C MAHR AND CHIEF ABBOTT:** D/C Mahr
37 informed the Board after an evaluation by District staff, four vehicles in the reserve fleet were
38 deemed unused or unable to meet the needs of the District. He requested the approve
39 surplus of a 2000 Ford Crown Victoria, a 2005 Ford Explorer, 2011 Leader Ambulance and
40 a 1966 Allis Chalmers Forklift. The anticipated surplus value is estimated to be
41 approximately \$10,000.00. On a motion by Director Hoffman, seconded by Director
42 Munson, the motion to deem the items as surplus and approve sale by approved methods
43 passed unanimously.

44 10. **PUBLIC HEARING DATE/TIME CERTAIN JULY 28, 2020 (4:15 P.M.) — FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF**
45 **MULTI-YEAR FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT PLAN FOR THE FIRE MITIGATION FEE PROGRAM WITH**
46 **ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 2020-09 — FM FIERI AND CHIEF ABBOTT:** Vice President Van Doorn
47 read the Resolution title and opened the Public Hearing, inquiring whether there was any
48 public comment or testimony. There being neither, the Public Hearing was closed. FM Fieri
49 presented the Plan and Resolution to the Board outlining the Fire Mitigation Program and
50 Plan and the District's compliance. Chief Abbott noted the District remains upside down in
51 the Program and for that reason, the District will continue to utilize the "pay back" option.
52 On a motion by Hoffman, which was seconded by Vice President Van Doorn, the Board
53 unanimously approved Resolution 2020-09 with the following roll call votes: **Ayes:** Directors
54 Hoffman, Munson and Van Doorn; **Noes:** None; **Absent:** Directors Harris and Luevano.

55 11. **REVIEW AND APPROVE FIXED CHARGE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FOR WEED ABATEMENT — FM**
56 **FIERI AND CHIEF ABBOTT:** FM Fieri presented the Fixed Charge Special Assessment for Weed
57 Abatement to the Board for the second reading. The costs for the abatement was \$4600.00,
58 with administrative costs of \$887.00, totaling \$5487.00. The owner has received all the

59 required notices both prior to the forced abatement and after the abatement, including a
60 notice after the last meeting. Notice of the Fixed Charge Assessment was posted as required
61 on June 10, 2020. The owner has until July 31, 2020 to pay the amounts due. Thereafter, it
62 will be submitted to the County for addition to the owner's property taxes. On a motion by
63 Director Hoffman, seconded by Vice President Van Doorn, the motion to approve
64 submission of the fixed charge assessment to the County passed unanimously.

65 12. REVIEW AND APPROVE RESOLUTION 2020-08 ACCEPTING THE REPORT ON STATE
66 MANDATED INSPECTIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT: FM Fieri reported on the status of the mandated
67 inspections, noting there were 15 educational facilities and 132 congregate residential
68 facilities, all of which 100% of initial inspection were inspected Fiscal Year 2019/2020.
69 However, due to the COVID pandemic shut down, there are 58% of the R occupancies are
70 completed at this time. The District is currently working toward completing the re-inspections
71 of the R occupancies in order to fulfill its inspection and reporting obligations in accordance
72 with SB 1205. On a motion by Director Hoffman, seconded by Vice President Van Doorn,
73 the motion to approve the report and Resolution 2020-08 passed unanimously.

74 **DISCUSSION AGENDA**

76 13. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON DISCLOSURE RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER FEDERAL
77 SECURITIES LAW – CHIEF ABBOTT AND STRADLING, YOCCA, CARLSON & RAUTH PRESENTERS:
78 Chief Abbott introduced the presenters who gave a lengthy presentation on the disclosure
79 responsibilities under Federal Securities laws. The presenter outlined the initial, continuing
80 and annual reporting requirements, as well as the annual educational requirements. The
81 Board suggested making the training part of the Board orientation.

82 14. DISCUSSION ON RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CSUSM PROGRAM ON REVENUE
83 ENHANCEMENTS – CHIEF ABBOTT: Chief Abbott presented the lengthy study from the CSUSM
84 Senior Experience Program, which offered suggestions for revenue recovery in the wake of
85 the failure of Proposition 'A.' He noted the District is searching ways to address the
86 District's deferred facility maintenance challenges, as 4 of the 5 fire stations are
87 reaching the end of their useful life. Chief Abbott is seeking direction from the Board

88 so Staff may utilize these recommendations and more fully develop, with consultant's
89 assistance, a financial model that will serve as the foundation for a facilities
90 replacement plan. Thereafter, the Board would then be presented with
91 implementation plans as those options are more fully developed and tailored to the
92 District's circumstances. Chief Abbott noted the District already had implemented
93 some of the cost recovery measures outlined in the report, although some could be
94 expanded. After a lengthy discussion, the Board requested that pursuant to the
95 discussions, Chief Abbott bring back a plan for implementation of the
96 recommendations at the next Board meeting.

97
98 **STANDING DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

99 ● **LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT:** Counsel James presented his report "Families First
100 Coronavirus Response Act – Part 2." Brief discussion ensued, with Counsel James noting
101 the categories of leave and circumstances that apply. This is informational only, no action
102 required.

103 ● **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:** No discussion regarding the items. Informational
104 only, no action required.

105 ● **BOARD RECOGNITION PROGRAM**

106 ● **NEWS ARTICLES:** No discussion regarding articles. This is informational only, no
107 action required.

108 ● **COMMENTS:**

109 ● **STAFF REPORTS/UPDATES:**

110 ● **STEPHEN ABBOTT, FIRE CHIEF/CEO:** Chief Abbott noted that with the implementation
111 of the COVID shut down orders again, staff in Admin are at reduced hours, working some in
112 office, some from home. Chief Abbott informed the Board there was a recent agreement
113 between San Diego Fire Authority and Riverside for mutual aid. Chief Abbott gave an
114 overview of COVID and its effects on the District staff. Vice President Van Doorn requested
115 an updated on how COVID is affecting call status at the next Board meeting. Informational
116 only, no further action required.

117 ● **CHIEF OFFICERS AND OTHER STAFF: HR/FS JUUL:** HR/FS Juul informed the Board of
118 the GEMT audit status and its effect on the District. **D/C MAHR:** D/C Mahr informed the
119 Board that the District has been participating in COVID testing, along with the County and
120 Fallbrook Regional Health District. Because of the active participation, Fallbrook has one of
121 the highest number of tests taken at test sites in the County. **FM FIERI:** FM Fieri noted the
122 Bureau has been limiting its contact hours to half days on Tuesday and Thursday. Other
123 days, Staff is in the field performing inspections. **A/C DECAMP:** A/C DeCamp noted he is
124 winding down the Volunteer program. In addition, he is working on bringing the Policy &
125 Procedure project to a close. He is also actively involved in a project will increase the
126 number of fire cameras availability. This will provide real-time information to fire managers,
127 allowing them to respond more rapidly and appropriately.

- 128 ● **BOARD:** No comments.
- 129 ● **BARGAINING GROUPS:** No comments.
- 130 ● **PUBLIC COMMENT:** No comments.

CLOSED SESSION

131
132
133 At 5:50 p.m., Vice President Van Doorn inquired whether there was a motion to adjourn to
134 Closed Session. There being no objection, Vice President Van Doorn read the items to be
135 discussed in Closed Session and the Open Session was closed. A short break ensued after
136 the reading of the Closed Session Items. At 6:00 p.m., and the Board entered Closed
137 Session to hear:

138 CS-1. **ANNOUNCEMENT — VICE PRESIDENT VAN DOORN:** An announcement regarding the items
139 to be discussed in Closed Session will be made prior to the commencement of Closed
140 Session.

141 CS-2. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE § 54957.6 — MANAGEMENT**
142 **GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT:**

143 NCFPD MANAGEMENT GROUP **DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS:** CHIEF ABBOTT, DISTRICT COUNSEL
144 JAMES

145 **CS-3. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE § 54957.6 — NON-SAFETY GROUP**
146 **NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT:**
147 FFA NON-SAFETY GROUP NEGOTIATORS DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS: CHIEF ABBOTT, DISTRICT
148 COUNSEL JAMES
149 **CS-4. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE § 54957.6 — SAFETY**
150 **GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT:**
151 FFA SAFETY GROUP NEGOTIATORS DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS: CHIEF ABBOTT, DISTRICT COUNSEL
152 JAMES
153 **CS-5. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR — GOVERNMENT CODE § 54956.8 —**
154 **DFC MAROVICH AND CHIEF ABBOTT:**
155 PROPERTY LOCATION: 4157 Olive Hill Road, Fallbrook, CA 92028;
156 PARTIES: North County Fire Protection District (Seller);
157 UNDER NEGOTIATION: Terms of Purchase;
158 DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS: Chief Abbott, District Counsel James
159 **CS-6. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL — ANTICIPATED LITIGATION — GOVERNMENT CODE §**
160 **54956.9 – CHIEF ABBOTT:** Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d)
161 of Government Code § 54956.9 – one case.
162 **CS-7. REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION — VICE PRESIDENT VAN DOORN**
163 ● **REOPENING OPEN SESSION:**
164 On a motion by Director Hoffman, which was seconded by Director Munson and which
165 passed unanimously, the Board returned to Open Session at 6:55 p.m. and the following
166 items were reported out to the public:
167 **CS-2. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE § 54957.6 — MANAGEMENT**
168 **GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT:** No reportable action.
169 **CS-3. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE § 54957.6 — NON-SAFETY**
170 **GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT:** No reportable action.
171 **CS-4. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE § 54957.6 — SAFETY**
172 **GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT:** No reportable action.

173 CS-5. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR — GOVERNMENT CODE § 54956.8 —

174 DFC MAROVICH AND CHIEF ABBOTT: No reportable action.

175 CS-6. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL — ANTICIPATED LITIGATION — GOVERNMENT CODE

176 § 54956.9 — CHIEF ABBOTT: No reportable action.

177
178 **ADJOURNMENT**

179 A motion was made at 7:00 p.m. by Director Hoffman and seconded by Vice President Van
180 Doorn to adjourn the meeting and reconvene on August 25, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. The motion
181 carried unanimously.

182 Respectfully submitted,

183
184 

185 Loren Stephen-Porter

186 Board Secretary

187
188 Minutes approved at the Board of Director's Meeting on: August 25, 2020

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**NORTH COUNTY FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATION - BUDGET & FINANCE**

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: DFC CHIEF STEVEN MAROVICH, HR/FS CHERIE JUUL AND CHIEF ABBOTT
DATE: AUGUST 25, 2020
SUBJECT: REVENUE & EXPENDITURES AS OF JULY 31, 2020 (8%)

Revenue Sources	Budgeted	Collected	Over/Under	% of Budget
Property Taxes - FBK	15,940,646.00	-	(15,940,646.00)	0%
Property Taxes - RNBW	303,000.00	-	(303,000.00)	0%
Ambulance and Collections	2,245,000.00	199,483.09	(2,045,516.91)	9%
GEMT-State Supplement	90,000.00	-	(90,000.00)	0%
Prevention Fees	185,000.00	12,245.40	(172,754.60)	7%
Tower Lease Agreements	103,000.00	8,854.02	(94,145.98)	9%
Other Revenue Sources	50,000.00	315.69	(49,684.31)	1%
Interest	50,000.00	5,172.51	(44,827.49)	10%
Cost Recovery	80,000.00	5,308.83	(74,691.17)	7%
Fallbrook Healthcare District	92,000.00	16,563.12	(75,436.88)	18%
Community Facilities District (CFD)	116,942.00	11,893.00	(105,049.00)	10%
Strike Team Reimbursements	151,523.00	-	(151,523.00)	-
Other Reimbursements	100,000.00	-	(100,000.00)	0%
Mitigation Fees & Interest - FBK	300,000.00	-	(300,000.00)	0%
Donations & Grants	104,157.00	12,323.50	(91,833.50)	12%
Annexation fees	-	-	-	-
Transfers & Loans	-	-	-	0%
Total Revenue:	19,911,268.00	272,159.16	(19,639,108.84)	1%
	Budgeted	Spent	Over/Under	% of Budget
TTL Expenditures YTD thru 07-31-2020	18,855,478.00	2,622,550.00	(16,232,928.00)	14%
Revenue over Expenditures		(2,350,390.84)		

North County Fire Protection District
For the Tenth Month Ending April 30, 2020

83% of Budget

COLOR KEY	
Within/Below Budget	
Within 10% of Budget	
>10% of Budget (see notes)	

Description	July actual	Running Total	Prelim Budget	Amount Remaining	% Used	Notes
TOTAL PERSONNEL	2,274,257.00	2,274,257.00	15,413,861.00	13,139,604.00	14.8%	UAL payoff
101 Total Board Administration	20,003.00	20,003.00	274,900.00	254,897.00	7.3%	
102 Total Administration	38,900.00	38,900.00	1,045,139.00	1,006,239.00	3.7%	
103 Total Fire Prevention	667.00	667.00	62,400.00	61,733.00	1.1%	
104 Total Emergency Services	248,610.00	248,610.00	425,042.00	176,432.00	58.5%	Vehicle and Facility ins paid
105 Total Emergency Med Svcs	12,675.00	12,675.00	220,202.00	207,527.00	5.8%	
106 Total Reserves (note below)	-	-	14,760.00	14,760.00	0.0%	
107 Total Communications	11,329.00	11,329.00	620,004.00	608,675.00	1.8%	
108 Total Shop/Maintenance	11,160.00	11,160.00	355,905.00	344,745.00	3.1%	
109 Total Training	4,949.00	4,949.00	73,265.00	68,316.00	6.8%	
120 Total General Fund Reserve	-	-	350,000.00	350,000.00	0.0%	
GRAND TOTAL	2,622,550.00	2,622,550.00	18,855,478.00	16,232,928.00	13.9%	
200 Total Capital Expenditures	43,663.27	43,663.27	815,137.95	771,474.68	5.4%	

**NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
Tax Apportionments FY 19-20**

DATE	APP #	GROSS	REFUNDS & ADJUSTMENTS	FY 19/20 NET	FY 19/20 RUNNING	FY 18/19 NET	FY 18/19 RUNNING
08 13 2019	1	231,494.20	2,075.77	229,418.43	229,418.43	211,088.06	211,088.06
09 10 2019	2	80,372.61	892.49	79,480.12	308,898.55	62,146.73	273,234.79
10 8 2019	3	178,919.83	24,333.34	154,586.49	463,485.04	175,730.27	448,965.06
11 5 2019	4	554,398.75	19,982.36	534,416.39	997,901.43	603,342.32	1,052,307.38
12 10 2019	5	5,143,751.86	9,856.48	5,133,895.38	6,131,796.81	4,702,859.90	5,755,167.28
01 21 2019	6	2,461,682.55	10,271.56	2,451,410.99	8,583,207.80	2,475,082.73	8,230,250.01
02 25 2019	7	369,443.49	10205.12	359,238.37	8,942,446.17	373,592.56	8,603,842.57
03 1 2019				-	-	-	-
04 7 2019	8	3,363,250.16	153,103.17	3,210,146.99	12,152,593.16	3,842,704.38	12,446,546.95
04 28 2019	9	2,561,120.09	7,234.39	2,553,885.70	14,706,478.86	1,803,479.65	14,250,026.60
05 26 2019	10	293,143.59	2,791.21	290,352.38	14,996,831.24	129,786.35	14,379,812.95
06 23 2019	11	378,933.28	5,543.71	373,389.57	15,370,220.81	231,038.97	14,610,851.92
07 21 2019	12	68,220.29	2,049.36	66,170.93	15,436,391.74	77,727.25	14,688,579.17
TOTAL YTD		15,684,730.70	248,338.96	15,436,391.74	15,436,391.74	14,688,579.17	14,688,579.17
						Net Rev Increase	5.09%

RAINBOW FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Tax Apportionments FY 19/20

DATE	APP #	GROSS	REFUNDS & ADJUSTMENTS	FY 19/20 NET	FY 19/20 RUNNING	FY 18/19 NET	FY 18/19 RUNNING
08 13 2019	1	4,233.48	37.97	4,195.51	4,195.51	3,880.98	3,880.98
09 10 2019	2	1,469.81	16.34	1,453.47	5,648.98	1,142.66	5,023.64
10 8 2019	3	3,272.00	445.03	2,826.97	8,475.95	3,230.89	8,254.53
11 5 2019	4	10,138.58	378.41	9,760.17	18,236.12	11,081.56	19,336.09
12 10 2019	5	94,589.96	180.33	94,409.63	112,645.75	86,192.15	105,528.24
01 21 2020	6	54,054.58	187.85	53,866.73	166,512.48	46,559.31	152,087.55
02 25 2020	7	7,159.52	207.57	6,951.95	173,464.43	6,832.96	158,920.51
03 1 2020				-	173,464.43	-	158,920.51
04 7 2020	8	65,065.32	2,959.52	62,105.80	235,570.23	70,775.54	229,696.05
04 28 2020	9	50,260.22	134.76	50,125.46	285,695.69	33,900.26	263,596.31
05 26 2020	10	5,714.20	52.93	5,661.27	291,356.96	2,421.64	266,017.95
06 23 2020	11	7,267.11	102.55	7,164.56	298,521.52	4,226.68	270,244.63
07 21 2020	12	1,310.23	39.41	1,270.82	299,792.34	1,423.06	271,667.69
				-	299,792.34	-	271,667.69
TOTAL YTD		304,535.01	4,742.67	299,792.34	299,792.34	271,667.69	271,667.69
Net Rev Increase							10.35%

NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

AMBULANCE REVENUE FY 2020-2021

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>BILLED</u>	<u>CONTRACTUAL WRITE DOWNS</u>	<u>TOTAL AR FY 20-21</u>	<u>TOTAL AR FY 19-20</u>	<u>BAD DEBT WRITE-OFFS</u>	<u>REFUNDS</u>	<u>ADJ AR</u>	<u>DEPOSITS RECIEVED</u>	<u>BILLING FEES</u>	<u>FY 20-21 NET REVENUE</u>	<u>FY 19-20 NET REVENUE</u>	
07 31 2020	492,609.07	283,771.92	208,837.15	274,112.06	28,136.09	1,978.64	178,722.42	208,837.15	11,557.11	197,280.04	155,833.88	
08 31 2020			-	215,953.31			-			-	181,256.99	
09 30 2020			-	307,159.93			-			-	199,107.55	
10 31 2020			-	248,890.07			-			-	205,273.64	
11 30 2020			-	229,003.49			-			-	196,525.33	
12 31 2020			-	331,817.90			-			-	179,942.32	
01 31 2021			-	201,170.29			-			-	212,967.00	
02 28 2021			-	240,188.15			-			-	188,887.92	
03 31 2021			-	208,936.67			-			-	175,643.85	
04 30 2021			-	198,311.38			-			-	172,516.79	
05 31 2021			-	279,286.84			-			-	162,862.20	
06 30 2021			-	230,124.08			-			-	217,930.48	
TOTAL:	492,609.07	283,771.92	208,837.15	274,112.06	28,136.09	1,978.64	178,722.42	208,837.15	11,557.11	197,280.04	155,833.88	
					Net A/R Change		-23.81%			New Revenue Change		26.60%

**NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
COST RECOVERY FY 2020/2021**

<u>Month</u>	<u>Billed</u>	<u>Collected</u>	<u>YTD % Collected</u>	<u>Billing Fees</u>	<u>Net Revenue 20/21</u>	<u>Net Revenue 19/20</u>
7 31 2020	6,940.75	6,636.04	95.61%	1,327.21	5,308.83	2,791.46
8 30 2020			#DIV/0!	-	-	10,144.80
9 30 2020			#DIV/0!	-	-	3,820.80
10 31 2020			#DIV/0!	-	-	7,134.40
11 30 2020			#DIV/0!	-	-	4,703.90
12 31 2020			#DIV/0!	-	-	5,374.67
1 31 2021			#DIV/0!	-	-	7,444.82
2 28 2021			#DIV/0!	-	-	5,974.40
3 30 2021			#DIV/0!	-	-	10,046.76
4 30 2021			#DIV/0!	-	-	8,884.00
5 31 2021			#DIV/0!	-	-	11,421.86
6 30 2021			#DIV/0!	-	-	2,667.60
TOTAL:	6,940.75	6,636.04	95.61%	1,327.21	5,308.83	2,791.46
					Net Rev Increase	90.18%

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NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT

July 31, 2020

FALLBROOK	BALANCE	INTEREST	
		RATE	
County of San Diego/General Fund - FBK	992,870.70	0.01%	Operating
County of San Diego/General Fund - RNBW	1,167,126.80	0.01%	Operating
County of San Diego/Capital Reserve	398,915.67	0.01%	Capital Reserves
County of San Diego/Fire Mitigation Fund - FBK	770,992.86	0.01%	Mitigation Fees
County of San Diego/Fire Mitigation Fund - RNBW	4,041.30	0.01%	Mitigation Fees
Local Agency Investment Fund	2,144,919.87	1.22%	LAIF
Workers' Comp JPA	476,263.62	0.26%	PASIS Funds
Bank of America/PASIS	46,388.24	0.01%	
First National/Benefit Fund	156,102.98	0.70%	
First National/Payroll	538,036.15	0.70%	
First National/Accounts Payable	114,568.12	0.70%	
First National/Accounts Receivable	148,018.13	0.70%	
Pacific Western Bank/Accounts Receivable	1,559,689.87	0.00%	
TOTAL	8,517,934.31		

Document Date	Document Number	Vendor Name	Transaction Description	Document Amount
07 1 2020	Q1 FY 20/21 ADMIN	CITY OF SAN MARCOS/KISER	Q1 20/21 PASIS ADMIN FEES	113,157.00
07 1 2020	2020-1009	TRAUMA INTERVENTION PROGRAM	TIP FY 20/21	7,257.00
07 1 2020	00058 - JUUL	AFSS - SOUTHERN DIVISION	Membership Dues FY20-21 Juul	60.00
07 1 2020	00071 - SMITH	AFSS - SOUTHERN DIVISION	Membership Dues FY20-21 Smith	60.00
07 1 2020	DUES FY20/21	CSDA - SAN DIEGO CHAPTER	Dues FY20-21	150.00
07 1 2020	N QUINN	COSTCO WHOLESALE MEMBERSHIP	Annual Renewel -21	120.00
07 1 2020	07/2020	Employee Benefit Specialists, Inc.	07/01-07/31 Dental, Vision Lif	8,642.77
07 1 2020	7/1-7/31/20	Harry J. Willson Insurance Center	FFA JULY 2020	1,044.00
07 1 2020	1499202	LIEBERT CASSIDY WHITMORE	ERC Membership FY 20/21	4,050.00
07 1 2020	FY 20/21 JUUL	SDCFCA-ADMIN SECTION	SDCFCA MEM. FY 20/21 JUUL	60.00
07 1 2020	FY 2020/2021	SDCFCA	DUES FY 20/21	200.00
07 1 2020	INV7688	TARGET SOLUTIONS	FY 20-21	3,488.00
07 1 2020	07/2020	THE STANDARD	LTD 07/2020	577.50
07 1 2020	STMT 7/1-7/31	DIRECTV	Admin 7/1-7/31 STMT	152.99
07 1 2020	9857709030	VERIZON WIRELESS	271801268 00001 acct	77.30
07 1 2020	81566	Community First Ntional Bank	LEASE 81566 PMNT 5 OF 6	33,494.99
07 1 2020	20NOCFPDN12	COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO - RCS	RADIOS JUNE	5,883.00
07 1 2020	20NOCFPDC12	COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO - RCS	CAP CODE PAGE JUNE	52.50
07 1 2020	53634881	DEL CITY	WEATHER PAK	42.55
07 1 2020	06/21-07/21/20	DIRECTV	062997645 06/21/2020-07/20/20	134.53
07 1 2020	41837697	MCMASTER-CARR SUPPLY CO.	0701DNIETO	63.20
07 1 2020	210719	OSTARI	IT SERVICE 7/1-7/31/20	2,362.50
07 1 2020	01072020	GROSSMAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOC., INC.	NEW HIRE KUENZI	325.00
07 1 2020	703	RIDEOUT ELECTRIC	STA 2 ELECTRICAL WORK	407.55
07 1 2020	3070103M	STRYKER MEDICAL	EMS MAINTENANCE	3,725.27
07 1 2020	6/1-6/30/20	AT&T	SERVICE 6/1/20-6/30/20	1,845.88
07 1 2020	386541	Calolympic Safety	SENSOR 5/26/20	544.86
07 1 2020	LC20-26	COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO - AUDITOR	LAFCO FY 2020/2021	10,603.61
07 1 2020	3755	READY FRESH	DELIVERY 06/11-07/10/20	48.23
07 1 2020	ANNUAL 20/21	SDCFCA-EMS SECTION	SDCFCA EMS SECTION 20/21	50.00
07 1 2020	006483530047	THE STANDARD	PREMIUMS DUE AUG 1, 2020	577.50
07 2 2020	STA 1 7/1-8/1/20	TIME WARNER CABLE	STA 1 7/1-8/1	1,146.58
07 2 2020	STMT 7/1-8/1/20	TIME WARNER CABLE	STA ADMIN 7/1-8/1	341.58
07 2 2020	STA1- 7/1-8/1/20	TIME WARNER CABLE	STA 1 7/1-8/1 STMT	299.90
07 2 2020	010779419	XEROX - PASADENA	XEROX RENTAL	710.63
07 2 2020	010779418	XEROX - PASADENA	XEROX JULY	152.95
07 3 2020	PR AP 07/03/2020	FALLBROOK FIREFIGHTERS' ASSN	FBK FFA DUES 07/03/2020	2,393.60
07 3 2020	PR AP 7/03/2020	FALLBROOK FIREFIGHTERS' ASSN	FFA SR DUES 07/03/2020	32.76
07 3 2020	PR AP 07/03/2020	LINCOLN NATIONAL	LINCOLN NAT'L 07/03/2020	2,432.05
07 3 2020	CT BUYOUT 07/01/20	LINCOLN NATIONAL	LINCOLN - MANN COMP TIME	2,510.25
07 7 2020	-68282	Seaside Heating & Air Conditioning	STA 5 BLOWER/SENSOR REPAIR	260.00
07 8 2020	20044	Norman Traub & Assoc	BCK GRND K Smith	1,700.00

