

**MINUTES OF THE APRIL 10, 2019 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE KENSINGTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

PRESENT: Directors: Don Dommer, Janice Kosel, Larry Nagel, Kevin Padian and Julie Stein
 Staff: Chief Michael Pigoni and Manager Brenda Navellier

CALL TO ORDER:

President Stein called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m and called roll. All Directors and staff were present.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS:

President Stein called for the approval of the consent calendar (items 3, 4, 5 & 6), consisting of approval of the minutes of March 13, 2019, approval of the February/March 2019 financial reports, acceptance of the March 2019 incident activity report, and approval of the monthly transmittal #10. Director Stein pulled item #3 – minutes of the March 13, 2019 meeting. Director Nagel made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar items 4, 5 and 6. Director Dommer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AYES: Dommer, Kosel, Nagel, Padian, Stein
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

President Stein thanked Navellier for a nice job on *The Fire Plug* that was mailed in March. Stein also noted that the Board has a very full agenda and she would appreciate everyone attempting to limit their comments.

APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 13, 2019 MINUTES:

On page 5, third sentence from the end of the second paragraph, Director Stein proposed to delete “If KPPCSD says no to” and replace with “If the geological study is negative on”. Also the last three words of the sentence should be deleted completely - “or the opposite”. Director Nagel made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Director Dommer seconded the motion.

AYES: Dommer, Kosel, Nagel, Padian, Stein
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

PRESENTATION ON NEIGHBORHOOD MAPPING FOR EVACUATION NOTIFICATION by Battalion Chief/Training Officer Joseph Grupalo:

Director Kosel noted that this project arose from Chief Pigoni’s Chief Report in March. Kosel requested a presentation from Grupalo at that meeting. B/C Grupalo introduced himself. He noted the San Francisco Chronicle article on Chief Winnacker and the Moraga-Orinda Fire Department. Chief Winnacker is sharing all the information he has about neighborhood mapping with Grupalo. Grupalo believes this program will be beneficial during a wildfire event with a Diablo wind condition where evacuation will be necessary. Grupalo made a Power Point presentation that was also included in the Board packet. The three conditions that lead to a “mega fire” are dry conditions, heavy fuel load, and Diablo winds. Compounding that are the road systems in Kensington. Temperatures are rising over time and large fire events are increasing. The fuel loads in Briones, Tilden, Wildcat are dense and if a fire starts in those areas it will push up against the wildland interface very fast. Grupalo explained Diablo winds and that they tend to happen in the fall when the fuel moisture is low. He reviewed the history of Diablo wind fire events. Lessons learned from previous Diablo wind fire events is that it overwhelms the decision making process, delayed notification and delayed evacuation because of the overload of information which equals an increase to life safety. MOFD is working with new technology to notify residents in a timely manner to increase survivability. MOFD is using sensors, drones, polygons, weather data, etc. all compiled into a computer program that will make recommendations. This system is still being tested. Grupalo is requesting that KFPD proceed with putting together the polygon foundation. Once that is in place the information would go to the County and the evacuation process can be approached systematically to avoid gridlock. Grupalo reviewed slides demonstrating the evacuation process with a fire. In order for the polygons to work, the District will need GIS data. Traffic data and

