

Minutes from the March 27th, 2024, Bolinas Fire Protection District Board Meeting at the Bolinas Fire Station.

Pres. Molesworth called the meeting of the Bolinas Fire Protection District to order at 7:00 P.M. Vice Pres. Torrey, Dir. Dunne and Dir. Pierce were present. Also present: Administrative Manager Isaac Taylor. Dir. Martinelli was absent.

Pres. Molesworth asked for unanimous consent to approve the Agenda. Seeing no objections, the Agenda was approved.

PUBLIC EXPRESSION

None.

CHIEF'S REPORT

MEMBER REPORT

Isaac Taylor attended the MERA meeting today in place of Chief Krakauer. He reported that the MERA governing board approved a new round of bond issues and a preliminary budget for FY2024-25. The NextGen transition is nearing completion, with switchover scheduled for early June.

Chiefs

Isaac Taylor reported that Chief Krakauer attended the monthly Chiefs meeting on March 21st. Marin County Fire Chief Weber gave an update on the transition of dispatch services from the Marin County Sheriff's Office to Marin County Fire. Deputy Chief Martinelli gave updates regarding service modeling for the new dispatch center.

MWPA

Isaac Taylor reported that Chief Krakauer attended the MWPA Operations Committee meeting on March 14th. The committee considered four project proposals, including additional funding for existing grants, public outreach, and chipper programs, as well as a new mapping program for fuel modeling. The committee also discussed the 2024 work plan. Notes for the West Marin zone include continuing compliance work and preliminary development of a public works plan for vegetation projects in the coastal zone. Marin County Fire and IPUD are seeking equipment through MWPA, and the MWPA-funded West Marin roadside evacuation fuel reduction project will continue this year.

Isaac Taylor shared that there will be a new residential direct-assistance grant program, which will fund evaluated defensible space work up front. Eligibility and additional details are still being worked out, but the new program intends to target work in zones zero and one, in the immediate area surrounding a structure.

Isaac Taylor reported that Bolinas will get one additional MWPA-funded Chipper event this year, for a total of five. These events are live, and require online registration at chipperday.com/marin.

Isaac Taylor shared that MWPA Defensible Space Evaluators are expected to begin work in Bolinas in July of this year.

Prevention

Isaac Taylor reported that Chief Krakauer intends to prepare a fire season mailer to go out prior to the beginning of the season. The mailer will include information on

emergency notifications, chipper events, and the timeframe for defensible space residential evaluations.

Isaac Taylor reported that the District will also host 5 Chipper Days of its own, with dates to be announced.

Roads

Isaac Taylor reported that PG&E are clearing some downed trees on BCPUD property along Mesa Rd. These trees were felled as a precaution, and are located in the public right-of-way.

Inspections

Isaac Taylor reported that Chief Krakauer is scheduling additional business inspections and working on inspections of a few new photovoltaic systems in town.

Planning

No update.

Grants

Isaac Taylor reported that he submitted a FEMA Assistance to Firefighters grant proposal in early March to acquire all new, compliant turnouts for every firefighter in the department. The District applied for this project last year but was unsuccessful.

Isaac reported he also submitted a proposal this week to PG&E for removal of understory fuels within the BCPUD eucalyptus grove, located within 500 feet of PG&E transmission lines.

Training

Isaac Taylor reported that recent training has been focused on our new SCBAs, forcible entry, EMT skills, and a live fire exercise. Isaac thanked Asst. Chief Marcotte for installing our new propane conversion inside the burn container. The fixture makes training safer and cleanup easier.

Isaac Taylor reported that firefighter Emily Easom and Asst. Chief Marcotte attended an interagency active shooter training exercise about the Tiburon Ferry.

Chief Krakauer and Dir. Martinelli are attending the Wildland-Urban Interface Conference this week in Reno, NV.

This week's regular drill was focused on ladders.

Volunteers

Isaac Taylor reported the volunteers have completed the transition to a new bank, and have hired a tax professional to file their 2023 taxes.

Apparatus

Isaac Taylor reported that Utility 219 had its windows upgraded to power windows., and Engine 285 has been received back from Hi-Tech in Oakdale, CA, after one of its cabin doors replaced.