Document Date	Document Number	Vendor Name	Transaction Description	Document Amount
07 8 2020	E101005715	EIDE BAILLY	CONSULT JUNE 2020	4,976.70
07 9 2020	PO 21-001	HI-WAY SAFETY	28" TRAFFIC CONES	761.19
07 10 2020	PO4501 CAEMSA	DAVID HELMAN	D HELMAN RENEW LIC CAEMSA	225.00
07 10 2020	023	FIRE AND HYDE LEATHERWORKS	RADIO RING 7/10/20	468.71
07 10 2020	6/11-7/10/20 STA 3	RAINBOW MUNICIPAL WATER DIST	SERVICE 6/11-7/10 STA 3	14.81
07 10 2020	6/11-7/10 SERV STA 3	RAINBOW MUNICIPAL WATER DIST	6/11/20-7/10-20 SERV STA 3	201.48
07 10 2020	6/11-7/10 STA 5	RAINBOW MUNICIPAL WATER DIST	6/11/20-7/10-20 SERV STA 5	210.43
07 11 2020	5745 STA 1	PLATINUM CONCRETE PUMPING	STA 1 Concrete	550.00
07 11 2020	4701-7171	FALLBROOK HTG & AIR CONDITIONING, INC	Sta. 1 Compressor repair	239.00
07 11 2020	0417565071120	TIME WARNER CABLE	SERV MAIN 7/11-8/10	96.98
07 12 2020	1208058485	Citrix Systems, Inc	SERV 07/2020-08/2020	117.00
07 13 2020	52353	UNIFORMS PLUS	SMITH UNIFORM	666.88
07 13 2020	52354	UNIFORMS PLUS	KUENZI UNIFORM	587.00
07 13 2020	6/14-7/13/20 SERVICE	AT&T Mobility	6/14/2020-7/13/2020	797.63
07 13 2020	JONES ORG 6800 CLAS	ED JONES	JONES ORG 6800 CLASS	1,053.00
07 13 2020	JONES FSC 6200 CLASS	ED JONES	JONES FSC 6200 CLASS	1,053.00
07 14 2020	0714DNIETO	MCMASTER-CARR SUPPLY CO.	WTHR STRIP 7/14 BILL	102.30
07 15 2020	GRP 154119 7/15 STMN	LEGAL SHIELD	JULY INV GRP 154119	586.20
07 15 2020	1737	Fallbrook Alarm	SERVICE 3 MONTHS	189.00
07 15 2020	TRUST 8/1-8/31/20	Harry J. Wilson Insurance Center	INSURTRST 8/1-8/31 FFL1622	2,088.00
07 15 2020	REFUSE & SUPPLIES	DAN NIETO	REIMBURSE NIETO CASH PYMTS7/15	22.97
07 15 2020	STMNT 7/15/20	FALLBROOK OIL COMPANY	7/15/20 STMNT	4,888.30
07 16 2020	VIN0533	California Auto Registration Services	California Auto Reg AMB Remnt	55.00
07 16 2020	VIN 0533	CA DMV	CA DMV AMB Remount Txes	2,967.39
07 16 2020	PR AP 07/03	FIREFIGHTERS LEG. ACTION GRP	PR AP 07/03/20	84.00
07 16 2020	07/16/2020 INV	Janikowski Construction	STA 1 PATIO	1,000.00
07 16 2020	PUB NOTE 7/2&7/9/20	VILLAGE NEWS, INC	PUBLIC NOTICE 7/2 & 7/9/20	240.00
07 17 2020	PR AP 07/17/20	LINCOLN NATIONAL	LINCOLN NAT'L 07/17/2020	2,439.42
07 17 2020	PR AP 07/17/20	FALLBROOK FIREFIGHTERS' ASSN	FBK FFA DUES07/17/20	2,879.52
07 17 2020	PR AP 7/17/20	FALLBROOK FIREFIGHTERS' ASSN	FFA ASSOC SR DUES 07/17/20	29.25
07 17 2020	PR AP 07/17/20	FIREFIGHTERS LEG. ACTION GRP	FLAG PMT 07/17/20	84.00
07 20 2020	11173	FOWLER PLUMBING	STA 3 SHOWERVALVE	240.00
07 20 2020	2016955-0	GLENNIE'S OFFICE PRODUCTS	PAPER	232.68
07 20 2020	10G00030602940	READY FRESH	SERV JULY 2020	5.14
07 21 2020	20/21 DUES FDAC	FDAC	CHIEF ABBOTT FDAC MEM T-3	750.00
07 21 2020	5849-2	Fallbrook Overhead Doors and Entry Gates	STA 1 GARAGE DOOR	550.00
07 21 2020	7/21/20	Danny Sahagun	UNIFORM/RUNNING SHOES	18.99
07 21 2020	PM RECERT 2020	Danny Sahagun	PM RECERT D. SAHAGUN	200.00
07 21 2020	STA 2 SER JULY 2020	READY FRESH	SERV JULY 2020 STA 2	38.78
07 21 2020	822129	Southern Counties Lubricants	STA 1 OLYMPUS BLUE DEF	165.34
07 21 2020	INCD 2020003292	SCOTT	REFND SCOTT FERGUSON	827.25
07 21 2020	INC 2019053951	HEALTH NET	REFND TO HEALTHNET PC	553.50

Document Date	Document Number	Vendor Name	Transaction Description	Document Amount
07 21 2020	INCD 2019 063515	HEALTH NET	REFND HEALTHNET PC JIM REGAN	597.89
07 22 2020	184012	ADMINISTRATIVE SOLUTIONS	JULY 2020 ADMIN	108.00
07 22 2020	EMG 6305	KEITH MCREYNOLDS	MAY JULY 2020	1,053.00
07 22 2020	37626137027	DIRECTV	STA 3 SERVICE 7/21-8/20/20	138.78
07 22 2020	STA 5 SERV 6/23-7/23	SDG&E	STA 5 SERV 06/23-07/23	103.93
07 22 2020	STA 1 06/22-07/22/20	SDG&E	STA 1 SERV 06/22-07/22	75.59
07 22 2020	SERV 06/22-07/22/20	SDG&E	STA 1 FLEET MNTNC-FB	17.08
07 22 2020	STA 3 SER 6/19-7/19	SDG&E	STA 3 SERV 06/19-07/19/20	30.40
07 23 2020	STA 1 6/24-7/23/20	FALLBROOK PUBLIC UTILITY DISTR	STA 1 SERV 06/24-07/23/20	58.42
07 27 2020	7/27/20 BRADSHAW	JOSEPH BRADSHAW	BRADSHAW EDUCATION 7/27/20	1,620.00
07 27 2020	STMTN 06/2020	KEN GRODY FORD CARLSBAD	GRODY STMNT 06/2020	1,270.06
07 28 2020	PETI. GRAD 7/2020	JOSEPH BRADSHAW	BRADSHAW PETITION FOR GRAD	120.00
07 30 2020	11647	ArchiveSocial	ANNUAL SOC MEDIA ARCHIVE	2,388.00
07 30 2020	941-V	INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	QTR 2 taxes 2020	147.55
07 30 2020	7/30/20 STMNT	D&F Cleaning Services	JULY 6 & 20 SERVICES	440.00
07 31 2020	PR AP 7/31/20	LINCOLN NATIONAL	LINCOLN NATIONAL 7/31/20 PR	2,423.51
07 31 2020	PR AP 7/31/20	FALLBROOK FIREFIGHTERS' ASSN	FFA DUES PR 7/31/20	2,502.44
07 31 2020	FFA SR PR 7/31/20	FALLBROOK FIREFIGHTERS' ASSN	FFA SR DUES PR 7/31/20	31.59
07 31 2020	FLAG PR 731/20	FIREFIGHTERS LEG. ACTION GRP	FLAG PR 7/31/20	84.00



**NORTH COUNTY FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT
FIRE CHIEF/CEO**

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: STEPHEN ABBOTT FIRE CHIEF/CEO
DATE: AUGUST 25, 2020
SUBJECT: STANDING ITEM: POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

1. None.

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**NORTH COUNTY FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATION**

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: STEPHEN ABBOTT, FIRE CHIEF/CEO AND E/A STEPHEN-PORTER
DATE: AUGUST 25, 2020
SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE

ACTION AGENDA

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the Board of Directors approve amendment 2020 Conflict of Interest as necessary.
2. That the Board approve the Resolution 2020-10 adopting amendments to the Fair Political Practices Commission's Standard Conflict of Interest Code and Candidate Disclosure Statement.
3. That the Board directs Staff to file paperwork in accordance with the County of San Diego requirements.

BACKGROUND:

Government Code § 87306.5 requires local government agencies to review their adopted Conflict of Interest Code every two years to determine whether the Code is accurate or whether amendment is necessary. The District's last filing was in 2018, at which time there were no additions.

Furthermore, the Code is required to be amended whenever the agency determines that additional categories or modifications are required to bring the District's Code into compliance with the Government Code. The last code amendment was in 2017.

DISCUSSION:

District Counsel Robert James and Board Secretary have reviewed the District's Code for compliance with Government Code §87302.

The following recommendations to the Code are proposed as language that is amended, added or removed:

1. Columns I and II were renumbered Column 1 and Column 2 (for easier reference in the document).

Approval of Governance Policies & Procedures

August 25, 2020

Page 2 of 2

- The position of Finance Manager was added to the required reporters. Since this position will generally have the responsibilities for the entire finance division, the reporting categories selected were for all in Column 2.
- The reporting categories for the following positions were revised to reflect more closely the job descriptions as they are now constituted:

Board Secretary/ Executive Assistant to the Fire Chief/CEO	1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 11 , 12, 13 , 15, 16 , 17, 18
HR/Finance Specialist	7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 , 17 , 18
Vehicle Maintenance Supervisor (Currently titled "Mechanic III-Supervisor")	5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 17

- The body of the Code/Resolution has been modified as follows:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that designated employees shall file statements of economic interests with the agency who will make the statements available for public inspection and reproduction (Government Code §81008). Upon receipt of the statements by the Board of Directors and the Fire Chief/CEO, NCFPD shall make and retain a copy and forward the original of these statements to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors. Original statements for all other designated reporters- employees may either will be retained by NCFPD or forwarded to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors.

This modification has the required reporters forwarded to the County as required (BOD and the CEO). Since the County has instituted the eDisclosure system, it will still allow all reporters to file directly with the County. Individuals and others who may not be employees or those who file paper forms (who are not on the BOD or the CEO), may file directly with the District.

With these modifications, all the positions that make or participate in the making of recommendations in governmental decisions are appropriately included, as are the disclosure designations for those designated positions.

The entirety of the recommendations is noted in the Highlight/Strikeout version, in Attachment "A."

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

None.

SUMMARY:

Staff recommends the Board of Directors make the determination that amendments to the District's Conflict of Interest Code are required and recommends the Board approve Resolution 2020-10, adopting amendment to the Fair Political Practices Commission's Standard Conflict of Interest Code and Candidate Disclosure Statement. This amended Code, will supersede Resolution 2017-11. Staff is to be directed to file paperwork in accordance with the requirements of San Diego County.

2020 Local Agency Biennial Notice

Name of Agency: North County Fire Protection District

Mailing Address: 330 S. Main Street, Fallbrook, CA 92028-2938

Contact Person: Loren Stephen-Porter Phone No. 760-723-2012

Email: lstephen@ncfire.org Alternate Email: sabbott@ncfire.org

Accurate disclosure is essential to monitor whether officials have conflicts of interest and to help ensure public trust in government. The biennial review examines current programs to ensure that the agency's code includes disclosure by those agency officials who make or participate in making governmental decisions.

This agency has reviewed its conflict of interest code and has determined that (*check one BOX*):

An amendment is required. The following amendments are necessary:

(*Check all that apply.*)

- Include new positions
- Revise disclosure categories
- Revise the titles of existing positions
- Delete titles of positions that have been abolished and/or positions that no longer make or participate in making governmental decisions
- Other (*describe*) Columns Heading were changed for I and II to 1 and 2.

The code is currently under review by the code reviewing body.

No amendment is required. (If your code is over five years old, amendments may be necessary.)

Verification

This agency's code accurately designates all positions that make or participate in the making of governmental decisions. The disclosure assigned to those positions accurately requires that all investments, business positions, interests in real property, and sources of income that may foreseeably be affected materially by the decisions made by those holding designated positions are reported. The code includes all other provisions required by Government Code Section 87302.

Signature of Chief Executive Officer

August 25, 2020

Date

All agencies must complete and return this notice regardless of how recently your code was approved or amended. Please return this notice no later than **October 1, 2020**, or by the date specified by your agency, if earlier, to:

**Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
Attn: Biennial Review
1600 Pacific Highway, Room 402
San Diego, CA 92101**

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN THIS FORM TO THE FPPC.

www.fppc.ca.gov
FPPC Advice: advice@fppc.ca.gov (866.275.3772)
Page 1 of 1

NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

RESOLUTION ~~2020-10~~~~2017-11~~



RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AMENDING RESOLUTION 94-645, WHICH ADOPTED THE FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION'S STANDARD CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE AND CANDIDATE DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND SUPERSEDING RESOLUTION ~~2016-18~~~~2017-11~~

WHEREAS, the Political Reform Act, Government Code §81000, et. seq., requires state and local government agencies to adopt and promulgate Conflict of Interest Codes; and,

WHEREAS, the North County Fire Protection District (NCFPD), through its predecessor Fallbrook Fire Protection District, ratified and approved an "Agency Conflict of Interest Code" as required by California Government Code on October 18, 1997; and

WHEREAS, California Government Code §87306.5 requires the reviewing body of every local agency which has adopted a Conflict of Interest Code to review said Code and, if a change in its Code is necessitated by changed circumstances, submit an amended Conflict of Interest Code to the Code Review Body; and

WHEREAS, the Fair Political Practices Commission has adopted a regulation, 2 California Code of Regulations §18730, which contains the terms of a standard Conflict Of Interest Code which can be incorporated by reference and may be amended by the Fair Political Practices Commission after Public Notice and Hearings to conform to amendments in the Political Reform Act; and,

WHEREAS, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors has been designated as the "Code Reviewing Body" for NCFPD;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the North County Fire Protection District that the terms of 2 California Code of Regulations §18730 and any amendments to it duly adopted by the Fair Political Practices Commission are hereby incorporated by reference and, along with the attached Appendix A in which members and employees are designated and disclosure categories are set forth, constitute the Conflict Of Interest Code of the NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that designated employees shall file statements of economic interests with the agency who will make the statements available for public inspection and reproduction (Government Code §81008). Upon receipt of the statements by the Board of Directors and the Fire Chief/CEO, NCFPD shall make and retain a copy and forward the original of these statements to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors. Original ~~s~~Statements for all other designated ~~reporters- employees~~ may either ~~will~~ be retained by NCFPD or forwarded to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors.

NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

RESOLUTION ~~2020-10~~2017-11



RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AMENDING RESOLUTION 94-645, WHICH ADOPTED THE FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION'S STANDARD CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE AND CANDIDATE DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND SUPERSEDING RESOLUTION ~~2016-18~~2017-11

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that following ratification and approval, the Local Government Biennial Report shall be completed and transmitted, together with all necessary and related documents, to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors for review by no later than ~~October 1, 2020~~August 31, 2018.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND SIGNED by the Board of Directors, North County Fire Protection District, County of San Diego, State of California, on this ~~25th day of August, 2020~~25th day of July, 2017, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

RECUSED:

Fred Luevano, Board President

ATTEST:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution duly and regularly adopted by the Board of Directors of the North County Fire Protection District thereof held on the ~~25th day of August, 2020~~25th day of July, 2017, and that the same now appears on record in my office.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and affixed by official seal this ~~25th day of August, 2020~~25th day of July, 2017.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Loren A. Stephen-Porter".

Loren A. Stephen-Porter, Board Secretary

NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

RESOLUTION ~~2020-10~~2017-11



RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AMENDING RESOLUTION 94-645, WHICH ADOPTED THE FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION'S STANDARD CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE AND CANDIDATE DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND SUPERSADING RESOLUTION ~~2016-18~~2017-11

COLUMN #1

PUBLIC OFFICIAL'S
FUNCTION OR TITLE

COLUMN #2

TYPE OF BUSINESS ENTITY, INVESTMENT, SOURCE OF INCOME
OR REAL PROPERTY DISCLOSURE

All individuals whose duties involve contracting or purchasing for the District or a Department of the District.