speed is a factor and varies on different streets. Since the District does not have a traffic study, a speed will be chosen for the model. The number of dwellings per polygon will be between 200 and 500 homes. Think of it as a watershed where all the traffic will continue to funnel downhill. We are trying to get residents to a safe place. The system identifies choke points so that information can be shared with the police department in directing traffic. All individuals have to be signed up on the Community Warning System to get the notifications. Kensington has the highest sign-up rate in the County per County statistics. Grupalo is only asking for the Board to proceed with the polygon portion at this time. Additional information can be layered into the program in the future. If the Board wants to proceed with a traffic study in the future, that information can be added and the model is even better. Director Kosel asked about the sensors and where they are placed. Grupalo said they could be hung on fences, trees or placed in the ground. He also discussed future plans the sensor company is considering. Director Stein reported that Chief Winnacker was a panelist on the California Council on Science and Technology. She found the information on Youtube and said that the panel was taking a higher level view about surveillance for fires across the state is being improved and also zoned in on what MOFD in particular is accomplishing including possible future personal apps for cell phones. Kosel asked Grupalo what the next step is? Grupalo said he is asking for a not-to-exceed budget of \$10,000 (agenda item 11) to develop GIS data mapping for the County system. He would like to take advantage of this opportunity since lots of cities are looking at this option. Director Dommer asked for more clarification on the traffic flow. Grupalo explained that MOFD had computer engineers put in a 15 mph speed. Grupalo said he attended the MOFD evacuation exercise in January. The computer is taking all the data in real time and making recommendations. The sensor module isn't perfected yet. Director Nagel asked about the proximity of the sensors to Kensington. Grupalo said he doesn't know what Winnacker has worked out with EBRPD or EBMUD. The sensors are not ready today. What is ready today is the polygon study and if the Board wants to pursue a traffic study later, that information can be layered in. Dommer asked where Contra Costa County Fire was on this project? Chief Pigoni said they are looking at it as well as several other jurisdictions in the County. Pigoni discussed the sensor development and how they need to be visually unobtrusive. First the mapping system needs to be accomplished. Director Padian said this is addressing pre-evacuation. Grupalo said the polygon system can have a real affect operationally right now since the County reports 4,561 people are signed up for Kensington alerts. Director Nagel said that CERT participants that are signed up will also alert their neighbors so the amount of people alerted multiplies. Grupalo reported that governor Newsom just allocated \$8 million dollars to try to get 320,000 additional Californians sign up for CERT. ECFD-KFPD is in line to get some CERT funding. Director Padian asked if El Cerrito was participating in the polygon model. Grupalo said he has not made the presentation to the City yet. His hope is that Berkeley, Richmond, etc. all join in. Pigoni said El Cerrito PD is looking at the program. They are working on evacuation maps for the City. It is important that neighboring jurisdictions eventually all tie together. Berkeley has evacuation maps but it does not appear they have addressed a "controlled evacuation". There is currently the ability to tell dispatch to evacuate certain streets only but that is more time consuming than polygons. Director Padian said mph will go out the window if people are frightened but the other part is that there will be the possibility of opening streets that can handle two lanes going downhill. Grupalo said the term is contra-flow. The value is giving people more time to get out. Pigoni said the polygon model can be used for other incidents than fire such as a police action, shelter in place, information after an earthquake, etc. Dommer asked how fire is working with the police department on this? Grupalo has had several conversations with ECPD and they in turn have reached out to KPD. Pigoni said it is very important for PD to be on board with this program, maybe through the committees working together? The County will develop the maps in a high resolution, that include hydrant locations, house addresses, etc. When the committee gets to the point to look at traffic flow, it can be added to the maps. The fire modeling programs predicting fire paths are available now and the future sensors will provide more information. Director Nagel said that Chief Hull announced at a KPPCSD meeting that he is working with ECPD on a joint September evacuation drill. Pigoni said ECPD will be working with CERT volunteers or citizen volunteers. He does not know if the mapping will be accomplished by then. Stein clarified that Grupalo's proposal is for the mapping—GIS data, road network data, etc., not for sensors. Stein also noted that MOFD is also mapping vegetation density along power lines since that is a very sensitive area and source of fire. Grupalo explained that is "lidar data" and the last time EBRPD did that was in 2008. He understands it is very expensive and doesn't know when EBRPD will be addressing that again but maybe communities along this ridgeline can start asking for an update. Grupalo explained that the operational piece he is asking KFPD to build at this time is managed by the Community Warning System of Contra Costa County. If the polygons need reprogramming in the future, KFPD would probably have to pay for that.

