

Minutes from the August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Bolinas Fire Protection District Board Meeting, Via Zoom.

Pres. Molesworth called the meeting of the Bolinas Fire Protection District to order at 7:05 P.M. Vice Pres. Kimball and Dir. Torrey were present. Also present: Chief Krakauer, Asst. Chief Marcotte and Administrative Manager Isaac Taylor. Dir. Dunne joined the meeting at 7:19 P.M. Director Martinelli was absent on assignment with CAL FIRE.

Pres. Molesworth asked for unanimous consent to approve the Agenda with the amendment to move items 5a & 5b to the beginning of the meeting. Seeing no objections, the Agenda is approved.

**PUBLIC EXPRESSION**

No additional general public expression.

**CHIEF'S REPORT**

**MERA**

The August MERA meeting was cancelled.

**Chiefs**

Chief Krakauer attended a Chiefs meeting on Thursday, August 19<sup>th</sup>. There were no major updates to report.

**Prevention**

Chief Krakauer discussed District wildfire preparedness and response in item 5d.

**Roads**

Chief Krakauer heard from Marin County DPW that the recently-endorsed parking proposal was approved by the Board of Supervisors, but still needs permits from the California Coastal Commission. Implementation is now expected by winter 2021.

**Inspections**

Firefighters continue to survey private water sources along Horseshoe Hill Road and in other locations outside of the BCPUD water district.

**Grants**

The District continues to await decisions on FEMA Fire Prevention and CalFIRE grant proposals. Final decisions are expected no later than November.

**Training**

Training continues to focus on wildland firefighting, with some structural firefighting tactics.

**Volunteers**

Volunteer Ron Brown will be stepping down from his firefighter role after nearly 25 years of service. The District and Volunteers Association plan to recognize his contributions soon.

A new shipment of Bolinas Fire apparel (shirts & hoodies) is available from the Volunteers Association at the fire station and at Bolinas Market.

Chief Krakauer stated that Fire Safety Day will likely be cancelled due to the recent surge in COVID-19 infections. Pres. Molesworth asked if residents might still be able to get fire extinguishers checked, and Chief Krakauer stated that he is looking into modified fire safety programming for the public.

Planning for the annual Volunteer raffle is underway. A prize list and tickets will be available soon.

### **Apparatus**

Engine 285 had its annual service, and everything went well. Asst. Chief Marcotte confirmed that the tank on our Type 3 engine is still under warranty, and will be sent in for repairs as soon as possible.

### **Disaster Council**

Two Disaster Council vacancies have been filled by new area coordinators for Horseshoe Hill and Terrace Avenue.

Chief Krakauer is planning a Disaster Council study session with Asst. Chief Marcotte and Vice Pres. Kimball to refresh and update information and procedures.

### **Resource Recovery**

The aging loader is still functioning, and the new operator is working out well.

### **Buildings and Grounds**

Hector and Rick dropped off more rocks this week for planned stonework around the fire station flagpole.

### **General Operations/Administration**

Chief Krakauer stated that general operations are focused on COVID-19 and a very active wildfire season.

The Marin County Public Health Officer issued a new Order requiring first responder employers to verify the COVID-19 vaccination status of all employees, and requiring personnel who are not fully vaccinated to undergo weekly testing. The District is in full compliance with this Order.

Chief Krakauer, Marin County Fire Chief Weber, Stinson Beach Fire Chief Peri, and Director Martinelli met earlier this month to explore opportunities to expand coverage of ambulance Medic 97, which is currently operated out of Stinson Beach from approximately Memorial Day to Labor Day during the day. With increased visitation throughout the year, the goal is to expand the ambulance service to year-round 9am – 7pm. The group will be reaching out to county, state, and federal agencies for possible support, as the ambulance serves all of these jurisdictions. Another meeting is planned for September. Having Medic 97 in Stinson Beach is a tremendous help to both districts for both medical and nonmedical local calls.

The District is waiting to hear back from Verizon regarding a new contract for their cellular tower lease set to expire in January 2022.

The District is working with Marin LAFCo as they conduct their latest municipal service review.

Isaac Taylor is working with CalPERS to amend our contract to add a Miscellaneous employee category. After an actuarial valuation, expected to take 60-90 days, the contract amendment will need to be approved by the District board.

### **Personnel**

Chief Krakauer continues to hold one-on-one meetings with volunteers to check in and setup annual goals. The newest resident firefighter applicant is a paramedic and Firefighter I from Mill Valley looking for firsthand experience. The resident firefighter position is a volunteer 24-hour shift. Typically, these are new firefighters looking for experience, who often live outside the District. Currently we have two residents. These volunteers help augment our staffing capacity.