Official listed in Column 1 shall disclose*:

- (a) all sources of income;
- (b) all interests in real property;
- (c) all reportable investments; and,
- (d) all business positions including, but not limited to, the following areas:

Members of the Board of Directors	1. Real property within District or two miles thereof;
Candidates for Board of Directors	2. Construction and building materials;
Fire Chief/CEO	3. Engineering, surveying, architectural and appraising;
Deputy Fire Chief	4. Real estate development;
Division Chiefs	5. Pipes, valves, meters, materials, parts or equipment used in fire hydrants;
Battalion Chiefs	6. Fire hydrants, hose and extinguishers;
Fire Marshal	7. Office equipment and supplies;
General Counsel	8. Motor vehicles, construction equipment, parts and services;
Finance Manager	9. Equipment rental;
Consultants **	10. Petroleum products;
	11. Safety equipment and supplies;
	12. Newspapers, printing and reproduction services;
	13. Banks and savings and loans***;
	14. Employment and manpower agencies;
	15. Insurance, including but not limited to, brokers and agencies;
	16. Moving services;
	17. Radio and communications equipment rental, sales and leases;

NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

RESOLUTION ~~2020-10~~2017-11



RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AMENDING RESOLUTION 94-645, WHICH ADOPTED THE FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION'S STANDARD CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE AND CANDIDATE DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND SUPERSEDING RESOLUTION ~~2016-18~~2017-11

18. Medical and ambulance supplies.

Board Secretary/ Executive Assistant to the Fire Chief/CEO	1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 11 , 12, 13 , 15, 16 , 17, 18
HR/Finance Specialist	7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 , 17 , 18
Vehicle Maintenance Supervisor (Currently titled "Mechanic III-Supervisor")	5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 17

* [Disclosures are subject to the FPPC Code/Regulations as they may be changed/amended from time-to-time.]

** Consultants, as defined by California Code of Regulations § 18701 (2) and who make or participate in making governmental decisions, shall be included in the list of designated employees and shall disclose pursuant to the broadest disclosure category in the code subject to the following limitations:

The Fire Chief or his designated agent, may determine in writing that a particular consultant, although a "designed position," is hired to perform a range of duties that is limited in scope and thus is not required to fully comply with the disclosure requirements described in this section. Such written determination shall include a description of the consultant's duties and, based upon that description, a statement of the extent of disclosure requirements. The Fire Chief's (or his designated agent's) determination is a public record and shall be retained for public inspection in the same manner and location as this conflict of interest code.

*** Does not include stock or other securities registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission of the United States Government.

NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

RESOLUTION 2020-10



RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AMENDING RESOLUTION 94-645, WHICH ADOPTED THE FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION'S STANDARD CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE AND CANDIDATE DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND SUPERSEDING RESOLUTION 2017-11

WHEREAS, the Political Reform Act, Government Code §81000, et. seq., requires state and local government agencies to adopt and promulgate Conflict Of Interest Codes; and,

WHEREAS, the North County Fire Protection District (NCFPD), through its predecessor Fallbrook Fire Protection District, ratified and approved an "Agency Conflict of Interest Code" as required by California Government Code on October 18, 1997; and

WHEREAS, California Government Code §87306.5 requires the reviewing body of every local agency which has adopted a Conflict of Interest Code to review said Code and, if a change in its Code is necessitated by changed circumstances, submit an amended Conflict of Interest Code to the Code Review Body; and

WHEREAS, the Fair Political Practices Commission has adopted a regulation, 2 California Code of Regulations §18730, which contains the terms of a standard Conflict Of Interest Code which can be incorporated by reference and may be amended by the Fair Political Practices Commission after Public Notice and Hearings to conform to amendments in the Political Reform Act; and,

WHEREAS, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors has been designated as the "Code Reviewing Body" for NCFPD;

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NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

RESOLUTION 2020-10



RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AMENDING RESOLUTION 94-645, WHICH ADOPTED THE FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION'S STANDARD CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE AND CANDIDATE DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND SUPERSEDING RESOLUTION 2017-11

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PASSED, ADOPTED AND SIGNED by the Board of Directors, North County Fire Protection District, County of San Diego, State of California, on this **25th day of August, 2020**, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

RECUSED:

Fred Luevano, Board President

ATTEST:

I **HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution duly and regularly adopted by the Board of Directors of the North County Fire Protection District thereof held on the **25th day of August, 2020**, and that the same now appears on record in my office.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and affixed by official seal this **25th day of August, 2020**.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Loren A. Stephen-Porter".

Loren A. Stephen-Porter, Board Secretary

NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

RESOLUTION 2020-10



RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AMENDING RESOLUTION 94-645, WHICH ADOPTED THE FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION'S STANDARD CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE AND CANDIDATE DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND SUPERSEDING RESOLUTION 2017-11

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FUNCTION OR TITLE

COLUMN 2

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NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

RESOLUTION 2020-10



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The Fire Chief or his designated agent, may determine in writing that a particular consultant, although a "designed position," is hired to perform a range of duties that is limited in scope and thus is not required to fully comply with the disclosure requirements described in this section. Such written determination shall include a description of the consultant's duties and, based upon that description, a statement of the extent of disclosure requirements. The Fire Chief's (or his designated agent's) determination is a public record and shall be retained for public inspection in the same manner and location as this conflict of interest code.

*** Does not include stock or other securities registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission of the United States Government.

**AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION FALLBROOK, CALIFORNIA 92028
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

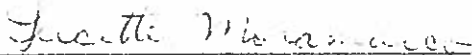
I am a citizen of the United States,
over twenty-one years of age, and
the Associate Editor of said
newspaper The Village News, Inc.,
111 W. Alvarado St., Fallbrook, CA 92028
a newspaper adjudicated by the Superior Court,
County of San Diego GIN013243 is a newspaper
of general circulation, published and is circulated
at least once a week in Fallbrook, County of
San Diego, State of California.

**The Notice of _____
PUBLIC NOTICE OF REVIEW OF CODE OF CONFLICT
North County Fire Protection District**

Legal Number: NA
Which the attached is a true printed copy, and
Published in said newspaper for 2 weeks, and
on the following day: 07/02/20, 07/09/20

in the regular issue of said newspaper,
THE VILLAGE NEWS, INC.,
111 W. Alvarado St., Fallbrook, CA 92028
and not in any other supplement.
I certify and declare under penalty that
this statement is true and correct to the
best of my knowledge.

Dated: July 9, 2020
Fallbrook, California 92028



Signature

LUCETTE MORAMARCO
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

PUBLIC NOTICE
<p>NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following matter will be heard by the North County Fire Protection District on a date/time certain of <u>Tuesday August 25, 2020</u> at <u>4:15 p.m.</u> or as soon thereafter as such matter can be heard, at the Fallbrook Public Utility District, 2990 East Mission Road, Fallbrook, California, OR alternatively, if COVID-19 meeting restrictions continue to apply the public hearing will be TELEPHONIC.</p> <p>North County Fire Protection District's Code of Conflict:</p> <p>Government Code § 87306.5 requires that public agencies biennially review their conflict of interest code in even numbered years to determine if the existing code is current or in need of amendment. The Government Code also specifies that the Board of Supervisors is the code reviewing body for any local government agency with jurisdiction wholly within the County. North County Fire Protection District is a local government agency as defined by these provisions of the Government Code. The Commission first adopted a conflict of interest code in 1994. It was last amended in 2017.</p> <p>BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT.</p> <p>Loren Stephen-Porter Board Secretary Dated: June 23, 2020</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Published July 2, 9, 2020</p>



**NORTH COUNTY FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT
FIRE CHIEF/CEO**

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: CHIEF ABBOTT
DATE: AUGUST 25, 2020
SUBJECT: ALTERNATIVE REVENUE/COST RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

ACTION AGENDA

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the alternative revenue implementation plan as presented

BACKGROUND:

During the July board meeting, the Board was presented with a rather extensive analysis of potential alternative sources of revenue/cost recovery, conducted by Cal State University, San Marcos. This study was commissioned by the Board in response to the failure of Measure 'A,' as a means of finding alternative means of funding the District's rather significant facility deferred maintenance issues. Many alternatives were discussed and evaluated, with those being most relevant and feasible included in an implementation plan for subsequent review and approval by the Board.

DISCUSSION:

An implementation plan for various means of cost recovery has been provided on the attached spreadsheet, utilizing the same format as used for our periodic strategic direction discussions. The color coding represents the degree of complexity associated with achievement of each objective, with green representing little challenge, yellow moderate, and red difficult if not potentially unobtainable.

With the Board's approval, staff will take the steps necessary to implement each of these mechanisms, bringing those items requiring further Board action back to the Board at subsequent meetings for review and approval. Timing for implementing each mechanism is based primarily on the speed at which the necessary background steps can be completed. Some of these have already been implemented, such as the state mandated inspections last FY. Others may simply be enacted with approval of this implementation plan, such as incident cost recovery and fines for repeat fire code violations. Others will be dependent

Alternative Revenue Implementation Plan

August 25, 2020

Page 2 of 2

upon approval of an adjusted fee schedule, and/or the implementation of legislation by third parties, such as the public provider intergovernmental transfer agreements (PPIGT). Only the PPIGT (public provider intergovernmental transfer program) will provide a moderate challenge in as much as implementation relies so heavily upon the actions of other State and Federal stakeholders.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

The cumulative fiscal impact of enacting these options will depend upon the extent to which they are implemented and enforced. For example, implementation of cost recovery for vehicle accidents years ago initially met with resistance from a number of parties, and yet it now provides a reliable means of cost recovery, borne by the insurance industry, with little if any complaint from the citizenry. In time it is estimated that collectively these programs can generate between \$300,000-\$500,000 in ongoing cost recovery revenue, which would augment facilities funding by approximately 30-50%.

SUMMARY:

Approval of this implementation plan will be a first step in making a substantial impact upon the District's facility funding challenges.

Adjust ambulance rates to regional average								
Objectives & Action Steps	Person Resp.	Target Impl. Date	Resources needed	Resource cost/target	Source of Funds	ROI	Justification	Outcome if no action
Objective #1: Obtain updated regional ambulance rate survey	Mahr	Nov-19	Staff time	None	N/A			
Objective #2: Obtain Board approval for implementation	Abbott	Aug-20	Staff time	None	N/A		Obtain permission to expand EMS cost recovery	
Objective #3: Develop proposed fee schedule adjusted to regional average	Mahr	Sep-20	Staff time	None	N/A		Capture 1st response & EMS portion of facility repl. costs	Exacerbated deferred facility maintenance
Objective #4: Develop phase-in implementation plan for rate increases	Mahr	Sep-20	Staff time	None	N/A		Allows customers to adjust to impact of fee increase	Potential push-back from public
Objective #5: Obtain Board approval for modified ambulance fee schedule	Mahr	Sep-20	Staff time	None	N/A		Statutory	
Objective #6: Notify ambulance biller	Mahr	Oct-20	Staff time	None	N/A	200,000-400,000		
Summary: Will capture 1st responder & EMS related facility depreciation expenses, primarily from insurance companies								

Fire Code Violations Billing								
Objective & Action Steps	Person Resp.	Target Impl. Date	Resources needed	Resource cost	Source of Funds	Net ROI	Justification	Outcome if no action
Objective #1: Modify Fire Prevention Fee Schedule to include code violation billing	Mahr/ Koch	Oct-2018	Staff time	None	N/A		Implemented Nov-2018	Reduces efficacy of inspection program, wastes staff time
Objective #2: Obtain Board approval for implementation plan	Fieri	Aug 20	Staff time	None	N/A		Formalize board approval to expand cost recovery	
Objective #3: Conduct inservice training	Fieri	Sep 20	Staff time	None	N/A			
Objective #4: Notify cost recovery billing agency	Fieri	Sep 20	Staff time	None	N/A	12,000		
Summary: Allows the District to recover costs for repeat non-compliant properties and may reduce rate of non-compliance								

Expand Incident Cost Recovery Program								
Objective & Action Steps	Person Resp.	Target Impl. Date	Resources needed	Resource cost	Source of Funds	Net ROI	Justification	Outcome if no action
Objective #1: Modify cost recovery resolution	Mahr	Sep 19	Staff Time	0	N/A		Completed 9-2019	
Objective #2: Obtain Board approval for implementation plan	Mahr	Aug 20	Staff Time	0	N/A		Formalize board approval to expand cost recovery	
Objective #3: Conduct inservice training	Mcreynolds	Oct 20	Staff Time	0	N/A			
Objective #4: Nofify cost recovery biller	Mahr	Oct 20	Staff time	0	N/A	10,000		
Summary: Exercising full range of cost recovery options will augment revenue from insurance companies								

False Alarm Billing								
Objective & Action Steps	Person Resp.	Target Impl. Date	Resources needed	Resource cost	Source of Funds	Net ROI	Justification	Outcome if no action
Objective #1: Identify cost basis for false alarms	Juul	Aug 20	Staff time	None			Capture false alarm costs	Lost rev. & continued nuisance false alarms
Objective #2: Develop graduated fee schedule based on # of false alarms	Mahr	Sep 20	Staff time	None			In alignment with other agencies	Could create disincentive to have alarm system
Objective #3: Modify cost recovery resolution	Mahr	Sep 20	Staff time	None			Statutory	
Objective #4: Obtain Board Approval	Mahr	Sep 20	Staff time	None			Statutory	
Objective #5: Perform inservice training	McReynolds	Oct 20	Staff time	None				
Objective #6: Notify cost recovery billing agency	Mahr	Oct 20	Staff time	5,000	New fee revenue	9,000		
Summary: Will provide offsets for false alarm expenses & reduce number of false alarms								

First Responder Fees-CONTINGENCY ONLY IF AMBULANCE RATES NOT ADJUSTED TO REGIONAL AVERAGE								
Objective & Action Steps	Person Resp.	Target Impl. Date	Resources needed	Resource cost	Source of Funds	Net ROI	Justification	Outcome if no action
Objective #1: Identify cost basis for 1st responder services	Juul	Oct-21	Staff time	None	N/A		Minimize equip. failures, facility closures	Increased accumulated deferred maint.
Objective #2: Develop graduated fee schedule	Mahr	Dec-21	Staff time	None	N/A		In alignment with other agencies	Could create disincentive to call 9-1-1
Objective #3: Modify cost recovery resolution	Mahr	Jan-21	Staff time	None	N/A		Statutory	
Objective #4: Obtain Board Approval	Mahr	Jan-21	Staff time	None	N/A		Statutory	
Objective #5: Notify ambulance & cost recovery billing agencies	Mahr	Feb-21	Staff time	None	N/A	50,000		
Summary: Will partially capture 1st responder fees from public & some insurers								

Public Provider Intergovernmental Transfer Agreement									
Objective & Action Steps	Person Resp.	Target Impl. Date	Resources needed	Resource cost	Source of Funds	Net ROI	Offset source	Justification	Outcome if no action
Enabling Objective: Approval of PPIGT enabling legislation		Jun 21	Legislative Advocacy	5000	Existing Budget			Needed to implement program	GEMT remains in place
Objective #1: Identify regional Medi-Cal managed care plan providers (MCOs)	Murphy	Aug 21	Staff time	None	N/A			Capture avail. Medi-Cal HMO revenue	Inadequate facility repl. Funding
Objective #2: Establish cooperative relationship with interested regional partnering agencies	Mahr	Oct 21	Staff time	None	N/A			Regional interest identified in NZ strategic plan	
Objective #3: Enter into contract agreements with Medi-Cal MCOs & Calif. Dept. of Health Services	Abbott	Jan 22	Staff time & minor legal exp.	5,000	Existing Budget			Statutory	
Objective #4: Obtain agreement approval from Medicaid (CMS)	Mahr	Apr 22	Staff time	None	N/A			Statutory	
Objective #5: Allocate PPIGT "matching" & admin. funds in budget	Mahr	Jun 22	Staff time	130,000 matching funds + 20% admin.	Cash reserves or Rollover	100,000	DHCS matching funds (260,000)	Statutory	Cannot participate in program
Summary: will capture additional funds from Medi-Cal MCOs									



**NORTH COUNTY FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT**
FIRE CHIEF/CEO

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: STEPHEN ABBOTT, FIRE CHIEF/CEO
DATE: AUGUST 25, 2020
SUBJECT: DISCUSSION AGENDA

There are no Discussion Agenda Items for the August 25, 2020, Board Meeting.