Per Item 11, Director Kosel made a motion to initiate the polygon program at a price not to exceed \$10,000. Director Nagel seconded the motion. Director Stein asked who would KFPD be paying? Pigoni said the majority would be the County but it will be various vendors. This data can be used for CERT also. David Spath asked if it was a contract with the County. Pigoni, said it will most likely just be invoices. Stein asked if there was a scope of work? Pigoni explained staff would be taking the data that the algorithm company would be providing (for free at this time as a demonstration community) and submitting it to the County for production and then going

to a printing company for hard maps. Mabry Benson thinks it would be important for Tilden Park to be monitored. She thinks a problem with the whole concept is will Kensington ever have enough police to direct the choke points? She is also concerned with how people will react. People will not necessarily wait to be told to leave if they know something is going on. Pigoni said KFPD cannot answer the police question but of course they will have access to mutual aid. He also said that people reacting because they know an incident is occurring, will happen with our without maps. The point is education and creating a zone by zone evacuation. If everyone panics, we will lose more lives but we can't control that. Director Padian said a program could be developed so that people who want to know if something is going on, no matter where they live, they could be informed. They may not want to wait for their polygon to be activated. Kensington has older people and infirmed people and they have to be able to leave as soon as we have information. Again, we are just trying to get the initial phase going at this time. Celia Concus suggested having volunteers in each polygon to assist with directing traffic. Pigoni said this could be CERT volunteers put people have to be willing to stay. Anthony Knight said parking is a special problem in Kensington. Will the mapping show the parking situations? Pigoni said any data can be included in the mapping in the future. The first stage is just notification. Further recommendations or direction from the various committees can be added later. Knight also asked about the paths. He plans on evacuating on his bicycle since he thinks there will be gridlock. Paths and places of safety can be added to the maps also.

AYES:	Dommer, Kosel, Nagel, Padian, Stein
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:

Chief Pigoni noted the call volume was down compared to the previous month. On April 1st, E65 was first in on what was reported as a structure fire in the 100 block of Arlington. It turned out to be the electronics on a dishwasher that had shorted out and caused smoke damage only. Berkeley FD, El Cerrito FD, and Richmond FD all responded also. El Cerrito has signed a contract to update its Emergency Operations Plan. The project will be starting soon and will take about three months to complete. The EOP will cover El Cerrito and Kensington and tie into the County's EOP. On March 30th, Fire Marshal Gibson put on a presentation titled "Mega Fire, the New Normal" at the Kensington Community Center. In addition, Gibson will present the same program in El Cerrito on 4/17 and 4/23 in the evening and also on a Saturday in May. Gibson will arrange for a second Kensington presentation at Arlington Community Church. The Type III chassis has arrived and fits into the station with about the same clearance as the previous engine. Pigoni said a notice was received from PG&E about their potential power shut downs due to weather and/or fires. If an individual has a PG&E on-line account, you can opt in to receive text and automated phone messages about power outages. Pigoni asked for the Board's permission to work with Linnea Due of the Outlook regarding an article on internet sites with fire education/information and the Contra Costa Warning System. Three Directors nodded approval.

President Stein asked if the development of the EOP will be integrated with the Kensington Police Dept? Chief Pigoni said Fire will get input from PD but this is the fire side of the EOP. Pigoni assumes that the CSD has their own EOP and if they don't some of that can be integrated into Fire's plan. The EOP will deal with command structure and recovery and logistics for Fire Command staff. Stein she was asking because the last plan utilized the community center for various functions of the fire department. Pigoni said the community center will not be listed as an EOC since it does not have a generator or the data lines. Station 65 would be the third alternative for an EOC. Mabry Benson thinks the community center has data. Pigoni said there still is no back-up power.

