Woodside Fire Protection District
Board of Directors Meeting
Administration Building
808 Portola Rd.
Portola Valley, CA 94028
August 31st, 2020

The regular Board of Director’s meeting was called to order at 7:01 P.M. by Director Miller.

Directors Present: Cain, Miller & Holthaus
Directors Absent:  
Staff: Chief Lindner, Finance Manager Kate Edwards, PEO/EP Coordinator Selena Brown, B/C Farrell Smith

Other Attendees: None

Public Comment Non-Agendized Topics: None

Consent Agenda:

Items: Items 1, 2, 3, 4, and 7 were unanimously approved and moved to the consent agenda.

Regular Agenda:

Item 5 and 6: There was a brief discussion on the spreadsheet and was noted that there were no significant issues. Discussion continued on the potential decrease in excess ERAF distribution. Finance Manager Kate Edwards reiterated that we have prepared for and are in a good position if the ERAF is not received. The District is to receive the first half of excess funds, but still unknown on the remainder. There was no update on the trailer bill that involves this.

Item 8: Discussion continued from the July Board meeting regarding the fiscal year 2020-2021 budget. There were no additional issues addressed. A motion was made by Director Miller to approve the budget of the Woodside Fire Protection District for the fiscal year 2020-2021. The motion was second by Director Holthaus. Motion carried with a 3-0 vote.

Item 9: There were no questions regarding Resolution #289. Director Miller made a motion to approve Resolution #289 Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Funds. The motion was second by Director Cain. Motion carried with a 3-0 vote.

Item 10: There were no questions regarding Resolution #290. Director Miller made a motion to approve Resolution #290 Resolution Establishing Appropriation Limits for the Woodside Fire Protection District. The motion was second by Director Holthaus. Motion carried with a 3-0 vote.

Item 11: The upcoming 2020 election was discussed. Two Board positions are open this year. One incumbent filed papers for re-election.

Item 12: Director Holthaus was advised his name was sent to LAFCo as the WFPD Board Member to be notified when any ballots were to be sent out for future votes. If applicable, discussion will occur at regular Board meetings prior to submission of any votes.
Fire Chief Report:

The Zonehaven evacuation zones were utilized during the CZU Lightning Complex Fire(s). Although they were not officially released to the public, the decision was made by Cal Fire to utilize them. The templates were already in place. This was met with success as well as concerns, as the public was unaware they existed. Representatives from fire, law, OES, as well as Zonehaven were evaluating what went well, and what can be improved upon with the platform. WFPD is still preplanning all WFPD zones, and outreach was made to law, and both Towns for their input as well. The “Know Your Zone” campaign will still follow as the platform gets finalized.

Station 7 and Station 8 plans are both in the planning departments and proceeding. A neighborhood meeting is planned for the Station 8 remodel. The meeting was originally scheduled in March, but postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The new meeting is to be held virtually. Director Miller advised he would attend, if available. WFPD is still looking for a temporary site location for the Station 7 project.

The Board was updated on the Covid-19 pandemic. The cases in San Mateo County have been stable. Hospitalizations, as well as ICU beds remain on the positive side, but the County still remains in a restrictive state. The Health Officer has been giving updates and has formally stated his dissatisfaction with the process as to how restrictive measures are addressed at the state level, but is also abiding by those measures, as well as gathering data as it becomes available.

The Board was given an update on the CZU Lightning Complex Incident. The fire is just under 40% containment. There are over 2,000 firefighters at the incident. WFPD have personnel at the incident as part of a task force. They have been performing operations on the northeast portion of the fire. So, they are on the San Mateo County side of the incident near the area of Loma Mar. WFPD personnel have been affected personally as well. One retired firefighter lost his home, and another current firefighter’s family have lost their home.

Written Communications:

No written communications

Meeting was adjourned to closed session at 7:40 P.M.

Closed Session:

There was discussion about the Station 7 and Station 8 projects. A possible donor has come forward but currently wishes to remain anonymous. There are ongoing talks regarding the logistics of the whole project. This is regarding the donor’s involvement and the District’s involvement. Also, how this affects planning with both towns, a temporary fire station, demolition, construction, etc. The Board advised to continue with these discussions and report back as needed.

There was also continued discussion on a personnel matter that was for information only. No action was taken on the personnel matter.

Meeting returned from closed session at 8:23 P.M.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

The next scheduled meeting will be held September 28th, 2020 at 7:00 P.M at the WFPD Administration Building, 808 Portola Rd. Portola Valley, CA 94028.

Respectfully Submitted,

Matt Miller, Board Secretary