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ROBERT H. JAMES

ATTORNEY AT LAW

ROBERT H. JAMES, Esq.
roberthjameslaw@gmail.com

3668 KATIE LENDRE DRIVE
FALLBROOK, CALIFORNIA 92028

TELEPHONE
(760) 723-9018

August 1, 2020

**Board of Directors
North County Fire Protection District**

Re: General Counsel Board Report for August 1, 2020

The CCPA's Impact on Public Agencies

The California Consumer Privacy Act, or CCPA, went into effect this year and the California Attorney General began enforcing it on July 1. One might assume that any legislation aimed at "consumers" would have nothing to do with government. That would be a mistake.

The CCPA is broadly written. A local agency that ignores the CCPA does so at its own peril.

The CCPA

The CCPA covers personal information — that is, information that could be associated with any particular person or household. This includes identifiers such as a consumer's real name, postal address, IP address and email address. It also includes information about transactions that a person or household has participated in, including records of goods and services purchased.

The law gives consumers the right to know what personal information is collected about them, the right to easily opt-out of the sharing of their personal information, the right to take their personal information somewhere else and, subject to certain limitations, the right to have that information destroyed.

The CCPA is not toothless.

Any consumer whose non-encrypted or non-redacted personal information is subject to unauthorized access as a result of an organization's violation of the duty to implement and maintain reasonable security procedures may sue to recover damages — either individually or as part of a class action lawsuit. Those who violate the CCPA may also be sued by the state's Attorney General and incur civil penalties.

What This Means for Local Government

While the CCPA expressly applies only to for-profit entities, it doesn't follow that public

ROBERT H. JAMES

ATTORNEY AT LAW

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roberthjameslaw@gmail.com

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TELEPHONE
(760) 723-9018

agencies should remain ignorant of its provisions.

Public agencies regularly contract with for-profit firms to bill for services provided by the public agency. A billing services provider for a public agency supplying electric, water and other utility services, will obtain information regarding the name, address, telephone number, credit history and utility usage data of individual customers. This information is presumptively private under the California Public Records Act, and is also designated as confidential in a typical public agency/billing services provider contract. As such, it constitutes personal information that is subject to the CCPA.

Public agencies may have even considered selling some of this information to private firms.

For example, my electricity usage might be valuable to firms who sell and install home solar power systems. Your water usage might be valuable to firms who sell and install drip irrigation systems and drought tolerant ground cover and landscaping. Another person's travel patterns might be valuable to retailers.

A public entity is liable for injury caused by the tortious act, or omission, of an independent contractor to the same extent the public entity would be subject to such liability if it were a private person. When there is a duty to do certain work carefully, or to maintain property in a safe condition, this duty cannot be avoided by delegating the work to an independent contractor.

All of this means that a public agency may be on the hook for violations of the CCPA by an independent contractor. A firm hired to assist with billing for the agency's utility services might fail to implement and maintain reasonable security procedures with respect to customer data and suffer a data breach, leading to a lawsuit on behalf the agency's customers for statutory damages.

Protecting Your Agency Against CCPA Violation Risks

Public agencies have experience addressing the liability risks posed by the acts and omissions of independent contractors.

Typically, agencies address them by inserting an indemnity clause into their contract with an independent contractor. These indemnity clauses may require the independent contractor to pay the agency's litigation expenses and money damages the agency is ordered to pay if sued for something the contractor did or failed to do.

Agencies have also addressed the liability risks posed by independent contractors by insuring against them. Insurance policies tailored to the risks associated with electronic data and misuse of personal information, for example cyber liability and data breach insurance policies, are increasingly available.

ROBERT H. JAMES

ATTORNEY AT LAW

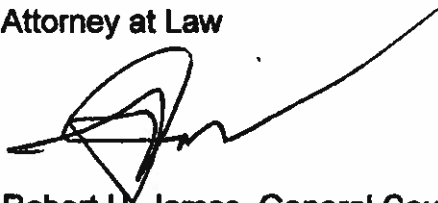
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Either way, where a public agency contracts with a private entity collecting information from consumers, the agency should review its contracts and insurance coverage to ensure it is adequately protected against the risks of a violation of the CCPA.

ROBERT H. JAMES
Attorney at Law

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. James', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Robert H. James, General Counsel for the
North County Fire Protection District

RHJ/km
cc: Chief Steve Abbott
Board members

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**NORTH COUNTY FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT
FIRE CHIEF/CEO**

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: STEPHEN ABBOTT, FIRE CHIEF/CEO
DATE: AUGUST 25, 2020
SUBJECT: WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

● **WRITTEN COMMUNICATION:**

- None

● **BOARD RECOGNITION PROGRAM:**

● **JULY 31, 2020 – SHOUT OUT FOR EMS ROOM CLEAN-OUT AND ORGANIZATION:**

FM/PM Doug De Brauwere
MSO Mary Murphy
Captain Ryan Garing
Engineer Sam Russell
FF/PM Ben Lian
PM Grant DeWoody

● **JULY 27, 2020 – LETTER OF THANKS FROM CITY OF ENCINITIAS:**

D/C Mahr

● **JULY 24, 2020 – SHOUT OUT FOR PRIVACY FENCING PROJECT – STATION 1:**

Captain Dan Sahagun
Engineer Sam Russell
FF/PM DJ Soriano
PM Stratton
PM Grant DeWoody

● **UNDATED THANK YOU – FIRE ASSISTANCE:**

B111: B/C Greg Mann

WT 113:

Captain Michael Benoit
Engineer Nick Quinn

BR 114:

Captain Anthony Fieri
Engineer Jason Bracci
FF/PM Erik Alter-Reitz

BR112:

Captain Michael Benoit
Engineer Chris Craven
FF/PM Justin Rivera

E111:

Captain Eddie Jones
Engineer Sam Russell
FF/PM Josh Kortekaas

E115:

Captain Joey Bradshaw
Engineer Dustin Glasgow
FF/PM Kyle Krenz

Loren Stephen-Porter

From: Kevin Mahr
Sent: July 31, 2020 19:53
To: Brian Macmillan
Cc: A Crew; B Crew; C Crew; Leadership Team
Subject: Re: NCFPD Shout-Out

Awesome work, thank you all so much. This will be a improvement in our storage capabilities.

Kevin Mahr | Division Chief - Operations
North County Fire Protection District | 330 S. Main Ave – Fallbrook, CA 92028
T: (760) 723-2015 - C: (760) 802-4181 - F: (760) 723-2045
kmahr@ncfire.org | www.ncfire.org

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On Jul 31, 2020 7:16 PM, Brian Macmillan <bmacmillan@ncfire.org> wrote:
A big NCFPD Shout-Out to FF/PM Doug "Crossfit for Life" De Brauwere, MSO Mary "Put your Mask on" Murphy and the ST 1 C Crew for spending the day cleaning and organizing the EMS Room. The room looks great and was a big step in helping to reorganize the PPE and Uniform equipment.

Thanks for the Great Work!



Brian MacMillan | Battalion Chief

North County Fire Protection District | 330 S. Main Ave – Fallbrook, CA 92028

T: (760) 723-2005 - C: (760) 310-4481

bmacmillan@ncfire.org | www.ncfire.org

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*City of
Encinitas*

July 27, 2020

Chief Mahr,

I would like to thank you for your assistance with our recent Fire Battalion Chief promotional exam. Your dedication to the process and commitment of time and expertise were invaluable. I appreciate your forthright and objective evaluation of our candidates and the advice and suggestions for improving both our process and our organization. Again, thank you very much and best wishes.

In Service,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Stein".

Mike Stein, Fire Chief

Cooperative Fire Management Team
Cities of Encinitas, Del Mar, Solana Beach

Loren Stephen-Porter

From: Barry Krumwiede
Sent: July 24, 2020 19:30
To: Brian Macmillan; A Crew; B Crew; C Crew; Leadership Team
Subject: Station 1 strikes again

All,

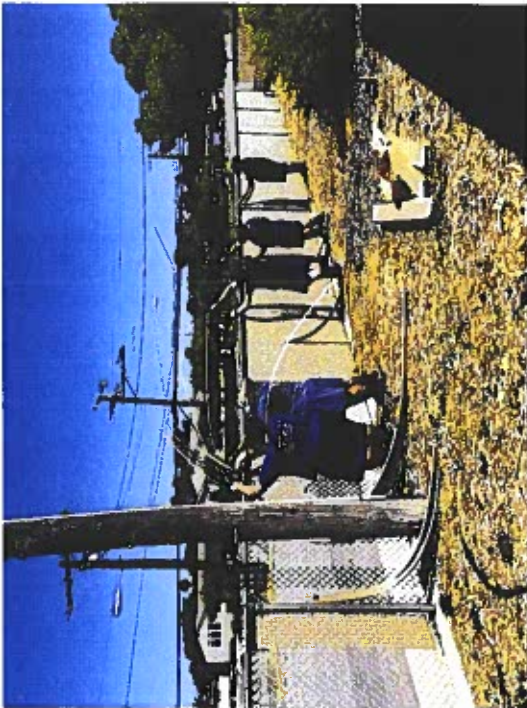
Another fine example of crew's doing good work and taking pride in their stations.

Once again, the station 1 crew were making it happen and installed privacy fencing around the perimeter.

Thanks to Captain Sahagun for researching and purchasing the most affordable product and to the crew for their installation efforts during the course of the work day in between calls.

Captain Sahagun
Engineer Russell
FF/PM Soriano
PM Stratton
PM DeWoody

Thank you for you hard work!



Dear Fire Personnel,

I want to sincerely THANK YOU!!!
for putting out the fires at my
Property on E. Mission & Conover in So. Stry.

You saved the homes of 6 families
(including 4 small children). I've been
told by some of my tenants just
how frightened they were

How fortunate Fullbrook is to have
such a skilled and dedicated team.

And for the children to see you
all come to their rescue..

instead of a night mare, I
wonder if you may have
inspired a future firefighter
or two.

Thank you again
with a grateful heart

B111 - G. MANN

B112 -
CRAVEN
BENOIT
RIVERA

B114 -
BRACKI
FIERI
ALTER - PEITZ

E111 -
JONES
RUSSELL
KORTEKMAS

E115 -
BRADSHAW
KRENZ
GLASBROW

WT 113
QUINN
BENOIT

California Gov. Newsom declares state of emergency due to fires

KFSN

FRESNO, Calif. (KFSN) -- California Gov. Gavin Newsom on Tuesday declared a state of emergency due to fires raging across the state.

His announcement comes amid a scorching heat wave that has helped spark and spread multiple large blazes, including in Napa, Nevada and Monterey counties, and put a severe strain on the state's power grid, causing California's first rolling blackouts in 19 years.

RELATED: [PG&E interactive map tells if you'll lose power during CA rotating outages](#)

Newsom said his declaration was to ensure resources were available for crews battling the fires.

"California and its federal and local partners are working in lockstep to meet the challenge and remain vigilant in the face of continued dangerous weather conditions," he said.

RELATED: [Evacuations ordered as Northern California wildfire explodes overnight](#)

By declaring a state of emergency, the governor is able to forego a lot of the legal and environmental requirements to get things moving. For example, the state doesn't have to go through lengthy bid processes to spend money on projects or equipment to prevent fires and gets around some environmental restrictions. His emergency order spends money already allocated by the legislature.

The governor will provide an update on California's response to the wildfires and heat wave at 12 pm on Wednesday. Check back here to watch it live.

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Dan Walters writes for CALmatters, a public interest journalism venture committed to explaining how California's state Capitol works and why it matters. For more stories by Dan Walters, go to calmatters.org/commentary.

California's public employee pension dilemma boils down to this: The California Public Employees Retirement System has scarcely two-thirds of the money it needs to pay benefits that state and local governments have promised their workers.

Moreover, CalPERS' official estimate that it is 70.8% funded is based on an assumption of future investment earnings averaging 7% a year, which probably is at least one or two percentage points too high. In the 2019-20 fiscal year that ended June 30, [CalPERS posted a 4.7% return](#), and over the last 20 years it has averaged 5.5% by its own calculation.

Were the earnings assumption dropped to a more realistic level, the system's "unfunded liability" — essentially a multi-billion-dollar debt — would increase sharply from the current \$160 billion to at least \$200 billion.

There are three ways to resolve the debt dilemma: Earn higher returns, require government employers and employees to pay more, or reduce future benefits. CalPERS is pursuing the first two but a [recent state Supreme Court ruling](#) makes the third virtually impossible.

California's education department has ruled that Los Angeles Unified School District's plan for educating at-risk kids is deficient - a warning to other school systems, columnist Dan Walters says.

The court had an opportunity to revisit the "California rule" — an assumption, based on past rulings, that once promised, future pension benefits cannot be revised downward.

The case involved pension reform legislation sponsored by former Gov. Jerry Brown, particularly a ban on manipulating benefit calculations. Some unions said that the California rule protected "pension spiking," but the justices, while ruling it doesn't apply, also declared, "we have no jurisprudential reason to undertake a fundamental reexamination of the rule."

So reducing future benefits is now off the table, which leaves improving investment earnings and increasing contributions as the only options for avoiding an eventual meltdown.