BOARD REPORTS:

Emergency Preparedness Committee (EPC): Director Padian reported that he and Director Nagel had met a couple of times. Padian also met with the Kensington Pathkeepers represented by David Spath, Lisa Caronna and Sarah Paul. They are associated with the El Cerrito Trail Trekkers and the Berkeley Path Wanderers. The Pathkeepers would like to make a presentation and request for action in the future. Padian and the Pathkeepers discussed ownership, liability issues, a 2012 KPPCSD report on the paths, right-of-way issues, how to work with the police and fire departments, public education, and how to work with the KFPD Board. Padian said he met with Berkeley City Council member, Susan Wengraff today. She has previously met with members of Kensington Neighbors for Wildfire Safety. Padian compared approaches with Wengraff to emergency notification and evacuation. Wengraff is advising that if you are over 60 yrs old and you receive a PG&E shut down warning, you should leave. Berkeley is also looking into sirens and has appointed a commission. Padian and Nagel discussed who they would like to have involved in the EPC if the Board approves it to be a standing committee. They discussed the possible process. Director Nagel reported he met with the Kensington Neighbors for Wildfire Safety

(KNWS). The KNWS met with a computer group from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and the University of California, San Diego. That group is looking at putting remote cameras to monitor fire safety that will be connected to the internet. They also stated that the cameras could be integrated with any sensors that the District is considering. This is sophisticated technology that will help address early detection. Chief Pigoni reported that same computer group made a presentation to Contra Costa County Executive Chiefs. They already have two sites in the County – one on Mt. Diablo and one near Inspiration Point. Besides the ability to see the camera's view on the internet, they are working on artificial intelligence so that the camera recognizes a fire. Nagel said they are also working on sophisticated weather warning so that fire departments have time to move equipment around. This would involve wind sensors to predict Diablo winds. A resident said that these cameras are already in place in Marin and elsewhere. Anyone can go on the internet and see them. The cameras have infrared capability but you can't see that on the website. Director Padian said that Brandon Collins made a presentation at UC Berkeley yesterday. He is looking at two 10-year data sets, separated by 100 years, on fires in California. The study shows that human-caused fires have not risen in the past 100 years. The fuel load and the change in temperature is the problem. The density of forests is a factor. President Stein asked if the EPC had worked on a budget for FY 19-20? It was submitted via email earlier in the day to Stein and Navellier. Stein asked for highlights. Padian said the goals are to do solidify the committee and to hire a part-time consultant to be a grant writer and coordinator at a cost of \$50,000. The other goal is to study the Kensington traffic patterns and Padian has been talking to the Institute of Transportation Studies at UCB and they are discussing a possible scope of work. He has requested a top number of \$20,000 for that. He pointed out that Chief Pigoni said that traffic information can be layered onto the polygon project. General items the committee wants to work on are evacuation preparation, emergency notification, hazard mitigation, agency articulation and education. Stein asked for more information on sirens which the committee members said would be part of evacuation preparation and emergency notification. She questioned whether all this work could be done for \$50,000. Padian said it is unclear at this time. The \$50,000 is for a grant writer who should have an extensive knowledge base to gain double benefit.

Diablo Fire Safe Council: Director Nagel reported that the March meeting was cancelled because the Department of Homeland Security feeder grant hasn't come through. There is a tentative meeting set for April 18.

Kensington Pathkeepers: See above.

