

# Kuna Rural Fire District

PO Box 607, Kuna, ID 83634

Phone (208) 922-1144 Fax (208) 922-1135

## Minutes of Commissioners Regular Meeting

August 11, 2021

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_ **REVISED:** \_\_\_\_\_ (see revised version)

Chairman Greg McPherson called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm in the meeting room of Kuna Fire Station #1.

Present were Commissioners: Greg McPherson, Rebekah Luther, Randall Feaster, Tim Crawford were present, Mike Smith was absent. Also present were Battalion Chief T.J. Lawrence, White Peterson Attorney William Gigray, and Officer of Administration-Secretary-Bookkeeper Krystal Hinkle.

### **Agenda Approval:**

Comm. Crawford moved to accept the agenda as printed and posted. Comm. Feaster seconded the motion, motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

**Approval of Minutes:** Comm. Crawford moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of July 14, 2021. Comm. Luther seconded the motion, motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

### **Public Input/Special Presentations:**

**Financial Reports Presented by Hinkle:** Comm. Crawford moved to accept the financial reports and report of fund investments, and to approve disbursement of funds in the amount of **\$196,460.48** the District for payment of bills and payroll as presented. A disbursement of \$0 for the Association for payment of bills. Comm. Feaster seconded the motion, motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

### **Public Hearing – Adoption of Budget for Fiscal Year 2022**

Commissioner Crawford made a motion to open the hearing at 1:05pm, Comm. Luther seconded the motion, motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Sec. Hinkle reported the legal notice was published in the Kuna Melba News on July 28, 2021.

Review of the 2022 Budget was presented. No discussion.

Commissioner Feaster made a motion to close the hearing at 1:08pm, Comm. Crawford seconded the motion, motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Commissioner Crawford made a motion to adopt Resolution 2021-28 adopting the budget for fiscal year 2022. Comm. Feaster seconded the motion, motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

### **Public Input/Special Presentations –**

VFIS - Brad Verigan - Annual Insurance Premiums

Mr. Verigan went over our current limits on our policy, including our vehicles.

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Comm. Crawford made a motion renewing our insurance policy with VFIS and to add the Cloverdale property to our policy and to also increase the Brush Trucks replacement value to \$335,000.00. Comm. Luther seconded the motion, motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

**Purchase Order over \$5,000** – None

**Summary of Correspondence:** The district received a letter from the Parma Rural Fire District pertaining to deployment that took place in September of 2020. They are displeased with the state for not funding the deployment.

### Staff Reports:

**Chief Report – by T.J. Lawrence:** Chief Lawrence reported that the district has (2) employees out with COVID. He is working with Randy Halverfield on the schematic design for the station 1 remodel. BME is still waiting on the chassis, but a preconstruction meeting has taken place. Matt Coffelt and T.J. have been accepted into the National Fire Academy and ben Sterling went to a fire investigation class.

**Local 4165 - Full Time Firefighter Report:** Matt Graham will be negotiating and signing the MOU on behalf of the president.

**Association Report:** None

**Attorney Report:** Gigray reported he has been working with the Chief on the easement for Falcon Crest. Amendments to city code for the Impact Fee Advisory Committee due to HB 124 have been sent to the city and Krystal for review. Emails have been sent to Ax and Zack with Ada Co. and Canyon Co. on how to proceed with the changes to the Impact Advisory Committee. Notice for appeal has been sent in regards to PERSI.

Gigray announced that he is moving to California and will continue to work remotely but Marc Bybee will replace him in person at the commissioner meetings.

**Officer of Administration Report by Krystal Hinkle:** Hinkle reported everything is on the agenda.

**Administrator of Impact Fees by Krystal Hinkle:** Hinkle reported that the current fund totals \$1,967,021.79 thru June.

### Old Business:

**State Fire Commissioners Report:** Annual Conference is coming along, but there is discussion about moving it to a virtual conference.

**Ada County City EMS System (ACCESS) Update:** Commissioner Feaster reported the JPA has approved the change in the agreement that indicates Ada Co. taking over transport in Kuna in November. No proposal for rural response times due to no agency

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being able to make those response times. Response to PD Assist calls will respond with an engine and EMS, not an ambulance.

**Discuss and Appointment of Members to the Levy Committee:** Commissioner Feaster made a motion approving the Chief, Officer of Admin., Union Rep., Rebekah Luther, Greg Womack, Jordan Barrett, Steve Cherry and Kelsey Holder to the Levy Committee. Comm. Luther seconded the motion, motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

**Executive Session Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting of August 11, 2021**– The Commissioners, upon a unanimous roll call vote, went into the executive session, pursuant to Idaho Code Section 74-206 (1) (a) to consider hiring a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, wherein the respective qualities of individuals are to be evaluated in order to fill a particular vacancy or need and (b) to consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent and (f) to communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation. The executive session commenced at 1:53 p.m. In attendance were all the members of the Board of Commissioners, Battalion Chief T.J. Lawrence, Krystal Hinkle and legal counsel Wm. F. Gigray, III and Marc Bybee. Krystal Hinkle was appointed as secretary to take the minutes of this executive session. Information was then exchanged among the Commissioners in attendance, Battalion Chief T.J. Lawrence, Krystal Hinkle and Legal counsel regarding the subject matters of the executive session. At 2:38 p.m., Chief Lawrence was asked to leave the exec. session. At 2:55 p.m., Chief Lawrence was asked to come back into exec. Session. A motion was made by Commissioner Randall Feaster and seconded by Rebekah Luther to come out of executive session which motion passed unanimously at 3:02 p.m.

**Open session resumed** and Chairman McPherson reported that information was received in relation to the announced purpose for going into executive session and no action was taken by the Commissioners.

### **New Business:**

#### **Discuss and Consider Resolution approving the Employment Agreement with T.J.**

**Lawrence** – Comm. Crawford made a motion approving Resolution 2021-29 allowing the Chairman to sign an employment contract with T.J. Lawrence. Comm. Luther seconded the motion, motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

**Discuss and Consider MOU with Local 4165- Step Up Pay/Qualifications and Disciplinary Change** – The Commissioners had a long discussion about the removal of the Battalion Chief language from the MOU and modifying the language for disciplinary action.

Comm. Feaster made a motion approving the MOU with Local 4165 with the removal of all language refereeing the Battalion Chief in the MOU and modifying the language for disciplinary action. Comm. Crawford seconded the motion, motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

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**COVID Sick Leave – Non-Union Employees.** - Krystal Hinkle indicated that administration has no coverage for COVID sick leave. She has asked that the Chief, herself, and her employees get some sort of COVID sick leave like other employees in the district.

Comm. Crawford made a motion approving 80 hours of covid sick leave for full time administrative employees, with a percentage reduction based on their hours. Comm. Luther seconded the motion, motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

**Authorization of Setting a Hearing Date to Hear an Appeal by CBH of the Administrator's Decision on Impact Fee Refund Application and Authorizing Notice of Hearing to Property Owners and CBH** – Comm. Crawford made a motion authorizing a hearing date of 9/8/2021 at 1:00pm for the Appeal by CBH and authorizing Krystal to notifying each property owner and CBH. Comm. Feaster seconded the motion, motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

**Commissioner Open Discussion** – Commissioner Crawford indicated there were negative comments on Facebook about the parade and our lack of participation. The attorney recommended that we don't get into discussions on Facebook and make sure our employees aren't engaging in the discussions. If need be, the Chief could post that if the community member has concerns, to please reach out to him directly.

Commissioner Crawford moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Feaster seconded the motion, motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 3:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Krystal Hinkle, District Secretary

Greg McPherson, Chairman