



VISTA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT Special Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – April 26, 2023

These minutes reflect the order in which items appeared on the meeting agenda and do not necessarily reflect the order in which items were considered.

SPECIAL AGENDA

President Elliott called to order the regular meeting of the Vista Fire Protection District Board of Directors at 1:30 PM at the “Smart Space” conference room located at 450 South Melrose Drive, Vista CA.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

President Elliott led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll

Directors Present: Elliott, Gomez, Miller, Ploetz

Directors Absent: Fougner

Staff Present: Karlena Rannals, Administrative Manager; and Roy Palmer, Fire Chief

3. Open Discussion with the Board (Public Comment)

No one requested to speak to the Board.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Grant Participation – Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)

President Elliott conveyed his appreciation to Director Ploetz for the research and work done to learn about the possibility of being included in the CalFire Vegetation Management for Emergency Access Roads.

Chief Palmer provided information that he has obtained from CalFire regarding the grant. He noted that are several pieces to accomplish, and he believes that the District will be successful. Chief Palmer has also had conversations with Battalion Chief Silva (CalFire) and Chief Silva is wanting to work with the District to get the roads on Buena Creek and Gopher Canyon included with the grant. Chief Palmer also stated that a revision and edit of VFPD’s CWPP will be necessary to bring it into compliance with the format used by agencies within San Diego County, and he will make every effort to get this completed as quickly as possible.

Another requirement of the grant is the creation of a Fire Safe Council. While the ad hoc committee comprised of Directors’ Gomez and Miller was tasked to take the lead in its formation, he requested that only one person be designated the lead and discuss the application needs and updates with the Resource Conservation District Great San Diego County. RCS staff member Ms. Morgan Graves Fire Prevention and Forestry Coordinator wants to assist; however, having numerous board members and designated staff is challenging to manage the information. He also acknowledged that Ms. Graves has received a draft application to establish a Fire Safe Council, however, this council must also be community based. In addition, Ms. Graves needs to ensure that there is no conflict in boundaries with other fire safe councils, hence the importance of a boundary map.

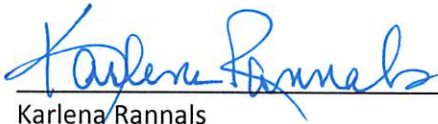
The ad hoc Committee (Directors’ Gomez and Miller) reported that they submitted a draft application for the creation of a Fire Safe Council, with Director Gomez serving as the Council President. Ms. Graves did provide

feedback, and they were trying to get this completed for the meeting on May 4, which they acknowledge is on a tight schedule. At the conclusion of the discussion, the consensus is as follows:

1. Chief Palmer will work with Ms. Rannals on the completion of tasks needed to be included in the CalFire grant;
2. Director Gomez will take the lead and be the primary point of contact for Ms. Graves on the formation of the Fire Safe Council;
3. Ms. Rannals will forward to Chief Palmer a digital map of the fire district boundary;
4. Ms. Rannals will add to the monthly agenda under "Oral Report" and update from the Fire Safe Council; and
5. MOTION BY DIRECTOR MILLER, SECOND BY DIRECTOR PLOETZ, CARRIED 4 AYES; 0 NOES; 1 ABSENT; 0 ABSTAIN to request the President prepare and sign a letter of support for the establishment of a Fire Safe Council of Vista.

5. Adjournment

President Elliott adjourned the meeting at 2:30 pm.



Karlena Rannals
Board Clerk



James F. Elliott
President