East Bay Regional Park Liaison: Director Nagel attended the EBRPD Board meeting last week. There was nothing on the agenda about fuel reduction or fire preparation. Fuel reduction is supposed to be on the next agenda. Chief Pigoni said he was informed late this afternoon that EBRPD will begin their fuel reduction project in the El Cerrito-Kensington area tomorrow. Pigoni does not know if they will be working southward or northward. A resident said that the KNWS have been in contact with EBRPD to talk about them moving more expeditiously to address the fuel load. They are pleased with EBRPD's professionalism and understanding of the problem but they are not very happy with the resources allocated to it. He urged Nagel to please bring up the resource issue when fuel reduction comes up at the next meeting. Anthony Knight wanted to know if it would be possible to get an EBRPD representative to come to a meeting in Kensington to speak about what they are doing and provide a map. Knight wants to hear about EBRPD's works directly from them. He asked that KFPD send them an invitation and he requested a detailed presentation to a broad group of people showing where exactly the work is being done. Chief Pigoni said two meetings ago, he provided the maps that shows the fuel break is going from north Richmond Heights to Los Altos. He also provided the link to EBRPD's study and the same maps. Knight said he doesn't want it put back on him. He wants a presentation by someone who looks official, wears a uniform and is good at presentations. Kosel noted that EBRPD's Board members are district-elected. Pigoni said that topic would take up an entire Board meeting and it should be set up as an EBRPD community meeting. A resident said he thinks EBRPD would be very open to that idea and everyone should recognize they are being pulled in many directions. He understands Supervisor Gioia is planning two town hall meetings to respond to this issue and EBRPD would be one of the invitees. Kate Rauch of Gioia's office is organizing it. Padian said that EBRPD is concerned that community groups get information out on what they are trying to do because they feel it is hard to get information out in the communities. He agreed it would be helpful for someone to explain the whole picture. Meanwhile tons more money is coming into the state. Mabry Benson said it sounds like a lack of resources so groups should be approaching EBRPD to budget more funds. Maybe the Boards could send letters to EBRPD to consider the fuel load when planning their budgets. Padian said there's CalFire to think about--there's county money, parks money, State money, and FEMA money and it's a balancing act. Benson said then EBRPD should be looking at other resources to increase their funding. A resident said EBRPD's website has a plan that was developed after the Oakland Hills Fire that identifies very specific segments of fuel load reduction. They have to get environmental approvals and they were sued in the early age of the process. While they are on track now, they aren't keeping up with the fuel load. Chief Pigoni said the plan got started in 2010 and has taken nine years for them just to be able to work on the stretch behind El Cerrito-Kensington.

Building Committee: Directors Nagel and Dommer presented the same Power point that they presented to KPPCSD on 3/28/19. The presentation was also included in the KFPD Board packet. Nagel gave the prologue.

