



## **FELTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

131 Kirby Street, Felton CA 95018 831 335-4422

### Regular Meeting Minutes

### Of The Board of Directors

January 08, 2024

Location: *Felton Fire Station Meeting Room*, 131 Kirby St, Felton California

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/81695560522?pwd=mlr7TCGQBLkUaLXitDbgSKD6yaEm4Y.1>

MeetingID:81695560522

Passcode: 4EkyGx

#### **1.0 Convene Meeting:**

**1.1** Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jim Anderson at 6:01 p.m.

**1.2** Pledge of Allegiance

**1.3** Roll Call: Directors J. Anderson, N. Crandell, D. Ladd

Staff: Chief Walters, L. Dennis

Absent: R. Gelini

Guests: Mike Shults, Adam Hensleigh, Renee Fenker, Nathan Fenker, Capt. Patrick

Rosso, there were no remote attendees

**1.4** Approve meeting minutes of the Regular Meeting held on December 11, 2023.

Regular meeting minutes approved as written on motion by Director Ladd and second by Director Crandell and passed.

Ayes: Directors Anderson, Crandell and Ladd

Noes: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Gelini

**1.5** Considerations of Additions to the Agenda: None.

**2.0 Public Comment:** None.

**3.0 Public Hearing:** None

**4.0 Directors Reports:** Director Anderson stated the Fire Study done by LAFCO is in the process of being reviewed for any issues. The same consultant they used also completed the County Fire Study. Concerns with any information issues in the CSA48 area are hanging up the report being finalized and distributed to the fire districts.

**5.0 Staff Report:**

Chief Walters provided a written report in the board package. He provided an overhead illustration for the First Due staffing module indicating although there has been slight improvement, we are still short as in the previous month.

- Engineer Zak Heinrichs resigned due to the demands of his CalFire job.

- The second Station Supervisor position being filled is being put on hold at Director Andersons request.

- LUCAS device has been ordered.

- The build has not started on the Type 6 yet; he should hear from them tomorrow on a production date or timeline.

- Engine 2336 update- Central Fire has now stated it may not be a blown engine, further diagnostics to be done.

- B2303 failed smog for the third time. This may result in DMV issues to deal with.

- Continuing station repairs and clean up. In the process of replacing gutters.

- One of our in-house cadets has dropped out due to family matters so only one remains.

- Drills now start at 6:30 for apparatus checks and further training at 7:00. Staff has now been assigned to an Officer and these assignments will rotate quarterly.

- We have three new driver/operators training.

- Chief Walters reviewed the incident response information provided and added further details.

- Working on multiple grants for PPE and equipment. Turnouts, battery operated hydraulic jaws and a SAFER grant.

- Chief Walters attended the Boulder Creek Fire District board meeting to thank them for selling us the ambulance for \$1.00.

## **6.0 New Business:**

### **6.1 Fire Director Vacancy – Selection of appointee**

Director Anderson stated that we received two applications for the vacant board seat. He suggested a special meeting be set to interview the candidates and make a selection. Board members discussed dates and times. A special meeting was set for Friday, January 12 at 3:30 p.m. Times for interviews will be Mike Shults at 3:30 and Adam Hensleigh at 4:00. Laurie will do the necessary posting for the meeting.

### **6.2 Staffing – Report on volunteer response / district coverage**

Chief Walters provided analysis information and monthly response and shift statistics. Some discussion followed. Chief Walters provided statistics on “3 per call” comparison, showing percentages met and not filled. He provided and

reviewed a list of issues, corrective actions and recommendations. He stated he's put non-participants on notice to show up and participate. We do have three new EMT applicants to be interviewed.

Captain Rosso then spoke at the board's request, and gave his input and experience on being one of those that does show up. He further explained how this is taking a toll. Some additional questions and discussion followed.

Chief Walters recommended hiring hourly people to cover the gaps of firefighter and engineer. He asked for the board's approval and support for hiring and exploring the SAFER grant options, hopefully to help offset. Board members were agreeable to his hiring the 960-hour employees.

Director Anderson stated that a ZOOM meeting is scheduled with PERS Thursday to discuss financial options as it relates to the future of the district and staffing. He added he's spoken again with Tracy New and she's recommended looking at getting out of PERS. Director Ladd asked he be sent the link for the ZOOM meeting.

Additional discussion followed led by Chief Walters regarding benefits and the savings the district could realize by amending what we pay for, and what the employee could pay.

Director Crandell suggested the Chief contact local newspapers and conduct interviews regarding seeking volunteers and the needs of the Felton Fire District. Discussion regarding volunteer rates and Mike Shults questioned whether higher rates for night response would be beneficial. Renee Fenker suggested changes to the recruitment process to focus on volunteers and those living in-district could help.

Captain Rosso added that he thinks accountability has made a difference. He also feels the staffing apps help him see the status of what people his shifts consist of and for planning accordingly. He thinks volunteerism has changed and needs to become a "hybrid" of what we know it as.

Chief stated he feels the daytime issues will be solved with the added paid people. The night issues need could be met with more on-district volunteers. Renee Fenker offered recruitment idea help, and Director Ladd also offered the same.

### **6.3 Fire Inspections & Plan reviews – Contract update**

Chief Walters stated that he signed the contract.

## **7.0 New Business:**

### **7.1 Election of Officers 2024 – Board Chairperson**

It was decided that board officers would be tabled until the February meeting, giving time for the selection of the new board member to fill the vacant seat.

### **7.2 Vigilant Pilot Agreement with FFPD – Fire Spotting Cameras**



Chief Walters stated that he has no concerns with the agreement details. There will be no additional work required of him. Board members were agreeable with proceeding.

**8.0 Approve paid vendor claims for the month of December 2023:** Board members reviewed the vendor claims in the amount of \$58,671.58 for the month of December. Claims were approved as presented on motion by Director Crandell and seconded by Director Ladd.

Ayes: Directors Anderson, Crandell and Ladd

Noes: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Gelini

Motion carried.

Director Anderson asked about getting hats that say Felton Fire District for board members. Director Ladd stated he had a contact and would get quotes. Directors suggested the first hat be provided by the district, and additional hats would be purchased by the person.

The regular meeting was adjourned by Director Anderson at 7:35 and the board went into closed session.

**9.0 Closed Session: Fire Chief Contract & Benefits**

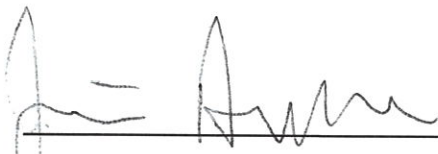
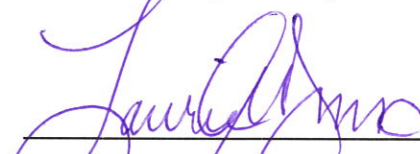
The closed session was not held as originally planned.

The closed session ended and Director Anderson reopened the regular meeting at 8:00 p.m.

**Reportable Actions:** Director Anderson was assigned to contact the Boulder Creek Fire District board regarding shared services opportunities.

**10.0 Set date for the next meeting:** The next Regular Meeting will be held on **Monday, February 12, 2024 at 6:00 P.M.** The meeting date was pushed out a week at Director Ladd's request. There will be a Special Board Meeting on Friday, January 12, 2024 at 3:30 p.m. to interview and select a new board member for the vacant seat. The meeting will be in person at the Felton Fire Station.

**11.0 Adjourn:** Director Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

  
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Jim Anderson, Chairperson  
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Attest: Laurie Dennis, Secretary