While the District added one new local volunteer last month, we have also lost two volunteers. Chief Krakauer gave total staffing numbers as: 16 local volunteers, 4 part-time employees, and 3 full-time employees, for a total of 23 personnel. Chief Krakauer stated that approximately 8 staff are certified as EMT or above, and approximately 3 staff have some Spanish language skills.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

#### **Discussion – Introducing Stinson Beach Fire Chief Jesse Peri**

Fire Chief Jessie Peri introduced himself to the board, detailing his 13 years of experience with the Stinson Beach Fire Protection District and background as a lifeguard, paramedic, and lifelong Stinson Beach resident. Vice President Kimball and Chief Peri both commended former Stinson Beach Fire Chief Kenny Stevens and former Bolinas Fire Chief Anita Tyrell-Brown for their years of leadership, education, and collaboration, and noted the ongoing positive working relationship between Chiefs Krakauer and Peri and our two districts.

President Molesworth asked Chief Peri how the Board of Directors could be helpful to he and the Stinson Beach Fire Protection District. Chief Peri recommended regular meetings with the Chiefs and Boards of Directors, to promote further partnership and cooperation as opportunities arise. Director Torrey and Vice President Kimball both shared their support for this idea and for further cooperation on common challenges like staffing and lack of firefighter housing. Vice President Kimball also noted the fortune of both Bolinas and Stinson Beach for hiring highly qualified, lifelong local residents for the Fire Chief position.

#### **Discussion – Update on BCLT Interagency Mobile Trailer Project**

Chief Krakauer reported that he met with representatives from the BCLT, Mesa Park and BCPUD earlier this month for a site walk related to the proposed portable office trailer project on Mesa Park's parking lot. He introduced Annie O'Connor for a more detailed update on the project.

Annie O'Connor shared brief updates on the project, which is running behind earlier projections. She shared BCLT's appreciation for the time and support of the BCPUD during their planning process. Currently, BCLT is utilizing the fire station Community Meeting Room for limited hours, allowing them to return to in-person work after being displaced from the Waterhouse Building. Vice President Kimball expressed his strong preference to make BCLT's mobile trailer project agreement work.

Annie also mentioned an upcoming meeting hosted by the County of Marin, regarding the idea of having a dedicated social worker for Bolinas.

Director Torrey, Pres. Molesworth and Vice Pres. Kimball indicated their desire to stay informed about any updates on the project plan. Chief Krakauer and the Board thanked Annie O'Connor for her report.

### **Discussion – District Wildfire Preparedness and Response**

Chief Krakauer, Vice Pres. Kimball, Director Martinelli, and Asst. Chief Marcotte spoke with Thomas Maiorana of UC Davis about the evacuation simulation the District has been collaborating on with he and UC Berkeley. With the grant unfunded, it was decided that the current version of the simulation is not ready to be rolled out to the community, so the collaboration is currently on hold pending possible future funding opportunities.

Chief Krakauer and Tom Jordan from Marin OES also had a separate Zoom meeting with researchers from the UC Berkeley project and shared details about MCSO's AlertMarin and evacuation process. Discussion on a new platform called Zonehaven that will be rolled out to the public soon was also discussed.

The District's most recent Chipper Day on August 7 went well, and there is a FIRESafe Marin Chipper Day starting August 30<sup>th</sup>. The District is offering two additional Chipper Days on September 25<sup>th</sup> and October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Space for these final dates is limited. Chief Krakauer stated that the program has been a huge success.

Our program surveying vacant lots for defensible space compliance and issuing letters has resulted in a response rate of approximately 23%, with many owners starting and completing significant defensible space clearing. Vice Pres. Kimball noted the decades of deferred maintenance, and while the District considers this initial effort a success, it is expected to be a long-term public outreach project to increase compliance with defensible space requirements.

Chief Krakauer also met with Mia Monroe to survey several monarch butterfly overwintering sites, to help the District ensure these important habitats remain undisturbed. Don Murch also met with MWPA environmental consultants, to ensure proper wildlife precautions in advance of conducting roadside mowing on behalf of the District.

Chief Krakauer spoke with Kathleen Cutter, a lead coordinator for Marin County Fire's defensible space evaluators. At this time we believe most or all of Bolinas can be evaluated, although County Fire estimates this work will not begin until late September at the earliest.

At the request of the BCPUD, Chief Krakauer is looking into the District sponsoring mowing and eucalyptus grove maintenance on the BCPUD grounds surrounding the sewer ponds.

Chief Krakauer and Isaac Taylor are developing a postcard on evacuation to distribute this fire season.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

MSC Kimball/Dunne (unan.) to approve the Consent Calendar.

## **BOARD MEMBER REPORT**

Vice Pres. Kimball shared that it was announced at the latest MWPA board meeting that information on the evacuation information platform Zonehaven would be distributed to the Marin community in the near future.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Human Resources Committee – Dir. Torrey shared that the HR Committee has initiated a “360” performance review for Chief Krakauer.

Finance Committee – No update.

## **PERSONNEL MATTERS**

None.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

None.

## **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

None.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Pres. Molesworth asked for unanimous consent to adjourn the meeting. Seeing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 8:26 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Isaac Taylor  
Administrative Manager

Note: Minutes of all Board meetings are available for review at the Bolinas Library and on the District’s website.