The point the committee is trying to drive home is that there aren't any good options. The District is in a time crunch. Every year that goes by, construction escalates 8 to 10% and we aren't getting that return on our investments. The current building will likely not survive a Richter 7.0 earthquake. It does not currently satisfy the requirements for an essential services building which it should. This is very troubling because personnel are in the building 24 hours a day. This is a life safety problem. It is unacceptable to have a non-essential services building serve as the community's fire house. The existing building is obsolete in functionality, seismic condition and building maintenance. The geographic study of the site showed a high probability of a spider fault 50 feet from the building. Present code does not allow the District to tear down the existing building and replace it, even on the same footprint. Dommer said someone asked about spending more than ½ the cost of the building to renovate it. In that case, the District would have to get approval from the state and bring the entire building up to current code. Nagel said if the District is going to look at building a new building, it is a fact of life that the park is the only available real estate. Nagel then reviewed the slides. There is seismic deficiency in the building and in an earthquake the building could become uninhabitable and the engines trapped in the apparatus bay – not very good emergency planning. For a modern facility, the site is too small for police and fire. If KFPD was forced to use the present site, it would be for the fire district only and KPPCSD would have to go somewhere else. Kosel asked if the District could purchase an adjoining lot? We would still be 50 feet from the fault in the back of the property and 100 feet from the fault in the front. Linnea Due asked about remodeling an adjacent property as a police station. That would be a change of occupancy. Kosel asked about housing the firefighters in an adjacent property. Director Dommer approached both adjacent neighbors in 2017 and neither desired to sell. Celia Concus suggested eminent domain. Nagel reviewed an aerial photo of the site. The current site could be possibly be renovated but there is still on-going deferred maintenance like the roof. The existing building is too small by about 3,500 s.f. for both agencies but it would be an acceptable size for fire only. It was not a good building from the beginning. Dommer and the fire chief of 20 years ago tried to find a different building site to build a new building so this has been an on-going problem. Dommer estimates \$2.5 million for a renovation, a new roof, new mechanical and to rearrange the interior space. The historical average to maintain the building has been about \$130,000 and if the District continues to pay that over 20 years, it's not a good investment as opposed to a new building. Because the community is built out there are very few choices. The location of the park site is half way between community lines north and south and is on the Arlington. It would mean building into a hillside just like the current building. The preferred site is close to the library. There are concerns about pedestrians and children but the engine makes about an average of one call per day. The police make a few more on average. Fire engines are often wired to the signal lights so they can stop the traffic. There has never been a problem with pedestrians at the existing site. Based on a preliminary look the geotechnical firm that the District used two years ago, thinks that site is sound but trenching would still need to take place to confirm. There is a question on whether a building could be built on the site since it was purchased with bonds. It could trigger legal problems. Dommer said communities are organic and things change all the time. The site has some difficulties to overcome but it is not impossible. The District has also looked at the north end of the parking lot/corner of Arlmont and the very south end of the park. Chief Pigoni commented on the grades at the parking lot corner, the parking lot flow that would change, and the current retaining wall already between the parking lot and the eastern neighbor. Building to the south of the park would also be a huge change to those neighbors immediately adjacent. Dommer said wherever the District ends up it will not be without compromises. Dommer said the width of the parking lot is wide enough to create a turnaround space. Kosel asked if the southern part of the park is as steep as currently being considered? The committee said it was. Anthony Knight asked if the committee was talking about a stand-alone fire station or combined police and fire? Nagel said, if we moved to the park there would be enough space for a combined building. Kosel said she thinks KPPCSD may prefer their own stand alone building even in the park with a connecting walkway. Dommer said that could be solved. KPPCSD currently has no privacy. Cyrus Modavi asked what kind of rocks would be excavated from the park site? Dommer said the geotech study has not been done yet. More discussion followed. The church owns the north end of the parking lot. Celia Concus asked if the north end of the parking lot is sufficiently wide to accommodate a public safety building or a fire station? Dommer said it would be very tight. Parking is always the hardest part. Dommer said when the project was estimated in 2017 it was about \$10 million total. Now it would be about \$12 million due to rising construction costs. The entire park is about 13 acres and a public safety building would need about ½ acre +/- . Padian suggested that the committee budget to hire someone to look for sources outside of the District to help build it. There is a lot of money coming into the state to build projects like this. There are federally funded public buildings all over the state. Something as important as this in central area seems like it's worth paying someone part-time to research grants. Padian asked what could be done with the existing site if you can't build on it? Dommer said it could be torn down. Nagel and Kosel suggested making it a neighborhood park. Kosel said CSDA has a financing department that can discuss all of the financing possibilities with the District. Padian said KFPD doesn't need to save \$12 million up front. Mabry Benson said one of the issues that was brought up at KPPCSD's meeting was having KFPD indemnify them regarding the park site. They seemed convinced that there will be legal action against them if the park site is used. This will need to be addressed. Anthony Knight said the site next to the