Disaster Council

Isaac Taylor reported that 760 Bolinas residents have registered for AlertMarin emergency notifications. The service conducted its first countywide test last weekend.

Resource Recovery

Isaac Taylor reported that the Resource Recovery Project site is open with limited operations, using a temporary green waste container while site grounds continue to dry out. Don Murch has been spreading base rock and gravel to improve site conditions. Chief Krakauer will be meeting with BCPUD Administrative Assistant Belle Wood and incoming GM Georgia Woods in April to discuss site operations.

Buildings and Grounds

Isaac Taylor reported the District has had a new gasoline pump installed. The cost will be shared by the three other local agencies who use our gasoline. 9:56

Isaac Taylor reported the District is awaiting delivery of a new outside yoke valve, to replace a faulty one recently diagnosed on the fire station and clinic fire suppression system.

Isaac Taylor also reported the District is awaiting response from an overhead door company to replace a failed sensor on one of the apparatus bay doors. The sensor is currently disabled and the door is functional.

General Operations/Administration

Isaac Taylor reported that the District is being audited by CalPERS regarding employment of retired annuitants. He reported completing the intake meeting, and expects the audit will conclude soon.

Isaac Taylor reported that Chief Krakauer submitted a Letter of Interest to the Marin Office of Emergency Management on behalf of the District to express interest in participating in an update to the County's Utilities and Special Districts Hazard Mitigation Plan. Participation in this process gives the District an opportunity to bring issues of local concern into the updated countywide plan, and may represent additional funding opportunities.

Isaac Taylor reported that he is developing a draft Board of Directors Policies and Procedures manual, adapted from the Kentfield Fire Protection District manual. This may appear as a discussion item in a future meeting.

Personnel

Isaac Taylor reported that onboarding continues for new Duty Officer Tracie Corazzini.

Isaac Taylor reported that Chief Krakauer will be conducting annual employee evaluations beginning next week, and recently held a meeting with all staff to discuss logistics and concerns related to the department's new staffing model.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Action Item #1 – Approve Additional Investment of District Reserve Funds

MSC Dunne/Torrey (unan.) to Authorize Staff to Invest up to an Additional \$600,000 of District Reserve Funds in California CLASS.

Isaac Taylor explained that the District made an initial investment in California CLASS, per the District's recently approved policy on Investment of District Funds. As these

investments have seen higher rates of interest income, staff recommended approving an additional investment to exceed the policy limit of 25% of surplus monies. Isaac Taylor noted that investment earnings in the County Investment Pool have also improved recently, since interest rates plateaued in late 2023.

Pres. Molesworth and Dir. Dunne discussed their meeting with a representative of California CLASS as the Finance Advisory Committee, where they learned that the fund is secure, with investments limited by statute, and that the difference in rate of return is wholly attributable to the shorter average maturity of securities.

Action Item #2 – Approve Letter to the California Public Utilities Commission Opposing AT&T’s Application 23-03-003 for Relief from Carrier of Last Resort Obligation

MSC Torrey/Pierce (unan.) to Approve Letter to the California Public Utilities Commission Opposing AT&T’s Application 23-03-003 for Relief from Carrier of Last Resort Obligation

Isaac Taylor explained that this letter drafted by Chief Krakauer expresses opposition to AT&T’s application to the CPUC for relief from its Carrier of Last Resort Obligation, based on the potential for residents who rely on land line connectivity to lose the ability to call 911 or receive emergency alerts. Vice Pres. Torrey noted that she received the recent countywide emergency alert test on her land line at home.

CONSENT CALENDAR

MSC Dunne/Pierce (unan.) to approve the Consent Calendar, with the amendment to remove duplicate item 6e, and with one correction to the February minutes.

BOARD MEMBER REPORT

No update.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Human Resources Advisory Committee – No update.

Finance Advisory Committee – Pres. Molesworth reported a meeting of the Finance Advisory Committee, where the committee discussed District investments.

Operations Working Group – No update.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Pres. Molesworth asked for unanimous consent to adjourn the meeting. Seeing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 7:46 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Isaac Taylor
Administrative Manager

Note: Minutes of all Board meetings are available for review on the District's website.