

Minutes from the October 22, 2018, Bolinas Fire Protection District Board Meeting

Pres. Kimball called the regular meeting of the Bolinas Fire Protection District to order at 7:00PM. Dir. Gade, Dir. Shaw and Dir. Martinelli (arrived at 7:05) were present. Also present: Chief Brown, Administrative Assistant Cadance Lynam, and Captain Krakauer.

MSC Gade/Shaw (unan.) to approve the agenda with an additional action item. Action Item #3, A Discussion to Approve Needed Repairs to the Roof Flashing around Solar Tubes.

CHIEF'S REPORT

NERA

Chief Brown attended the September 26th Governing Board meeting. The early radio order has been received; Bolinas has two new radios to work with. NERA staff met to review budget projections which were reviewed with the Governing Board. NERA staff presented proposals for change orders on a variety of contract and technical issues. The Board will further discuss the items at the October 24th meeting. The draft SEIR is expected to be completed and open for public review in November.

Prevention

Chief Brown has spoken to several residents about the department's neighborhood roadside vegetation removal program. They are working on speaking with their neighbors about the work.

Roads

The BCPUD Roads Committee and BFPD staff will be meeting again on November 14th to continue discussing moving forward with addressing encroachments into the public rights-of-ways.

The Marin County Board of Supervisors will be holding their first hearing on October 30th to consider extending enforcements of the Vehicle Code to the non-County maintained roads open for public use within Bolinas. Due to scheduling conflicts, neither Chief Brown nor Jennifer Blackman will be able to attend.

Inspections

7 Schipper Ln. – 4291

435 – Birch Rd. – 4291

Planning

Ongoing-

20 Nymph Road – Demolish existing residence, new construction

324 Ocean Parkway – Addition

350 Fern – Studio addition

415 Yucca – Legalize Second Unit

380 Larch Road – New septic system, habitat restoration

210 Laurel – Legalize second unit

350 Lauff Ranch Rd. – Legalize multiple structures

120 Horseshoe Hill Rd – Addition, remodel

10 Olema-Bolinas Rd – Second Unit

370 Overlook – Remodel, addition of 2nd unit

12 Olema-Bolinas Road – 2nd Unit

105 Wharf Road – Second Unit

46 Horseshoe Hill Rd – Addition/ Remodel

190 Ocean Parkway – Remodel

New

None

Grants

None.

Training

Recent training has focused on engineering, securing utilities, and hazardous material responses.

Volunteers

The Annual Fire Safety Day was held on Sunday, October 21st. A relatively small turn out but everyone had a great time.

Apparatus

No Update.

Disaster Council

As a follow up from last month's meeting, Dir. Shaw spoke about receiving an alert on her phone while she was in Colorado. The alert included text and a loud audible signal. Chief Brown followed up with Marin County OES regarding these alerts and why they are not used by AlertMarin. These alerts are known as Wireless Emergency Alerts, (WEA) and are sent by authorized government agencies. Tom Jordan, Marin County OES said they are currently finishing a fact sheet for the public as they get quite a few inquiries about these types of alerts. The County does have WEA capability but they cannot pin point geographic areas like neighborhoods or even towns since the alerts are sent through a particular cell tower and targets anyone within that area. They would use WEA's during a large incident where they would not be concerned with "bleed over" into unaffected communities. For geographically contained incidents, such as the Gridded Mesa, the traditional "reverse 9-1-1" option is the best.

Asst. Chief Marcotte participated in the most recent CERT class held on October 13th and 20th by teaching the Disaster First Aid portion. Thirty two students participated in the class now being held in Pt. Reyes at the former Coast Guard base.

Steve is also working with Red Cross to update our emergency shelter information and preparedness as well as speaking and meeting with our Area Coordinators.

Beth Carusillo has preliminarily agreed to come back and help us with Disaster Council public outreach.

The Great California Shake Out took place on October 18th. We took the opportunity to review the stations procedures during and after an earthquake. We then went to the school to observe their earthquake drill and evacuation. All went very well.

Resource Recovery

Chief Brown attended the regular meeting held on October 1st. Items discussed included the need for a new loader, a recent inspection by Marin County Environmental, they had a few concerns and will forward a report, and an inspection by Marin County Flood Control where no concerns were noted. The next meeting will be held on December 3rd.

Building and Grounds

Update later in meeting.

General Operations/Administration

Chief Brown failed to mention at last month's meeting that the new phone system, IP Flex, and internet service for the station has been activated. Our internet speed has increased from approximately 2.5 mbps to 50 mbps, we have seen a great improvement. In addition, our monthly phone bills should be less expensive. We have received one bill since activation; we are researching the cost breakdown.

There is no update on the request from AT&T to modify their tower.

Chief Brown continues to help educate various groups on the impacts to the West Marin Fire Departments if Measure W were to pass. She will be attending meetings in Muir Beach and Tomales in the next few weeks.

The department ladders received their bi-annual safety testing, no concerns were noted.

With the help of Dir. Kimball, a full inspection of the District's PV system was conducted by American Solar on October 9th. The system is in very good shape, the only issue noted was the need to clean the panels in order to maintain optimal production. Capt. Krakauer was able to devise a system to clean the firehouse panels. We noted an increase in production immediately. He will try to get to the clinic's panels in the next few weeks.

