

1 **May 24, 2022**

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

4 President Egan called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

5 **A MOMENT OF SILENCE WAS OBSERVED.**

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

7 **ROLL CALL:**

8 **Present:** Directors Acosta, Egkan, Munson and van Doorn (arrived at 4:05 p.m.).

9 **Absent:** Director Kennedy

10 **Staff Present:** Fire Chief/CEO McReynolds, Attorney James and Board Secretary Stephen-
11 Porter. In the audience were: DFC Mahr, D/C MacMillan, FM Fieri, F/M Juul and members
12 of the public and Association.

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14 **PUBLIC ACTIVITIES AGENDA**

15 1. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** President Egan addressed the audience and inquired whether
16 there were any public comments regarding items not on the Agenda. Elaine Delaney from
17 the Fallbrook Planning Group appeared and informed the Board the Group depends on
18 North County Fire Protection District for project expertise and advice. At their May 16th
19 Group meeting, they voted to support North County Fire Protection District in their efforts to
20 seek to be placed in the proposed Safety Center by Highway 76 and I-15. She noted it was
21 an ideal location, given the large growth and major fires that had occurred in the area. A
22 letter has been sent to the District of support, which was read to the Board. The Board
23 thanked her for their support. She opined that they will be of help however they can be.
24 There being no further comments, the Public Comment Section was closed.

25 Chief McReynolds informed the Board that a matter had arisen after the publishing of the
26 agenda which is time sensitive and required the immediate attention of the Board. Director
27 Kennedy has tendered his resignation as of June 1, 2022. On a motion by Director Munson,
28 Munson, which was seconded by Director van Doorn, the Board found the matter had arisen
29 after the publishing of the Agenda with the following vote: **Ayes:** Directors Acosta, Egkan,

30 Munson and van Doorn; **Noes:** None; **Absent:** Director Kennedy. On a motion by Director
31 van Doorn, which was seconded by Vice President Acosta, the Board voted to add the matter
32 to the Action Agenda after Item 10 with the following vote: **Ayes:** Directors Acosta, Egkan,
33 Munson and van Doorn; **Noes:** None; **Absent:** Director Kennedy.

34 **ACTION AGENDA**

35 **CONSENT ITEMS:**

- 36 2. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR APRIL 2022**
- 37 3. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT FINANCIAL REPORT FOR APRIL 2022**
- 38 4. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT POLICIES & PROCEDURES**
- 39 5. **MONTHLY OPERATIONS ACTIVITY REPORT**

40 President Egkan inquired whether there were any questions on Consent Items 2-5. There
41 being no discussion, President Egkan asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.
42 On a motion by Director van Doorn and seconded by Director Munson, the motion to approve
43 the Consent Agenda as presented passed with the following vote: **Ayes:** Directors Acosta,
44 Egkan, Munson and van Doorn; **Noes:** None; **Absent:** Director Kennedy.

45 **ACTION ITEMS:**

- 46 6. **REVIEW AND CONSIDER TRANSITION OF THE DISTRICT'S PROPERTY/LIABILITY CARRIER —**
47 **DFC MAHR AND CHIEF McREYNOLDS:** Chief McReynolds informed the Board the District has
48 been looking for a more affordable carrier as SDRMA premiums had significantly increased
49 this year. The District explored options with Risk Strategies who provided a broker to obtain
50 alternatives at no cost to the District. Three alternatives were presented to the District with
51 ESIP being the coverage being recommended by the Staff. A presentation was made to the
52 Board by the broker with difference in coverage demonstrated and explained. The broker
53 explained why going with ESIP resulted in savings, including the difference between pooled
54 coverage and ESIP. ESIP is rated A+Superior. The savings to the District will be
55 approximately \$200,000 per year. On a motion by Director van Doorn and seconded by
56 Vice President Acosta, the motion to approve switching to ESIP and directing the Staff to
57
58

59 execute a service contract with ESIP with an estimated implementation date of July 1, 2022,
60 passed with the following vote: **Ayes:** Directors Acosta, Egkan, Munson and van Doorn;
61 **Noes:** None; **Absent:** Director Kennedy.

62 7. **SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE/TIME CERTAIN JULY 26, 2022 (4:05 P.M.) — ADOPTING A**
63 **RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A MULTI-YEAR FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT PLAN FOR THE FIRE**
64 **MITIGATION PROGRAM — FM FIERI AND CHIEF McREYNOLDS:** Chief McReynolds presented the
65 request to set the date/time certain hearing noted this is required to participate in the FMF
66 Program. FM Fieri noted the Program is under review through the County in order to show
67 justification for how the fees relate to the growth in the District. The District would like to
68 continue with the Program. On a motion by Vice President Acosta and seconded by Director
69 van Doorn, the motion to set the Public Hearing date/time certain for July 26, 2022 at 4:05
70 p.m. passed with the following vote: **Ayes:** Directors Acosta, Egkan, Munson and van Doorn;
71 **Noes:** None; **Absent:** Director Kennedy.