library is currently unimproved and not being used for anything. Stein clarified that KPPCSD's attorney said the only case law she could find was when an entity built a building on its own land but she couldn't find anything when another district build something on land that didn't belong to them. KPPCSD will need to find a legal specialist or the other option would be for KFPD to indemnify KPPCSD. More discussion followed. Kosel said if KFPD were to build a public safety building and put up all the money, KFPD would need to require a long-term significant lease agreement in order to get financing. Stein asked if the committee was close to being ready to hold a public forum on the project to educate the broader community. The Police Board should be invited to attend and a community-wide discussion should start. Dommer agreed. David Spath asked if KFPD wouldn't want KPPCSD to at least get an opinion from bond counsel? If the bond counsel says it can't be done then there's no need for a public forum. More discussion. Stein said that leaves KFPD waiting on KPPCSD to get the legal opinion. Dommer said anyone can get the legal opinion. Padian said a deadline seems reasonable since costs keep going up. If KPPCSD can't or won't make a decision, each agency is on its own and that situation would be forced on the community by KPPCSD. Cyrus Modavi suggested splitting the costs of the legal opinion. Stein asked about a joint public Board meeting? This could go on forever and that way we could get a sense of what they are thinking and what a final solution could be. Kosel suggested Stein contact President Nottoli to ask her what the legal opinion timeline is. Celia Concus said KPPCSD cannot be stretched any more right now. Dommer said KPPCSD has stonewalled KFPD for two years and it has cost \$2 million in escalation. Nagel said he is not sensing a tremendous amount of enthusiasm on KPPCSD's part in regard to the project. We have personnel at risk. Sarah Paul said there is a sense of urgency and suggested a community meeting to raise awareness that the Public Safety Building could collapse in a 7.0 earthquake. The current cracks in the building are very visible. Stein will follow-up with Nottoli. More discussion followed. Kosel estimated that a legal opinion from bond counsel would be under \$5,000. Padian suggested KFPD split the cost with KPPCSD. Paul Dorroh agreed with Sarah Paul on the urgency of the issue and probably 98% of residents don't have any idea this is a looming problem. Either a community forum or some sort of communication plan needs to take place. The Building Committee will draft out a decision process for the next meeting.

President Stein moved the agenda to Item 12.

NEW BUSINESS:

Proposed Amendments to Policy 1140:20-50: Committees of the Board of Directors: Stein noted this was the fourth time this has been on the agenda and turned the discussion over to Director Padian. Padian reported on discussions with Director Nagel on the Brown Act and quorums. Padian is proposing a simple majority for the quorum. The only real change from the previous month is 1140.32. He said everything else is the same but he moved things to other places. Discussion with Mabry Benson followed since she was reading a previous version of the policy. Director Kosel reiterated that she supports Padian's efforts and has no objections to what he is proposing to accomplish but she prefers not to amend the policy manual. She intends to vote "no" but that is not a reflection on her support of what Padian proposes to do; she doesn't think a policy manual amendment is necessary. Stein pointed out that the only standing committee in the policy manual is the Finance Committee. Kosel said there only needs to be a one sentence addition adding the Emergency Preparedness Committee as a standing committee. Stein said she is fine with that. Dommer said he would vote "yes" just because Padian has worked on it so diligently. Padian said he thinks if things are clarified it is better or someone might challenge adding public members to the committee. Mabry Benson objected to the use of the word "articulation" in 1140.60. She suggested "partner, cooperate or coordinate". Kosel suggested collaborate. Padian said it was a perfectly normal use of the term and this is what would be brought back next month for a second reading and vote.

Proposed new Board Policy for Social Media: Director Kosel said that KFPD's legal firm, Meyers Nave, will be hosting a webinar on first amendment issues and social media. She assumes KFPD will need to check with its legal counsel on whether the proposed policy is constitutional. The only comments she received from Board members were from President Stein. She drafted the policy very generally since there really is no enforcement mechanism other than indemnification. Padian agreed that the Board could wait until after the Meyers Nave webinar to see if anything is learned. Stein and Kosel agreed. The matter is not urgent. The webinar is on May 1 and participants must register first.

The agenda was moved back to Board Reports.

Correspondence: The Board received correspondence from resident Siv Sandler concerning the fuel break that Moraga-Orinda is working on. Navellier responded to Mr. Sandler letting him know his email was received and would be in the next packet. Kosel asked that Chief Pigoni respond to Sandler about his question. Stein will respond letting Sandler know that Pigoni will respond to him. Stein asked that in the future, Navellier forward any correspondence to the Board upon receiving it.

Contract Negotiation Committee: Stein reported that the committee met with the El Cerrito City Manager and Chief Pigioli last week. The committee presented them with the concepts they had come up with to clean up the language of the contract that had already been discussed. KFPD is to present El Cerrito with a new draft amendment as soon as possible.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:57 p.m.

MINUTES PREPARED BY: Brenda J. Navellier

These minutes were approved at the regular Board meeting of the Kensington Fire Protection District on May 8, 2019.

Attest:


Board Secretary