

Minutes from the April 24th, 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. Dir. Dunne and Dir. Pierce were present. Also present: Chief Krakauer and Administrative Manager Isaac Taylor. Vice Pres. Torrey and Dir. Martinelli were absent.

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

PUBLIC EXPRESSION

None.

CHIEF'S REPORT

MERA

Chief Krakauer reported sad news of the sudden passing last week of MERA Executive Officer Dave Jeffries. Mr. Jeffries led the technical side of the NextGen project, which is nearly complete. MERA officials are making necessary adjustments, but Chief Krakauer noted there could be changes to previous project timelines. The April MERA meeting was cancelled.

Chiefs

Chief Krakauer attended the monthly Chiefs meeting. Marin County Fire Chief Weber and Deputy Chief Martinelli gave another update on the transition of dispatch services from the Marin County Sheriff's Office to Marin County Fire.

MWPA

Chief Krakauer attended the MWPA Operations Committee meeting on April 4th. He reported that work continues on the West Marin Coastal Zone environmental compliance project with partners Panorama Environmental. Chief Krakauer hopes that fuel reduction project work will be able to move forward by the next project cycle.

Prevention

Chief Krakauer reported that he and Isaac Taylor are updating the District's wildfire season mailer, which will go out in May. The mailer will include information on emergency notifications, chipper events, and the timeframe for defensible space residential evaluations. A separate Bolinas evacuation map is also available for rental units in the area and any other interested residents or visitors. A digital version is available on the District's website.

Roads

Chief Krakauer reported that Marin County DPW has been mowing along County maintained roads, and performing repairs on Wharf Road due to damage from water intrusion from runoff and the Bolinas lagoon. The work has made Wharf Road more narrow and hard to navigate.

Inspections

Chief Krakauer reported that inspections have been scheduled this month for Coast Café, the Bolinas Community Center and the Bolinas School. Chief Krakauer also recently attended a training on fire inspections.

Planning

Chief Krakauer is working with an architect on planning for a water system on Horseshoe Hill Road that is part of a remodel project.

Grants

No update.

Training

Chief Krakauer reported that training has been focused on structural firefighting and EMT skills. Last night's training was on technical rope rescues, and a training in the field will be scheduled soon. Training will transition to wildland firefighting in May and June in preparation for fire season.

New volunteer firefighter Caleb Norton is currently attending an EMT class.

Chief Krakauer attended the Wildland-Urban Interface conference in Reno, NV in late March. He attended presentations and seminars on a variety of wildland firefighting topics, including incident reports from around the world and emerging technologies like A.I., drones, and acoustic alert systems.

Chief Krakauer also attended a five-day training on Investigations and Inspections in Half Moon Bay during the second week of April. This was part three of a five-part Company Officer training program. The final two parts will cover All-Hazard Incidents and Wildfire.

Asst. Chief Marcotte is developing a small-scale fire academy for West Marin volunteer agencies, tentatively scheduled for this summer at the former Coast Guard training facility.

Volunteers

Chief Krakauer reminded the board that the Volunteers Association will be hosting the 2024 Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, May 12th.

One current cadet, Italo Vaccaro is expected to be voted in as a full volunteer soon, and is currently attending a first responder class.

Apparatus

Chief Krakauer reported that Engine 283's generator was repaired today. Utility 219 still needs a repair to its automatic windows.

Disaster Council

The Disaster Council received a donation of thirty high-quality cots, which will be added to its cache of emergency supplies stored at Commonweal.

Resource Recovery

The Bolinas Resource Recovery Site has been resurfaced, and the site has reopened at full operational capacity. Discussions continue on a potential rate increase, to align with other regional sites.

Buildings and Grounds

Chief Krakauer reported a potentially successful diagnosis of ongoing issues with the automatic operation of the fire station and clinic shared sewer lift station.

Chief Krakauer reported the District ordered and received a large replacement water system valve, which is unfortunately the wrong size. The District is working with the vendor to exchange the part and complete the replacement as soon as possible.

General Operations/Administration

Chief Krakauer reported he and Isaac Taylor are working on the preliminary budget for fiscal year 2024-25.

Chief Krakauer reported Marin County Fire Department Medic 97 is now active part-time out of Stinson Beach. The ambulance will go to a full, 7-day schedule starting Memorial Day weekend. The crew is expected to take overnight accommodation at the Bolinas fire station each Friday and Saturday for the duration of fire season.

Chief Krakauer reported the District's Chipper Day signups are active and ongoing. The first event will be Friday, June 7th. Additionally, Marin Wildfire Chipper Day event signups are available now at chipperday.com/marin

Chief Krakauer reported that Defensible Space evaluators are expected to begin inspections in Bolinas in July. This year's focus will be downtown, north, and a small part of the Big Mesa.

Chief Krakauer reported that the District was contacted by AT&T cell tower assignee Octagon Towers about potential negotiation of a new modified lease agreement, to include the possible colocation of an additional cellular network.

Isaac Taylor reported that the District has been approached by Streamline Software, Inc., a website service provider and CSDA partner that specializes in web services for special districts. Pres. Molesworth expressed interest in receiving a presentation at a regular board meeting.

Isaac Taylor reported that he has created a preliminary draft of a Board of Directors Policies and Procedures Manual, adapted from a document shared by Kentfield Fire Protection District. He has shared the draft with Pres. Molesworth, and suggested a full board discussion on this item next month.

Isaac Taylor reported that the District received a notice of nonrenewal for its property and general liability insurance policy. The District's insurance broker has assured us that these policies can be transferred to a new carrier, and are initiating this process now.

Personnel

Chief Krakauer reported the resignation of firefighter Tracie Corazzini as of April 19.

Chief Krakauer thanked firefighters Pawel Kruk and Peter Smith for taking on additional shifts.

Chief Krakauer reported that he has concluded annual employee performance evaluations. Chief Krakauer reported there will be a meeting of the Human Resources Advisory Committee next week to discuss future staffing plans, employee evaluations, and wage adjustments for the upcoming fiscal year.

Chief Krakauer plans to be away on vacation in early May.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Action Item #1 – Approve Resolution 217-2024, A Regularly Scheduled Election to be Held in this Jurisdiction; Requesting the Board of Supervisors to Consolidate with any Other Election Conducted on Said Date, and Requesting Election Services by the Marin County Elections Department

MSC Pierce/Dunne (unan.) to Approve Resolution 217-2024, A Regularly Scheduled Election to be Held in this Jurisdiction; Requesting the Board of Supervisors to Consolidate with any Other Election Conducted on Said Date, and Requesting Election Services by the Marin County Elections Department

AYES: Molesworth, Dunne, Pierce

NOES: None

ABSENT: Torrey, Martinelli

Isaac Taylor informed the board that the terms of three directors will end this year, Dir. Dunne, Dir. Martinelli and Dir. Pierce. The candidate filing period is July 15 to August 9, 2024.

CONSENT CALENDAR

MSC Dunne/Pierce (unan.) to approve the Consent Calendar.

BOARD MEMBER REPORT

No update.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Human Resources Advisory Committee – Dir. Pierce reported a meeting of the Human Resources Advisory Committee on April 3rd to discuss personnel issues.

Finance Advisory Committee – No update.

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 7:49 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Isaac Taylor
Administrative Manager

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