CalPERS has been pursuing a more aggressive policy, contending that without it, the system can't achieve its 7% goal. It has proposed to borrow up to \$80 billion to expand its investment portfolio and make direct loans to corporations or government entities. However, last week's abrupt resignation of chief investment officer Ben Meng, architect of the strategy, leaves it in limbo.

California's plan for "ethnic studies" has been revised in response to criticism but is still colored by leftist ideology, columnist Dan Walters says.

Basic economics tell us that pursuing higher investment returns means taking higher risks of failure. Direct lending also increases the risk of corruption, which has infected CalPERS in the past.

That's why a pending CalPERS-sponsored bill is troublesome. The measure, [Assembly Bill 2473](#), would exempt details of CalPERS loans from the state's Public Records Act, making it much more difficult for watchdogs and journalists to sniff out insider dealing.

Meanwhile, CalPERS' demands for more money from state and local governments is hitting their budgets even harder these days because tax revenues have been eroded by the COVID-19's recession. They force employers to dip into reserves, shift funds from other services, ask their voters to raise taxes or even borrow money to pay pension debts.

The California Capitol's dominant Democrats are facing a prolonged fiscal crisis and are debating whether to borrow heavily or tax the rich to generate more spendable dollars, columnist Dan Walters says.

The latter involves what are called "pension bonds," issued on an assumption that their interest rates will be less than the 7% percent rate by which CalPERS inflates unfunded liabilities — a practice known in financial circles as "arbitrage."

Many local governments issue arbitrage bonds, despite the obvious risks, and recently, a hybrid form emerged in Torrance, a small Southern California city.

Torrance is [leasing its city streets](#) to a city-controlled entity called the Torrance Joint Powers Financing Authority, which will issue \$350 million in bonds to pay for the lease. The city will use the bond money to pay down the city's \$500 million pension debt while making payments to the authority so it can service the bonds.

The bottom line: The city is pawning its streets to pay for pensions. That's not healthy by any definition.

Watch Now: California bans smoking, vaping in state parks and beaches

CalMatters is a public interest journalism venture committed to explaining how California's state Capitol works and why it matters. For more stories by Dan Walters, go to calmatters.org/commentary.

“”

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The Inside

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May 21, 2020

Wayne County Fire Acquires Two New Fire Engines

North County Fire District Board in San Diego approves donation of 1997 HME engine to Wayne County Fire District



COURTESY STEVE LUTZ

North County Fire District in San Diego has donated a 1997 HME engine to Wayne County Fire District. The transfer from the old 1982 Lafrance to the new engine was less ceremonial than desired, as the Lafrance became disabled en route to the Lyman headquarters. Steve Lutz has also reacquired a truck from Brian Head that he purchased when he was employed there as chief in 1982.

WAYNE COUNTY - The Wayne County Fire Department is on a roll, except when they are not. On Wednesday, May 13, the Hanksville engine was en route to Lyman when it threw a driveline. This caused the truck to slam to a stop in the middle of Highway 24 in Capitol Reef. Luckily, the fire-

fighters were on their last drive in the old 1982 Lafrance to receive a new engine at what was to be a nice ceremony at headquarters in Lyman. The district had acquired a 1997 HME engine that was kindly donated by North County FD in San Diego, and the idea was to video the transfer of equipment from

old to new with the help of the other Wayne County Fire Officers. Instead, all they got was a snapshot of the disabled engine and a group photo with the new one.

Milt Davies, currently of Cedar City and a former North

New Fire Trucks

Cont'd on page 2

Advisory committees are critical in assisting the BLM in continuing to be a good neighbor in the communities that we serve.

Planned agenda items for the June 10 meeting of the Utah RAC include BLM Utah priorities, Desolation River Program and Price Field Office Campground Business Plans, wild horse and burro program update, BLM regulations update, Washington County planning updates, and other issues as appropriate. The meeting agenda is avail-

about the upcoming RAC meeting, please contact Lola Bird at (801) 539-4033 or lbird@blm.gov. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to leave a message or question for the above individual. The FRS is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Replies are provided during normal business hours.

—Bureau of Land Management

New Fire Trucks: *A letter from Lutz that Davies describes as containing "the best sob story ever" did the trick, and the North County Fire District Board approved a donation.*

—Wayne County Fire District

New Fire Trucks *Cont'd from page 1*

County Chief, had told Wayne Chief Steve Lutz that the HME had been declared surplus and could be purchased for a reasonable \$30,000. Lutz immediately knew that Hanksville really needed a newer engine and that they couldn't afford to buy it. He contacted North County and had a long series of conversations. A letter from Lutz that Davies describes as containing "the best sob story ever" did the trick, and the North County Fire District Board approved a donation. After some COVID fears had abated, Commissioner Blackburn and Captain Josh Brown of Loa drove overnight to San Diego to pick up the engine and drove it back at a steady but steady 62 mph. Twenty-six hours after leaving, they were back in the county, thrilled and exhausted.

Following the ceremonial photo op at Lyman, Battalion Chief Jeff Pei of Hanksville tested the pump on the new engine by drenching the fire officers with the deck gun

mounted on top. He claimed it was an accident. The officers were not so sure but were gratified that Pei drenched himself, too. Eventually, a wrecker from Sevier County arrived with the old Lafrance. The Hanksville guys made the equipment transfer, by themselves, in the dark and returned home at midnight. They were tired and damp but as happy as kids on Christmas morning.

Lutz also acquired a 4WD drive engine from Brian Head that he had purchased in 1982 when he was the chief there. It still only had 7,700 miles on it. "It's slow and older, but it will be just what we need to protect some of our wildland-urban interface areas that have roads that other structure engines just can't handle," says Lutz.

Wayne County sends a hearty "Thank You" to Chiefs Steve Abbott and Kevin Mahr of North County, Ret. Chief Davies, Brian Head Chief Dan Benson and everyone who so kindly helped WCFD upgrade our services to the people of Wayne County.

—Wayne County Fire District

structures were grandfathered in. However, the two new structures would mean there would be five dwellings on a lot that should only have one legal dwelling. This will also have a cumulative effect on the residential area. Traffic on Lower Boulder Road is an issue as the road is narrow, and use is increasing with a number of legal commercial activities already occurring.

Another commissioner agreed and stated that, with the General Plan in mind, the existing structures are acceptable as a guest ranch, however, adding units may not be in line with responsible growth.

A third commissioner voiced concern about the possibility of the land being subdivided into many lots, a continued that if allowing these tiny houses can support them financially and therefore prevent major subdivision then it may be the better option. They also asked for much of the property it was

Hometown Hero
has no shortage of limits, and that is Panguitch the resilient community that is Event Manger

Hometown Hero *Cont'd from page 1*

tion to the entire community. There is no doubt the Miller would be in proud of the community vice performed by the dren.

The Panguitch Hometown Hero is a new honor that tends to award excellence during Joann Miller an outstanding member of the community. Panguitch shortage of "hero

NCFPD hears economic impact report with options to make up for Prop. A failure

Village News

Stephen J. Abbott, chief and CEO of the North County Fire Protection District, presented NCFPD board members with a presentation, an economic report and varying ways the district could recoup funding potentially lost by the failure of Proposition A in November 2019.

“When Prop. A failed, we had mentioned a variety of other means of exploring alternative revenue sources, which of course are potential consequences of Prop. A failure,” Abbott told the board during its Tuesday, July 28, telephonic meeting. “And then those included things like increased rates on various service charges and perhaps implementing new fees as well.”

Abbott said the district used California State University San Marcos to canvas various departments around the country to come up with solutions that the district could consider going forward.

“What they did is they looked at our current practices and ways that you can potentially augment those, as well as new ways that we have not currently implemented to be considered,” Abbott said.

While Abbott didn’t go through the entire 63-page report, he touched on a few of the key options.

One involved potentially charging market rates for transportation across the county.

“The reason for that is that unlike other systems that may have a third-party provider, we don’t charge for first response, which is a component of our delivery service,” Abbott said. “And in fact, in other systems that have a third-party provider, there’s actually a fee to reimburse those fire departments for the first response services. That’s currently not something that we have taken advantage of.

“One recommendation is that we look at our ambulance rates or the regional average, which is typically updated in the fall, and then adjust accordingly. I will say that could be rather substantial increases in rates. However, that would be consistent with the regional average,” he said.

One of the board members asked if there was a limit to what the district could charge, and Abbott answered that there is only a limit to what the district would be reimbursed for.

“Statutorily, it pertains to our ability to collect a reasonable fee that doesn’t exceed the total cost of doing business,” he said. “But again, that’s why when you look at bond services and facility depreciation to costs, which we’re currently not capturing, that does provide some additional headroom for us to adjust our rates justifiably.”

Abbott said a third-party billing firm determined that the district could expect to see approximately another \$390,000 in receipts, adjustment to full market rates, if they went this route.

Board director John Van Doorn said he thinks the issue is a big one and warned that there are some political issues if the district raises the rates too much.

“I don’t want to make the decision today,” he said.

Abbott reiterated that no decision needed to be made during the meeting and added that the cost to the district would be little to none to implement raising fees.

“It’s not like we need more bodies to collect more revenue,” he said. “It’s simply adjusting our costs to fully capture our expenditures.”

Another suggestion made involved incident cost recovery.

“In investigating this, when we had adopted the updated cost recovery policy, it appears as though the board authorized staff to charge for an array of services,” Abbott said. “However, the direction from the board many years ago, the only to charge for the cost recovery associated with motor vehicle accidents. We could very easily adjust our arrangement with our collections agency and simply expand our cost recovery efforts to what has already been authorized by the board in the previous action. And especially with this, it would be when we start charging for hazardous materials, clean up vehicle fires and things of that nature.”

Another option Abbott touched upon from the report was false alarm filling.

“This is an option that the staff did support,” he said. “It is not something that we currently do. There is a financial component that you can see on Page 156, it’s roughly \$9,000, which is not a huge chunk of money. However, a really important point is that this is time for our resources, particularly our headquarters, which is already rather busy as it is, and as much as most of our official occupancies. And for that matter, residential densities in the downtown area, it would help ameliorate a lot of false alarm calls, many of which are repeat offenders.”

The board also addressed consent events that involved reviewing and accepting the Emergency Service Overtime Tracking Report for the fourth quarter 2019-2020 which demonstrated that annual and sick leave expenditures for the quarter are decreased over the same quarter last year, with current overtime at 100.62% of budget.

They also reviewed and accepted the results of a customer satisfaction survey that reflected a 96% response of excellent, as well as the annual fleet services and training report.

In action items, the board reviewed and approved the sale of four surplus vehicles, established multiyear facilities and equipment plan for the fire mitigation fee program, and reviewed and approved the fixed charge special assessment for weed abatement to the county when deadlines are met.

They also reviewed and approved a resolution accepting a report on state-mandated inspections.

Jeff Pack can be reached by email at jpack@reedermedia.com.

California court gives school districts, local governments limited win in ruling on pensions

John Fensterwald

Photo by: Wally Gobetz/Flickr

California Supreme Court building in San Francisco



Photo by: Wally Gobetz/Flickr

California Supreme Court building in San Francisco

The California Supreme Court gave revenue-strapped school districts and other public employers a narrowly tailored win but not the big decision they wanted on Thursday.

The court unanimously ruled that the Legislature could eliminate pension “spiking,” in which employees “artificially inflated” their earnings in their last year of work by cashing in the value of accumulated leave and working extra shifts at higher rates. Padding income in turn increased a worker’s pension.

The court’s ruling was the second in two years in which it rejected a challenge

by organized labor to the public employee pension reform law that former Gov. Jerry Brown shepherded through the Legislature. For advocates of further changes, the decision at least was not a defeat; it meant they could hold the ground they had gained.

But the court made that finding without taking up the biggest issue that Brown, school districts, cities, counties and other public employers were hoping the court would directly tackle: whether public employers and the Legislature have broader discretion to reduce the benefits that workers have earned.

They currently do not, because of several California Supreme Court decisions dating back 70 years. Collectively known as the California rule, they guarantee that public workers are entitled to the retirement benefits in effect when they start their jobs. Courts have ruled that a public employer who changes the terms of a pension must in turn provide a benefit of equal value.

Writing for the court in the Alameda County Deputy Sheriff's Association v. Alameda County Employees Retirement Association decision, Chief Justice Tani Gorre Cantil-Sakauye wrote that the Legislature could change pension provisions "for the constitutionally permissible purpose of closing loopholes and preventing abuse." Eliminating spiking to protect the solvency and integrity of a pension system is consistent with the California rule and doesn't require offering another benefit, she wrote.

Public employee organizations in Alameda, Contra Costa, and Merced counties filed the lawsuit after the Legislature revised pension laws to address public pension systems' unfunded liabilities that grew during the Great Recession.

The Public Employees' Pension Reform Act, known as PEPRRA, raised the retirement age for employees hired after Jan. 1, 2013, and capped pensions of some new employees. It also eliminated spiking and another previous benefit that allowed current employees to increase retirement income by paying for additional years of service they hadn't worked. Last year, the Supreme Court [unanimously ruled](#) the Legislature could legally eliminate that practice, called "air time," for current workers — concluding that air time was not earned compensation.

But the savings from these measures are small compared with the increased payments that public employers have been paying to the state's two largest pension funds: CalSTRS, the retirement system for teachers and administrators, and CalPERS, which covers the pensions of state, county, city and "classified" school employees, such as bus drivers and cafeteria workers.

The pension reform, which took effect in 2013, mandated significant rate increases for employers to restore both pension systems to full funding within 30 years. For CalSTRS, which had an unfunded liability of \$65 billion in 2011, the law mandated seven straight years of increases that have more than doubled school districts' costs. About one sixth of the average school district's budget now goes to employee pension contributions. And pensions could consume a bigger share in 2021-22 if the recession deepens, with cuts

in state funding to schools. Yearly pension contributions are compulsory.

Brown [took a strong interest in the lawsuits](#) challenging the pension reform law. Entering his last year as governor in 2018, Brown expressed optimism that the Supreme Court would give school districts and other public employers the ability to alter the terms of pensions for current public workers so that “when the next recession comes around, the governors will have the option of considering pension cutbacks for the first time.”

That recession has arrived, but it doesn't appear that school districts will gain the pension relief that Brown envisioned — at least any time soon. In a brief filed in *Cal Fire v. CalPERS*, the case challenging “air time,” attorneys from his office argued that restrictions on reducing pension obligations should not be a “straight jacket.” As long as a pension remains “substantial,” changes that are “reasonable and necessary to serve an important public purpose” should be allowed, they wrote.

