

**San Miguel Consolidated Fire Protection District  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Wednesday, December 9, 2020, 5:30 pm**

***Minutes***

President Raddatz called the tele/videoconference meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

Board Members Present: Directors Ek, McKenna, Nelson, Pomeranz, Raddatz and Vacio

Board Members Absent: None  
*With Division 6 seat not yet appointed by the County of San Diego, motions total 6 votes*

Staff Present: Fire Chief Brainard, Division Chiefs Browning and Marugg, Administrative Officer/Finance Officer Harris, and Administrative Assistant Rians

Approval of Agenda: [By Board Consensus, the agenda was approved.](#)

The Agenda for the Regular Meeting of December 9, 2020 was posted at District Headquarters on Friday, December 4, 2020, at 5:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance: Director Vacio led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Communications: None.

**Swearing in Ceremony, Judge Daniel Lamborn Presiding**

New Director David A. Pomeranz & Re-elected Directors Kim Raddatz and Jeff Nelson

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

[Upon a motion by Director Vacio, second by Director Nelson, and vote \(unanimously in favor\), the Consent Agenda was approved.](#)

1. Approve the Minutes: Regular Meeting of November 10, 2020
2. Approve Board Member Stipend Payments.

**ACTION AGENDA ITEMS**

3. Election of Board Officers – The Board will elect Board Officers pursuant to Board Policy Manual item 2.1.

[Upon a motion by Director Raddatz, second by Director Ek, and vote \(unanimously in favor\), \*\*Director McKenna will serve as Board President.\*\*](#)

[Upon a motion by Director Ek, second by Director Raddatz, and vote \(unanimously in favor\), \*\*Director Nelson will serve as Board Vice President.\*\*](#)

[Upon a motion by Director McKenna, second by Director Nelson, and vote \(unanimously in favor\), \*\*Director Vacio will serve as Board Secretary.\*\*](#)

## INFORMATIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

### 4. **COVID-19 Update**

Chief Brainard shared we have had numerous exposures and numerous tests within San Miguel and the Central Zone, with one new positive case and one individual in isolation. The District continues to practice safety measures to reduce incidents of exposure. Director Nelson asked for an update on expenditures/reimbursements related to COVID-19. No additional funds have been put towards COVID-19 related expenses in the new fiscal year, and all paperwork requested thus far has been completed and provided to OES. Our expenses to date total approximately \$152,000. There is no new information as to when reimbursement will be issued, but the pandemic is still ongoing – we might be able to expect an update once COVID is no longer considered a “State of Emergency.”

### 5. **Reports**

#### a. **Committee Reports**

None

#### b. **Directors’ Reports**

Director Nelson shared that he stopped by Station 16 following the Willow Fire and had a positive visit. He also reflected on former San Miguel Firefighter Wernecke who was considered a LODD.

Director Ek was on Duty during the Willow Fire and stated he was impressed with the calm demeanor over the radio during such a tense situation. Everyone worked together well, could have been much worse. Captains were getting reserve engines geared up to be placed in service.

#### c. **Chief’s Report**

- From the last meeting, no items on Action Plan Recap
- Accounting Specialist Liz Dibb retired December 4<sup>th</sup>, and Division Chief Jim Marugg will be retiring December 30<sup>th</sup>
- Andy Lawler will promote to Division Chief, Stan Milewski will promote to Captain, and promoting to Engineer are Joe Bartucca and Chris Ciampi
- Captain voluntarily reassigned to Engineer
- Training Battalion Chief will be filled with a temporary assignment
- Significant incidents include:
  - Running attic fire, great stop by E19
  - Fully involved commercial structure fire
  - Residential kitchen fire with extension into second story
  - Vegetation fire “Willow Fire” – 1 structure lost, 6 damaged
- Type 3 apparatus from OES arrived today, picked up by Engineer Ruth and Logistics Officer Camarena

Director McKenna stated that she watched the progression of the fire from her home and wanted to express commendation to the community for their efforts in pre-planning for this sort of situation – the result could have been far more catastrophic. In response to her noting helicopters assisting during significant wind, Chief Brainard stated that San Diego can make drops at night if they meet certain criteria, and that conditions allowed for 14 water drops during the Willow Fire.

Director Nelson shared that he saw Willow Fire coverage on the news including an interview with Battalion Chief Lawler. Chief Brainard spoke about our cooperators and the usual practice of the Chief Officer taking command, but Chief Brainard felt most confident with Chief Lawler organizing the significant resources. He also expressed disappointment that we are unable to gather and celebrate retirements in the midst of the COVID pandemic.

Director Raddatz asked about deployments on the OES Type 3 apparatus and how it would affect coverage within the Zone. Chief Brainard does not believe there will be any negative impact on our ability to staff San Miguel or Central Zone.

**d. Association of San Miguel Firefighters Communications**

Captain Jack Grogger Congratulated Directors Raddatz, Nelson and Pomeranz on being elected and re-elected to the Board. Captain Grogger spoke of Read Clark's retirement, which Chief Brainard announced at the last Board Meeting. Captain Fryling refinished the large table at Station 15 – Captain Grogger extended an invitation to the Directors once COVID restrictions are less constraining. Local 1434 extends well wishes to both Chief Marugg and Liz Dibb in their retirements. Lastly, Captain Grogger discussed the new OES apparatus as it relates to staffing and the majority of Local 1434 members opted to take on the Type 3 as the cost savings to the District in delaying the purchase of a new Type 3 is recognized.

**e. Association of San Miguel Chief Officers Communications**

Battalion Chief Durrell congratulated the Directors on their election/re-election. Chief Durrell also spoke about the Willow Fire incident and commended all involved in the firefighting efforts.

**f. Correspondence**

Chief Brainard shared there has been a lot of feedback from the community regarding the Willow Fire. T15 was commended for a response by Captain Shinn, Engineer Zepeda, and FFPM Hurley. Lastly, the District received thanks from the County of San Diego for serving as a ballot collection site.

**g. Action Plan Recap**

None.

President Raddatz adjourned the meeting to Closed Session at 6:19 pm.

**CLOSED SESSION AGENDA ITEMS**

6. Closed Session - Conference With Labor Negotiator (§54957.6)

Agency Negotiators: Attorney Joseph Sanchez  
Directors Ek, McKenna, and Raddatz  
Employee Organization: Association of San Miguel Firefighters IAFF Local 1434

7. Closed Session – Conference With Labor Negotiator (§54957.6)

Agency Negotiators: Attorney Joseph Sanchez  
Directors Ek, McKenna, and Raddatz  
Employee Organization: Chief Officer's Association of San Miguel

8. Closed Session – Conference With Labor Negotiator (§54957.6)

Agency Negotiators: Fire Chief Brainard  
Unrepresented Employees: Division Chief, Deputy Fire Marshal, Administrative Officer/Finance Officer, Administrative Analyst, Accounting Specialist, Administrative Assistant, Fire Inspector(s), Logistics Officer

President Raddatz reconvened the meeting to Open Session at 7:44 pm with staff given direction to bring back a Memorandum of Understanding with the Chief Officers Association (COA) and Unrepresented employees Terms of Employment for approval at the January 2021 Board Meeting.

The next Board Meeting will be held Wednesday, January 13, 2021, 5:30 pm, via Zoom.  
President Raddatz adjourned the meeting at 7:44 pm.

Prepared and Submitted by:

*Shayna Rians*

Board Recording Secretary