Chief Brown and Dir. Shaw attended a presentation by Peter Asmus and industry experts on Microgrids, on October 18th. It was very informative.

Batteries are another way to provide stored power to run PV systems during extended power outages. Cost for batteries and their installation is expected to continue to decrease. The District should continue to keep informed on the

possibility of purchasing battery backup in the event of extended power outages, those with the potential to last beyond two weeks. Agreeable, a low occurrence, high risk scenario.

The annual leak testing of the District gas and diesel tank was conducted. While the test went well, the technicians noted that our tank is in serious need of some work including crack repair and painting. Convault, the tank manufacturer, offers a lifetime warranty of the tank but only if it is maintained appropriately. A new tank costs around \$40,000. Chief Brown received a quote for the work, \$8,600, which will be shared by all four agencies that use the tank.

Surfers' Overlook Repair/Terrace Avenue

No Update.

Personnel

We have two new Resident firefighters working with us on the weekends. One is a volunteer with Inverness FD and will start this Saturday. Our Seasonal Firefighter position will be ending at the end of October. Lucas Lind-White returned to college at the end of September but Miles Grisman has continued to work. They both have been excellent additions to the staff.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Action Item #1 – Supporting the Marin County Resolution Approving the Vehicle Code Enforcement on Non-County Maintained or Private Roads Open for Public Use Within Bolinas.

As reported at the September meeting, the Sheriff's Office has enforced vehicle code on all of the roads in Bolinas for decades. It has been in the last year or so that they determined they could not enforce on the non-County maintained roads which has led to many complaints from residents and problems for the Fire Department including abandoned vehicles and vehicles blocking access/egress. Last year, Jennifer Blackman and Chief Brown met with Sup. Rodoni and representatives from Marin County Counsel's office as well as the Sheriff's Office and the County Department of Public Works to discuss a resolution to the situation. It was decided that County Counsel would draft an ordinance for consideration by the Board of Supervisors that would allow the Sheriff's office to continue enforcement of vehicle code on the non-County maintained roads.

Chief Brown attended the Deputy Zoning Administration meeting held on September 27th where the Department of Public Works presented their application for Coastal Permit approval of the ordinance. Jennifer Blackman, several residents and Chief Brown spoke about the issue at the hearing. The permit was approved. The next steps will be two hearings before the Marin County Board of Supervisors seeking consideration and approval of the resolution. The first hearing is scheduled for October 30, 2018.

MSC Shaw/Gade (unan.) to Express Support to the Marin County Board of Supervisors for the Marin County Resolution Approving the Vehicle Code

Enforcement on Non-County or Private Roads open for Public Use within Bolinas.

Action Item #2 – Changing the Date of the November Regular Board Meeting from November 26th to November 19th.

MSC Gade/Martinelli (unan.) to change the Regular Board Meeting Date to November 19th.

Action Item #3- Discussion to Approve Needed Repairs to the Flashing Around the Solar Tubes at the Fire Station.

Chief Brown has been working to have the needed repairs done to the rusted flashing at the base of the five Solatubes located on the fire house roof, Capt. Pete Smith, who has completed quite a bit of work over the years for the District, has provided an estimate for the work. After speaking with County Counsel, it was determined that the District can choose to move ahead with Pete based upon the anticipated costs of the repair work and upon our existing working relationship with him.

The Board expressed that if possible, it would be best to pursue several more estimates for the work to ensure we have done our due diligence.

Chief Brown agreed, however, mentioned that we also have time constraints as the rusting is severe and rain is a possibility in mid November. The repairs to the flashing should be finished before the rain starts up again. After more discussion, it was determined that a committee consisting of Dir. Martinelli, Dir. Shaw, Capt. Krakauer and Chief Brown would be formed to pursue additional estimates for the work and would be given authority to approve the most appropriate estimate.

MSC Shaw/Gade (unan.) to Grant Chief Brown, Capt. Krakauer, Dir. Martinelli and Dir. Shaw Delegated Authority to Select a Contractor for the Replacement of the Flashing Around the SolaTubes at the Fire Station.

CONSENT CALENDAR

MSC Gade/Martinelli (unan.) to approve the Consent Calendar.

PUBLIC EXPRESSION

None.

BOARD MEMBER REPORT

No Update.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Updates from Finance and Budget, Personnel, Building and Grounds and Operational Working Group.

Finance Committee – The Finance Committee is still waiting for draft audited financials.

Personnel Committee – No update.

Buildings and Grounds – Updated earlier in the meeting.

Operations Working Group – A phone call was received last week that the new U219 should be delivered soon. The existing U219 will have to be stripped of its old equipment and U231 will be used for a short time until U219 is finished.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENT

None.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Dir. Martinelli mentioned he received a phone call from a reporter asking about his position as a Board member and his lack of pay as such. He said it was a very brief call and he explained that the Director's receive no form of compensation for their work.

ADJOURNMENT

MSC –Shaw/Gade (unan.) to adjourn at 8:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cadance Lynam
Administrative Assistant

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