But the thrust of the state's defense was not that rising pension costs had caused or might cause detrimental impacts on public services or on schools. In both challenges the justices upheld the provisions in the pension reform law without having to wade into defining “reasonable” changes or what constitutes an important public interest.

Steven Berliner, a partner in the statewide law firm Liebert Cassidy Whitmore and an authority in retirement law, said that even though the justices in latest case said they were not examining the validity of the California rule, for the most part, they were, in effect, upholding the law. Several other lawsuits challenging the pension reform have been filed, but the court held those in abeyance so that it could consider the pension spiking case; as a result, they will be subject to this ruling, he said.

Berliner said the Legislature would have to pass another pension reform challenging the California rule for the Supreme Court to rule differently. “And nothing in the latest 90-page decision tells me the court would uphold a law undoing the California rule just to save money,” he said.

Leaders in the Legislature, with close ties to organized labor, have shown no indication they favor changing the reform law, and Gov. Gavin Newsom, when running for governor two years ago, said he didn't favor overturning the California rule.

Two citizens groups, [Retirement Security Initiative](#), chaired by former San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed, a Democrat, and [Reform California](#), have expressed interest in going to the ballot with a constitutional amendment to override the California rule and have been watching to see what the Supreme Court would do.

Reacting to the court's latest ruling, Reform California Chairman Carl DeMaio, a conservative radio news show host from San Diego, said, “Because the California Rule remains untouched in this decision, taxpayers will continue to face legal hurdles that could prevent them from modifying or reforming excessive and unsustainable government pension payouts.”



CALIFORNIA SUPREME COURT LEAVES THE CALIFORNIA RULE LARGELY INTACT IN HIGHLY ANTICIPATED OPINION CONCERNING PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PENSION RIGHTS

CATEGORY: SPECIAL BULLETINS

Date: Jul 30, 2020 06:00 PM

Author: Michael Youril & Steven M. Berliner

On July 30, 2020, the California Supreme Court issued its decision in *Alameda County Deputy Sheriff's Assn. v. Alameda County Employees' Retirement Assn. (Alameda)*. It was anticipated that the Court would address the continuing viability of the "California Rule." Under the California Rule, a public employee is vested in a pension benefit at the start of employment. Under the traditional expression of the California Rule, benefits cannot be reduced even for prospective service, except in very limited circumstances. The modification of a pension benefit "must bear some material relation to the theory of a pension system and its successful operation," and any modification that results in disadvantages to employees must be accompanied by comparable new advantages. While the Court asserted at the end of the decision that it was not reexamining the California Rule, the decision leaves the current legal framework largely intact, including the California Rule.

Alameda considered whether legislative changes made to the County Employees Retirement Law of 1937 ("CERL") by the Public Employees' Pension Reform Act of 2013 ("PEPRA") unconstitutionally impaired vested

pension benefits of public employees employed at the time PEPRA was passed. PEPRA excluded some forms of compensation from the calculation of retirement benefits that had long been included. The exclusions were based on concerns related to pension spiking. Even though these changes had the effect of reducing retirement benefits of the employees impacted, the statute made no provisions for the employees to receive any alternative benefits to make them whole for these reductions. The Court held that the PEPRA changes were constitutionally permissible. However, the Court's determination that no comparable benefit needed to be provided largely hinged on its determination that eliminating pension spiking is a constitutionally proper purpose that would be defeated by providing a comparable advantage. Consequently, the decision was narrow in scope and does not resolve what other motivations for pension reform will be allowed.

The Court's ruling largely leaves the traditional California Rule and analysis intact with one deviation. Closely tracking existing case law concerning the California Rule, the Court determined that where pension benefits are protected by the contract clause of the California Constitution, any modification of a constitutionally protected pension benefit must be reasonable in that it "must bear some material relation to the theory of a pension system and its successful operation." Whereas traditionally, such a modification must be accompanied by other benefits, the Court found that where, as here, providing alternative benefits would be inconsistent with the purpose of the constitutionally proper modification, alternative benefits would not be required.

The Court's Analysis

Two different disputes were discussed in the decision. First, the Court considered whether the PEPRA amendments violated settlement agreements entered into following previous litigation involving several county retirement boards regarding compensation included in pension

benefits. Second, the Court considered whether the PEPRA amendments impaired constitutionally protected rights, which was the issue implicating the California Rule.

Violations of the Settlement Agreements

For this question, the Court observed that the retirement boards' administrative powers are limited by the enabling legislation. The Legislature has final authority for establishing the provisions governing pensions and the judiciary has final authority to interpret the legislation. The Court concluded that the retirement boards had no authority to act inconsistently with the CERL and cannot disregard such amendments. Employees had no express contractual rights to have benefits calculated in a manner inconsistent with the CERL because the retirement board had no authority to confer benefits beyond those authorized by statute. Therefore, the Court rejected the contention that the settlement agreements precluded the legislative changes. The Court also rejected the plaintiffs' estoppel argument (i.e., it rejected the contention that equitable or fairness grounds required inclusion of the compensation).

Impairment of Constitutionally Vested Rights

As the PEPRA amendments eliminated compensation that had previously been included in pension benefits for existing employees, the Court easily determined that the issue of constitutionally vested rights had been implicated.

As constitutionally protected rights were implicated and there were disadvantages caused by the modification, the Court turned to the purpose of the modification. The Court discussed the broad preexisting language of the CERL provisions defining what compensation may be included in pension benefits. The Court noted that the Legislature sought to limit pension spiking by eliminating practices that were "arguably" permitted under the previous broad statutory language. The Court determined that

the changes in PEPRA were enacted for a constitutionally permissible purpose (i.e., closing loopholes such as spiking that distort pension calculations).

After determining that the modification was the result of a constitutionally proper purpose, the Court turned to whether the modification required the disadvantages to be offset by comparable advantages. The Court concluded that the constitutionally proper objective would be defeated if the California Rule was interpreted to require the pension plans to maintain the loopholes for increasing pension benefits for existing employees, or to provide comparable benefits that would perpetuate the advantages provided by the loopholes that were closed by PEPRA. Thus, the Court concluded that disadvantages did not have to be offset by comparable advantages.

Therefore, the Court held that the modifications to the CERL by the PEPRA amendments were constitutionally permitted and reversed the decision of the Court of Appeal.

Effect of the Decision

The Court's decision will likely have little immediate impact on public agencies. A positive outcome for public employers is that the Court approved a modification impairing pension benefits without requiring offsetting advantages. However, the decision is limited in its application. The Court does not state explicitly that impairments motivated by cost savings alone would be impermissible, or if permissible, would require alternative benefits. However, the narrow scope of the ruling will require additional litigation should further pension reform impair benefits for purposes of cost savings.

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6 in 10 Adult San Diegans Face Severe Impacts If They Contract COVID-19

Six out of every 10 adult San Diegans are at extra risk for severe illness should they contract the novel coronavirus.

That's because about 57% of San Diego County adults have pre-existing medical conditions such as high blood pressure, heart and lung disease, cancer, diabetes and obesity.

San Diegans with underlying chronic conditions are at increased risks of serious outcomes if they contract COVID-19, requiring to be hospitalized, placed in intensive care or worse, dying.

To date, 95% of San Diegans who died from COVID-19 had an underlying medical conditions.

"COVID-19 deaths can be prevented," said Wilma Wooten, M.D., M.P.H., County public health officer. "It's important to remember that our actions matter. We must all do all we can to prevent from contracting and spreading the virus."

It's true that younger San Diegans with COVID-19 typically don't need to be hospitalized, that is not the case for older adults. Of the 2,459 people who were hospitalized due to COVID-19, about 52% were 60 years of age or older.

"Some San Diegans think they're not going to get sick and therefore are not following the public health guidance," said Wooten. "What they don't realize is that they could get infected and pass the virus to others who are vulnerable."



Wearing a mask protects you and others from COVID-19.

Community Setting Outbreaks:

- Six new outbreaks were identified on July 28: three in restaurant/bar settings, two in businesses and one in a healthcare setting.
- In the past seven days, 24 community outbreaks were identified.
- The number of community outbreaks remains above the trigger of seven or more in seven days.
- A community setting outbreak is defined as three or more COVID-19 cases in a setting and in people of different households.

Testing:

- 6,899 tests were reported to the County on July 28 and 4% were laboratory-confirmed positive new cases.
- The 14-day rolling average percentage of positive cases is 5.5%. Target is less than 8.0%.
- The 7-day, daily average of tests is 8,456.

Cases:

- 282 new cases were reported in San Diego County for a total of 28,287.
- 2,459 or 8.7% of cases have required hospitalization.
- 632 or 2.2% of all cases and 25.7% of hospitalized cases had to be admitted to an intensive care unit.

Deaths:

- Five new COVID-19 deaths were reported in San Diego County on July 28 and the region's total is now 552.
- Three men and two women died between July 23 and July 27 and their ages ranged from 33 to 96 years of age.
- All had underlying medical conditions.

More Information:

More information on COVID-19 and detailed data summaries can be found at the [County's coronavirus-sd.com website](https://www.countynewscenter.com/coronavirus-sd.com).



José A. Álvarez is a communications specialist with the County of San Diego Communications Office. [Contact](#)

Post navigation

House bill would fund \$105 million in area military projects – The Coast News Group

by *Samantha Nelson*

CAMP PENDLETON – The Marine Corps base may receive \$105 million for military construction projects and some additional funds for its elementary students if the House and Senate can agree.

The National Defense Authorization Act for the fiscal year 2021 passed in the House of Representatives on July 21. In the bill, \$105 million is to be allocated to Camp Pendleton for two major construction projects on base.

Of that \$105 million, more than \$68 million will be used to construct the 1st MARDIV Operations Complex and the remaining \$37 million will be used for the I MEF Consolidated Information Center.

Additionally, the NDAA authorizes \$40 million to help local educational agencies with military dependent students who may go to schools on base like Mary Fay or San Onofre Elementary schools.

“One of my top priorities is advocating for the Marines and Sailors at Camp Pendleton, and this funding will help ensure that they have the infrastructure they need to prepare for any mission,” Rep. Mike Levin (D-San Juan Capistrano), a strong proponent of the bill, said in a statement.

According to Levin, the bill also includes his amendments to strengthen the Transition Assistance Program for service members returning to civilian life, expand protection for troops and add \$5 million to the Naval University Research Initiative, which works with UC San Diego on defense research.

The bill also includes \$1 billion for Pandemic Preparedness and Resilience National Security Fund to direct funding for future pandemic preparation, increases funding for contaminated drinking water cleanup on military bases, improves sexual assault prevention and response programs, expands eligibility for HUD-VA Supportive Housing voucher program for veterans with “other than honorable” discharges to access supportive housing vouchers, and combats the climate crisis by funding research advancing long-range forecasting of weather patterns.

The bill also authorizes \$50 million for the Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP), a pilot program that enables the Secretary of Defense to make grants and supplemental funds available under other federal programs to help fix infrastructure issues in communities supportive of military installations.

Oceanside, which borders Camp Pendleton to the south, is one such community. The city submitted a pre-proposal for \$5.2 million with a city share of \$14.7 million to be used for the construction of Fire Station 1 on Pier View Way.

The current fire station there was constructed in 1929 and is in need of significant change, according to Water Utilities Director Cari Dale, who is in charge of the grant writing process.

“Oceanside has a longstanding relationship with Camp Pendleton,” Dale said.

The city and Camp Pendleton's fire agencies have a mutual aid boundary drop apparatus that allows the closest emergency units to a situation to be deployed. Dale said there are many instances where the city responds to situations on base and vice versa.

The new station's design is underway. Funding from the DCIP would allow additional units to be available not only to downtown but also to the front gate for Camp Pendleton in the Harbor area and would also allow for a ladder truck as well.

Dale explained that the city's pre-proposal will be scored and those with higher scores will be invited to apply for DCIP grants. Oceanside should know its score in early August.

Portions of the Fire Station 1 project will also be paid through Measure X funds, Dale said.

The Senate has also passed its final version of the NDAA, according to Levin spokesman Eric Mee, but the House and Senate still need to negotiate a final version of the bill.

San Diego Region's Best Hospitals: Latest U.S. News Rankings

[health & fitness](#)

New rankings for 2020-21 from U.S. News & World Report identify the best hospitals in specialty care and the best hospitals by region.

By [Kristina Houck, Patch Staff](#)



Jul 28, 2020 7:07 am PT



New rankings for 2020-21 from U.S. News & World Report identify the best hospitals in specialty care and the best hospitals by region. (Shutterstock)

SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CA — U.S. News & World Report has released its latest rankings of the [best hospitals in the United States](#), with all rankings coming from data that was derived before the coronavirus pandemic. So the pandemic's impact on hospitals nationwide is not shown in the latest rankings.

"The pandemic has altered, perhaps permanently, how patients get care and from whom they get it. Amid the disruption, we are steadfastly committed to providing the public with authoritative data for comparing hospital quality," said Ben Harder, managing editor and chief of health analysis at U.S. News. "No hospital's clinical team came through this unprecedented health crisis unscathed."

In California, five hospitals made U.S. News' Honor Roll of the top 20, and 60 hospitals were on the [state's best hospitals list](#). The Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, was once again ranked as the best hospital in the nation.

U.S. News updated rankings for 16 medical specialties: cancer, cardiology and heart surgery, diabetes and endocrinology, ear, nose and throat, gastroenterology and GI surgery, geriatrics, gynecology, nephrology, neurology and neurosurgery, ophthalmology, orthopedics, psychiatry, pulmonology and lung surgery, rehabilitation, rheumatology and urology.

The hospital rankings for 2020-21 include the Honor Roll, top-ranked hospitals in 16 specialty categories, and the top-ranked hospitals by state and metro region.

Twelve of the specialty rankings — which cover categories such as cancer, cardiology and heart surgery, diabetes and endocrinology and nephrology — are determined mostly by data; the other four specialties — ophthalmology, psychiatry, rehabilitation and rheumatology — are determined entirely by expert opinion, U.S. News said.

Honor Roll Hospitals

U.S. News said the hospitals that make the Honor Roll deliver exceptional treatment across multiple areas of care.

"The Honor Roll is geared to identifying hospitals that are both exceptionally good at the service they offer and offer a wide breadth of service," Harder told Patch last year, explaining that by definition, that means hospitals that are highly ranked across many or most specialties.

The Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota took the No.1 spot on the 2020-21 Honor Roll, followed by the Cleveland Clinic and Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. New York-Presbyterian Hospital-Columbia and Cornell, New York and the UCLA Medical Center, Los Angeles rounded out the top five on the Honor Roll.