72 8. **REVIEW AND APPROVE/AUTHORIZE FIXED CHARGE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FOR WEED**
73 **ABATEMENT – FIRST READING — FM FIERI AND CHIEF McREYNOLDS:** FM Fieri presented the
74 Fixed Charge Special Assessment for Weed Abatement to the Board, noting this year there
75 were two properties that had failed to pay for their forced weed abatements. The total costs
76 for all abatements were \$23,400.00, with administrative costs of \$1,512.00, totaling
77 \$24,912.00. The owners have received all the required notices both prior to the forced
78 abatement and after the abatement. Notice of the Fixed Charge Assessment were posted
79 as required, with an additional final letter to be sent after this Board meeting. The owners
80 have until June 30, 2022 to pay the amounts due before submission to the County. When
81 submitted to the County, it will be placed on the owners' property taxes. This is the first
82 reading and the Board will have a final chance to review and approve the charges at the
83 June Board meeting. It was the consensus of the Board to accept the Fixed Charge Special
84 Assessment with a final vote at the June meeting.

85 9. **APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE STAFF TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR STATION 2 FACILITY**
86 **MAINTENANCE PROJECT — D/C MACMILLAN AND CHIEF McREYNOLDS:** Chief McReynolds noted
87 that as a result of the RFP let for Station 2, Reed Family Enterprises Inc. was the lowest

88 responsive/responsible bidder for the project, with the bid amount at \$353,410. The project
89 will be allocated in the FY 22/23 budget. On a motion by Vice President Acosta and
90 seconded by President Egkan, the motion to authorized Staff to execute a contract with
91 Reed Family Enterprises for the work on Station 2, which passed with the following vote:
92 **Ayes:** Directors Acosta, Egkan, Munson and van Doorn; **Noes:** None; **Absent:** Director
93 Kennedy.

94 10. APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE STAFF TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR STATION 3
95 RENOVATION CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES — CHIEF McREYNOLDS: Chief
96 McReynolds informed the Board the only response the District received to the RFP for
97 Station 3 was from Erickson-Hall. Staff determined them to be the lowest, most responsive
98 bidder. Chief McReynolds noted that Station 4 was budgeted \$500,000, however, until the
99 easements are lifted, the project cannot proceed. Staff would reassign those funds to this
100 project. On a motion by Director van Doorn and seconded by Vice President Acosta, the
101 motion to authorized Staff to execute a contract with Erickson-Hall for the work on Station
102 3, which passed with the following vote: **Ayes:** Directors Acosta, Egkan, Munson and van
103 Doorn; **Noes:** None; **Absent:** Director Kennedy.

104 10a. TAKE ACTION ON NOTICE OF VACANCY OF DIRECTORSHIP, RESIGNATION OF DIRECTOR DAVID
105 KENNEDY — CHIEF McREYNOLDS: Chief McReynolds informed the Board that after the Agenda
106 was published, Director Kennedy confirmed he would be resigning his office as of June 1,
107 2022 as he will be moving out of state. In order for the Board to act to fill the position, the
108 Board has 60 days to select an applicant and 15 days to notify the Registrar of Voters of
109 Director Kennedy's resignation. Discussion ensued regarding the best way to select a new
110 Director with being determined to conduct interviews of qualified applicants at a Special
111 Meeting, with the public being able to comment. On a motion by Vice President Acosta and
112 seconded by Director van Doorn, the motion to set a Special Meeting date of July 19th at
113 6:00 p.m. passed with the following vote: **Ayes:** Directors Acosta, Egkan, Munson and van
114 Doorn; **Noes:** None; **Absent:** Director Kennedy. Staff to send out and posted notices in
115 required locations.
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DISCUSSION AGENDA

11. DISCUSSION/REPORT ON BLS AMBULANCE TRIAL — DFC MAHR AND CHIEF McREYNOLDS:

Chief McReynolds and DFC Mahr presented the results of the initial trial of the BLS ambulance in the North Zone. The very early estimated ambulance transport revenue from the BLS unit is expected to be approximately \$26,000. As the data suggests that the BLS ambulance is currently operating in a financially sustainable manner, with a potential positive revenue, Staff recommends continuing with the trial. Staff noted the resource has accomplished its mission to provide the North Zone ambulance delivery system surge capacity, preserving the North Zone ambulance delivery system in its entirety. It was the consensus of the Board to continue to trial with a report back to the Board in June on the trial progress.

12. DISCUSSION ON PRELIMINARY BUDGET — FINANCE MANAGER JUUL

AND CHIEF McREYNOLDS: F/M Juul presented the preliminary budget to the Board noting it is just the initial review with the final review before the Board in June. She noted there are formatting changes as the Division moves forward with the new accounting software. She also noted that all the apportionments have not been received. She provided a brief review of the changes, noting an anticipated 5.3% in revenue, 2.5% for salaries, 5% increase for benefits and \$540,000 from reserves to pay off engines in order to save significant interest. No recommended changes to the preliminary budget were recommended at this time.

STANDING DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT: Counsel James presented his report “*Will Virtual Public Meetings Continue Even After the Pandemic?*” Brief discussion ensued regarding the possible changes under the proposed AB 1994, AB 2449. This is informational only, no action required.

- WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: None.

- BOARD RECOGNITION PROGRAM: None.

- NEWS ARTICLES: No discussion regarding articles. This is informational only, no action required.

- 146 ● **COMMENTS:**
- 147 ● **STAFF REPORTS/UPDATES:**
- 148 ● **KEITH McREYNOLDS, FIRE CHIEF/CEO:** Chief McReynolds informed the Board there
149 was a vacancy in the firefighter/paramedic ranks, which was offered to Richard Quevedo,
150 who has been through the programs with the District. Chief McReynolds met with
151 Assemblyman Levine, looking for opportunities for additional funding. He would like to
152 pursue a Department of Defense grant such as Oceanside received. Chief McReynolds gave
153 an update on the Public Safety Center. Chief McReynolds informed the Board that POCS
154 Vargas will be at the June Board meeting to present the findings from the CSUSM work.
155 Informational only, no further action required.
- 156 ● **CHIEF OFFICERS AND OTHER STAFF: FM FIERI:** FM Fieri informed the state mandated
157 inspections are wrapping up. He is hoping to have an individual selected for the Deputy Fire
158 Marshal position by June. Weed abatement starts June first, which is the Countywide start
159 date. Discussion ensued about time on the initiation of weed abatement season. FM Fieri
160 updated the Board on the investigations in the District. The Sandia Gate Project is in the
161 building phase.
- 162 ● **BOARD: VICE PRESIDENT ACOSTA:** Vice President Acosta thanked Director Kennedy for
163 his service, stating she was disappointed he was not present to thank and the Board will miss
164 him. **PRESIDENT EGKAN:** President Egkan echoed Vice President Acosta noting Director
165 Kennedy was a valuable asset, especially his fire service experience. **DIRECTOR MUNSON:**
166 Director Munson noted he was happy to see we were doing tiered dispatching, especially
167 since OCFA was under Grand Jury investigation for failing to do the same.
- 168 ● **BARGAINING GROUPS:** No comments.
- 169 ● **PUBLIC COMMENT:** No comments.

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171 **CLOSED SESSION**

172 ● **OPENING CLOSED SESSION:**

173 At 5:40 p.m., President Egkan inquired whether there was a motion to adjourn to Closed
174 Session. On a motion by Director Van Doorn and seconded by Vice President Acosta, the

175 motion to enter Closed Session passed with the following vote: **Ayes:** Directors Acosta,
176 Egkan, Munson and van Doorn; **Noes:** None; **Absent:** Director Kennedy. President Egkan
177 read the items to be discussed in Closed Session and the Open Session was closed. A short
178 break ensued after the reading of the Closed Session Items. At 5:40 p.m. the Board entered
179 Closed Session to hear:

180 CS-1. **ANNOUNCEMENT — PRESIDENT EGKAN:** An announcement regarding the items to be
181 discussed in Closed Session will be made prior to the commencement of Closed Session.

182 CS-2. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE §54957.6 — MANAGEMENT**
183 **GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF McREYNOLDS**

184 CS-3. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE §54957.6 — NON-SAFETY**
185 **GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF McREYNOLDS**

186 CS-4. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE §54957.6 — SAFETY**
187 **GROUP NEGOTIATIONS — CHIEF McREYNOLDS**

188 CS-5. **EVALUATION OF PERFORMANCE – GOVERNMENT CODE §54957 — FIRE CHIEF**

189 CS-6. **EMPLOYMENT OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEE – DISTRICT COUNSEL — GOVERNMENT CODE**
190 **§54957(b) – CHIEF McREYNOLDS**

191 CS-7. **REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION**

192 ● **REOPENING OPEN SESSION:**

193 On a motion by Director van Doorn and seconded by Vice President Acosta, which passed
194 with the following vote: **Ayes:** Directors Acosta, Egkan, Munson and van Doorn; **Noes:** None;
195 **Absent:** Director Kennedy, the Board returned Open Session at 6:31 p.m. The following
196 items were reported out to the public:

197 CS-2. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE §54957.6 — MANAGEMENT**
198 **GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF McREYNOLDS:** No reportable action.

199 CS-3. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE §54957.6 — NON-SAFETY**
200 **GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF McREYNOLDS:** No reportable action.

201 CS-4. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE §54957.6 — SAFETY**
202 **GROUP NEGOTIATIONS — CHIEF McREYNOLDS:** No reportable action.

203 CS-5. EVALUATION OF PERFORMANCE – GOVERNMENT CODE §54957 – FIRE CHIEF : No
204 reportable action.

205 CS-6. EMPLOYMENT OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEE – DISTRICT COUNSEL - GOVERNMENT CODE §54957(b)
206 – CHIEF McREYNOLDS: No reportable action.

207 **ADJOURNMENT**

208 A motion was made at 6:35 p.m. to adjourn the meeting and reconvene on June 28, 2022,
209 at 4:00 p.m., which motion carried unanimously.

210 Respectfully submitted,

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213 _____

214 Loren Stephen-Porter

215 Board Secretary

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217 Minutes approved at the Board of Director's Meeting on: July 26, 2022

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Official Seal