The remaining hospitals on the Honor Roll are:

- 6. Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston
- 7. Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, San Francisco
- 8. UCSF Medical Center, San Francisco
- 9. NYU Langone Hospitals, New York, N.Y.
- 10. Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago
- 11. University of Michigan Hospitals-Michigan Medicine, Ann Arbor
- 12. Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston
- 13. Stanford Health Care-Stanford Hospital, Palo Alto, California
- 14. Mount Sinai Hospital, New York
- 15. Hospitals of the University of Pennsylvania-Penn Presbyterian, Philadelphia
- 16. Mayo Clinic-Phoenix
- 17. Rush University Medical Center, Chicago
- 18. Barnes-Jewish Hospital, Saint Louis (tie)
- 18. Keck Medical Center of USC, Los Angeles (tie)
- 20. Houston Methodist Hospital

Regional Hospital Rankings

In San Diego County, the [top-ranked hospitals](#) are:

- **Scripps La Jolla Hospitals**
 - tied for sixth in state and tied for first in San Diego
 - ranked 10th nationally for orthopedics, 30th for cardiology and heart surgery, 31st for gynecology, 32nd for urology, 41st for gastroenterology and GI surgery, 48th for geriatrics, 48th for neurology and neurosurgery,
- **UC San Diego Health-Jacobs Medical Center**
 - tied for sixth in state and tied for first in San Diego
 - ranked 10th nationally for pulmonology and lung surgery, 13th for geriatrics, 22nd for neurology and neurosurgery, 31st for cardiology and heart surgery, 32nd for gastroenterology and GI surgery, 34th for nephrology, 36th for urology, 42nd for orthopedics, 46th for gynecology, 47th for cancer
- **Sharp Memorial Hospital**
 - ranked 16th in state and ranked third in San Diego
- **Kaiser Permanente San Diego Zion and San Diego Medical Center**
 - ranked 25th in state and ranked fourth in San Diego
- **Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center**
 - ranked 37th in state and ranked fifth in San Diego
- **Palomar Medical Center Escondido**
 - tied for 51st in state and tied for sixth in San Diego
- **Sharp Grossmont Hospital**
 - tied for 51st in state and tied for sixth in San Diego

The 16 specialties that hospitals were ranked for are: cancer, cardiology and heart surgery, diabetes and endocrinology, ear, nose and throat, gastroenterology and GI surgery, geriatrics, gynecology, nephrology, neurology and neurosurgery, ophthalmology, orthopedics, psychiatry, pulmonology and lung surgery, rehabilitation, rheumatology and urology.

This year, the U.S. News rankings are accompanied by their "[Hospital Heroes](#)" project, a series of profiles highlighting more than 60 health care heroes from across the country.

"Our Hospital Heroes series is a tribute to recognizing individuals at urban and rural hospitals in communities across the country who have gone above and beyond during this unparalleled time in history," Harder said.

Methodology

U.S. News & World Report said the 2020-21 rankings evaluated nearly every community hospital in America. Only 134 hospitals out of over 4,500 were ranked in one specialty, while 563 hospitals were ranked among the best regional hospitals. A hospital was ranked regionally based on its performance in delivering complex and common care, U.S. News said. The rankings are jointly produced by U.S. News and RTI International, a North Carolina-based research organization. (Read the full [U.S. News best hospitals methodology](#).)

[Next on Patch](#)

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UC San Diego To Be Site For Coronavirus Vaccine Trials

[health & fitness](#)

[Shared from San Diego, CA](#)

UCSD Health and a section of UCSD School of Medicine will be sites for a national clinical trial for a vaccine.

By [City News Service, News Partner](#)

Jul 24, 2020 11:35 am PT



The trial, sponsored by the National Institutes of Health's newly formed COVID-19 Prevention Network, is based on a vaccine prototype developed by Moderna, a pharmaceutical company located in Massachusetts. (Shutterstock)

SAN DIEGO, CA — UCSD Health and a section of UCSD School of Medicine will be sites for a national clinical trial for a vaccine intended to protect against SARS-CoV-2, the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19.

The trial, sponsored by the National Institutes of Health's newly formed COVID-19 Prevention Network, is based on a vaccine prototype developed by Moderna, a pharmaceutical company located in Massachusetts. The trial is slated to begin July 27 at UCSD Health, UCSD's Altman Clinical and Translational Research Institute and various other locations throughout the country.

"Our country and the world are facing an unprecedented pandemic that has already killed more than 600,000 people worldwide," said Dr. Stephen Spector, professor of pediatrics at UC San Diego School of Medicine and principal investigator for the UCSD arm of the vaccine trial.

"A vaccine is desperately needed to help control the epidemic. We are excited that UC San Diego will be able to offer the San Diego community the opportunity to participate in a Phase III vaccine trial that, if successful, has the potential to change the course of the epidemic."

Historically, new vaccines require years of research and development, progressing through a series of phases, beginning with a first basic assessment for safety to ensure the experimental drug causes no serious harm. Subsequent Phase II and Phase III trials are intended to establish proof of concept, appropriate dosage, scope of side effects and overall effectiveness based upon a sufficiently large sample size.

According to a UCSD statement, early data from the Phase I clinical trial of the Moderna vaccine, which began in mid-March, was sufficiently encouraging that the NIH, the National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases and Moderna have expedited the process.

Researchers reported that participants who received the two-dose vaccine produced more antibodies to the novel coronavirus than have been seen in most patients who have recovered from COVID-19. By interfering with the way in which pathogens --- such as viruses, bacteria and microbial toxins -- interact with host cells, the antibodies can render pathogens non-infectious.

The Phase I trial cohort was split between three groups receiving 25- microgram, 100-microgram or 250-microgram injections in the arm, spaced 28 days apart, with resulting antibody levels higher with higher dosages. The vaccine was generally well tolerated.

No serious side effects were reported, but more than half of participants described temporary fatigue, chills, headache and muscle pain. The largest dose produced more serious reactions and will not be used in the Phase III study, which will test only the 100-microgram dose.

The Phase III trial will recruit up to 30,000 participants at multiple sites across the nation. At UCSD, the trial will be conducted through the Mother, Child and Adolescent Program.

UCSD is one of three participating trial sites in the region, and expects to enroll approximately 500 subjects.

Participants in the study trial must be 18 years or older with no known history of SARS-CoV-2 infection. The trial will give preference to participants who live in locations or under circumstances that put them at appreciable risk -- such as high-contact jobs like first responder or grocery store worker, or populations with higher incidence of the illness such as the Native American and Latino populations.

Simultaneous to vaccine testing, officials plan to begin actually producing the test vaccine in large amounts so that if proven effective, there would be significant numbers of doses available by the end of 2020 or early 2021.

— *City News Service*

[Next on Patch](#)

Why Every First Responder Department Should Have a Chaplain

In Homeland Security Staff

Note: This article first appeared at [In Public Safety](#).

By Rev. Peter Keady, Founder and President, [First Responder Chaplain Corps](#), with an introduction by **Dr. Michael Pittaro**, Associate Professor, [Criminal Justice](#) at [American Military University](#)

I have known Peter Keady since we were in high school together and we have stayed in touch through social media and an occasional impromptu get-together. We recently had an opportunity to meet over coffee to discuss how our roles, although uniquely different at first glance, actually have more in common than we thought.

First responders serve, protect, and care for others, but they have not received the same attention and resources as those they serve, and this must change. We tend to forget that our mental wellness is just as important, if not more so, than our physical wellness.

First responders have exceptionally high rates of alcoholism, prescription drug abuse, divorce, and, most critically, suicide. I have worked hard to bring attention to these issues in the hopes of creating change to save lives. However, as a chaplain for First Responders, Peter Keady has ventured into an area that most of us, including myself, neglect to consider.

I am personally aware of the exceptional work that Peter has done, including his stellar reputation with the officers at two local police departments. With the success that he has had, I feel strongly that first responders should consider welcoming chaplains into their organizations because the benefits are endless.

I asked Peter to further explain why there is a need for chaplains to engage with first responders. In the words of Henry David Thoreau, "Not until we are lost do we begin to understand ourselves." According to Peter, the stressors on first responders are unquestionably unique and today their needs are greater than ever. I'll let him tell us more.

The behavioral health concerns for fire, police, EMS, dispatch, and correctional personnel have been significantly discussed and addressed over the years among scholars and practitioners alike.

Peer support, as well as mental health referrals, are readily available. These are good and necessary resources, yet the rates of divorce, suicide, and substance abuse for first responders continue to rise. Among the missing pieces in the complex puzzle of wellness and career longevity for first responders is the chaplain. But chaplaincy is more than a set of duties and not just any chaplain will do.

Role of a Chaplain to Provide Effective Support to First Responders

Traditionally, chaplains' roles have been ceremonial; they are called upon for banquets, funerals, blessings, and weddings. They are well-meaning and primarily volunteer people of faith, having a heart and hand in assisting [first responders](#) and their local

agencies.

But the days of the ceremonial chaplain are over if we genuinely want operational effectiveness. First responders need support in very specific ways. The unique and habitual stressors placed on them, along with critical incidents like officer-involved shootings, must be approached by *properly trained* chaplains because most first responders are hesitant about discussing personal concerns with so-called “outsiders.”

[Related: [We Are a Table: What is the Role of Religion and Spirituality in Policing?](#)]

With the significant and ever-changing environment facing first responders, a new model of chaplaincy is essential. First responders need and deserve properly trained chaplains *embedded* in their departments, going beyond merely enthusiastic or sympathetic clergy occasionally appearing here and there.

Some departments have been blessed with such men and women. In understanding the holistic nature of people and the unique culture of first responders, these chaplains have taken the time to intentionally and properly be trained while connecting with agency personnel on an ongoing basis. They have truly become part of the life and culture of the department. This is an essential aspect of an effective chaplaincy program that cannot be over-emphasized.

Chaplains Focus on Relationships

The role of a chaplain is grounded in forming strong relationships with personnel. Chaplains must be preemptive and proactive, engaging with department personnel prior to critical incidents and providing first responders with empathetic support regarding their day-to-day stress. Creating a healthy relationship takes time and purpose.

Forming a relationship is key to gaining trust from first responders. Chaplains must make frequent visits to departments before first responders trust them enough to share stresses and strains. Weekly visits and ride-alongs are extremely valuable in building rapport and learning departmental culture. I haven't met a responder who doesn't like coffee, snacks or ice cream. I've spent time washing fire trucks, loading gear, and even purchasing bottled water for first responders.

Chaplains must always give far more than they receive. They must get his or her hands dirty serving first responders in order to gain trust.

Chaplains Must Be Properly Trained

No amount of “goodwill” or enthusiasm can substitute for a properly trained chaplain. They offer a *Ministry of Presence*, building familiarity and camaraderie with administration, command staff, and personnel. One of the unique and great strengths of a chaplain is resiliency before a critical incident occurs.

Chaplains, strategically trained and tactically placed, can be keys to improving wellness, work effectiveness, positive morale, and budgetary efficiency. Properly trained chaplains have an acute understanding of the culture of each branch of first responders; language, habits, needs, and stresses vary significantly among agencies. For example, dispatchers face an entirely different set of strain than a police officer so it's essential to understand these differences.

[Related: [You Can Overcome Stress: The Key is in Your Relationships](#)]

Chaplains must be trained in [Critical Incident Stress Management](#) (CISM), suicide

prevention and engagement, stress-reduction techniques, and [Psychological First Aid](#). These training modules help bring continuity to chaplaincy as well as the insightful and empathic skills needed in working with first responders.

Chaplains are present in the heat of battle or for a cup of coffee at a local diner. They are available 24/7. The need for properly trained, embedded chaplains is greater than ever and should be considered as an addition to every department, fostering the greatest supportive environment for all first responders.



About the Author: Reverend Peter Keady has been serving First Responder agencies for over six years. Having 20 years of pastoral ministry experience, he was presented with the opportunity of chaplaincy in serving his local fire department. Discontent with simply ceremonial duties, he sought additional training through the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation, The Federation of Fire Chaplains and the Police Chaplain Program, holding advanced certificates with all three organizations. He currently serves four local fire departments, two municipal police departments as well as the Pennsylvania State Police. He is a responding member of the Eastern Pennsylvania Regional CISM Team and recently founded the First Responder Chaplain Corps to develop and support First Responder chaplaincies in agencies requesting them. He has multiple certifications in CISM, suicide engagement, First Responder trauma, disaster response and spiritual care. [Learn more about Reverend Keady's efforts.](#)

Comments

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**NORTH COUNTY FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT
FIRE CHIEF/CEO**

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: STEPHEN ABBOTT, FIRE CHIEF/CEO
DATE: AUGUST 25, 2020
SUBJECT: COMMENTS, REPORTS AND UPDATES

● **STAFF COMMENTS/REPORTS/UPDATES:**

● **STEPHEN ABBOTT, FIRE CHIEF/CEO:**

● **CHIEF OFFICERS & STAFF:**

● **BOARD:**

● **BARGAINING GROUPS:**

● **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

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**NORTH COUNTY FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT
FIRE CHIEF/CEO**

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: STEPHEN ABBOTT, FIRE CHIEF/CEO
DATE: AUGUST 25, 2020
SUBJECT: CLOSED SESSION

CS-1. ANNOUNCEMENT —PRESIDENT LUEVANO:

- *An announcement regarding the items to be discussed in Closed Session will be made prior to the commencement of Closed Session.*

CS-2. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE § 54957.6 — MANAGEMENT GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT:

NCFPD MANAGEMENT GROUP DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS:
CHIEF ABBOTT, DISTRICT COUNSEL JAMES, SPECIAL
COUNSEL ROGERS

CS-3. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE § 54957.6 — NON-SAFETY GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT:

➤ FFA NON-SAFETY GROUP DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS:
NEGOTIATORS CHIEF ABBOTT, DISTRICT COUNSEL JAMES, SPECIAL
COUNSEL ROGERS

CS-4. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE § 54957.6 — SAFETY GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT:

➤ FFA SAFETY GROUP NEGOTIATORS DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS:
CHIEF ABBOTT, DISTRICT COUNSEL JAMES, SPECIAL
COUNSEL ROGERS

CS-5. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR — GOVERNMENT CODE § 54956.8 — DFC MAROVICH AND CHIEF ABBOTT:

➤ PROPERTY LOCATION: 4157 Olive Hill Road, Fallbrook, CA 92028;
PARTIES: North County Fire Protection District (Seller);
UNDER NEGOTIATION: Terms of Purchase;
DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS: Chief Abbott, District Counsel James

CS-6. REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION — PRESIDENT LUEVANO

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