

**Board of Directors  
Rodeo Hercules Fire Protection District  
Board Meeting Minutes  
August 10, 2016**

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Chairperson Wheeler called the meeting to order at 6:53 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Prather, Wheeler, Gabriel, Williams (arrived at 7:00 p.m.), Thorpe (arrived at 7:03 p.m.)

DIRECTORS ABSENT:

None.

OTHERS PRESENT:

B. Craig, R. Pio Roda, K. Corcoran, members of the public, members of RHFD.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (00:40)**

**3. ANNOUNCEMENTS (00:59)**

Closed session announcements from Counsel.

**4. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION (1:38)**

Adjourned to closed session at 6:55 p.m.

**5. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION/CLOSED SESSION REPORT OUT (0:10)**

Meeting reconvened in open session at 7:17 p.m.

No reportable action, Direction provided to labor negotiator on items A and C.

**6. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA (00:34)**

Chair Wheeler would like to reverse items 10 and 11 and have MRG give their presentation first, followed by Lew Edwards research group.

**7. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE (1:43)**

None.

## 8. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS (1:55)

### **Public Comment**

Teagan Clive—comment regarding Rodeo block party on Saturday 10a-5p. Would like Chief Craig to attend to RMAC meeting.

## 9. CONSENT CALENDAR (4:15)

Chair Wheeler discussed warrants.

- A. Approval of Meeting Minutes of the July 13, 2016 Regular Meeting
- B. Review of Warrants

Director Prather makes motion to approve consent calendar, seconded by Director Gabriel. All in favor.

## 10. PRESENTATION FROM MIKE OLIVER REGARDING STATUS OF FINANCIAL REPORT (5:45)

Mike Oliver and Tom Sinclair gave presentation regarding Financial report and recommendations for the District; answered questions from Board members

Directors thanked Mike Oliver and Tom Sinclair for their work and preparation of report.

Chairperson Wheeler would like to see the ad hoc committee kept in place.

### **Public Comment**

Teagan Clive-Had questions regarding number of sworn firefighters. Commented regarding how much refinery, Hercules, and Rodeo were paying into District. Would like to see numbers. Pushed for parcel tax, doesn't believe it will pass, nothing done to cut expenses. Wanted clarification in the cost difference of keeping two stations open.

Mike Oliver clarified the difference of cost between running one station and two.

Vince Wells—President of Local 1230. commented regarding report. Commented regarding staffing levels-expectation is there is always three firefighters on an engine. In other cities, staffing on fire engine is four, trucks run with five, we are at a minimum. Addressed comments from Teagan Clive regarding how much each city pays for. Need to make more budget cuts, have to ask Mike Oliver whether other areas that could be cut or excessive spending in one particular area that has ability to pay for firefighters, it is about inadequate level of revenue, not about overspending or mismanagement of funds.

Wing Lok-Community Advisory Panel. Report comprehensive, believes he can tell citizens where District is at and where it could be. District needs to take control of this situation, needs to provide level of service the citizens of Hercules and Rodeo deserve.

Director Prather commented regarding staffing and response. Any thought of closing Rodeo station, not going to get Rodeo's votes. District needs smaller multipurpose vehicle, something to improve response time

Directors thanked Mike Oliver and team for work and preparation of report.

Chief Craig thanked Mike Oliver and his team for their work in preparing report.

**11. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION ON LOCAL FIRE PROTECTION/EMERGENCY SERVICE COMMUNITY PRIORITIES AND FINANCIAL STABILITY SURVEY-FM3 RESEARCH (0:25)**

Catherine McGuire and Curt Below present results of Fire District survey regarding possible parcel tax polling results.

Answered questions from Board regarding results.

Director Prather commented regarding outreach to the community for support.

Board thanked Lew Edwards Group and FM3 Research for their work.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Patty O Day**—100% in support this bond measure, fire department important to community. Member of Contra Costa Taxpayers Association, want taxes cut, but this tax is important. Under impression that it's not guaranteed that if a station closes it would be the Rodeo station. Question regarding how many seniors get exemptions. What are board members allowed to do as far as campaigning.

Counsel clarifies District cannot support measure, but can provide fair and impartial information, authorization or appropriation of monies to provide funds towards informational campaign. Clarified what Board can and cannot do.

**Teagan Clive**-Impressed with poll, was one interviewed. Had questions regarding results of the poll.

Curt Below answered some questions regarding poll.

**Paul Freeze**—Felt there are flaws in this measure that may come out during election. Many ballot measures this election. Need to show what's been done to increase revenue.

**Sue Pricco**—Member of Contra Costa County Taxpayers Association. Stressed the need for a sunset clause on any new parcel tax.

Wing Lok—Hoped that response time would improve if tax measure passed. Commented regarding fire insurance rates if level of service is not at a nationally recognized level. Question regarding wording of poll and responses.

Curt Below responded to public comment wording chosen explain difference there. Wording superseded difference bent.

Board comments regarding presentation.  
Staff to email District PDF of presentation.

**12. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION PLACING A LOCAL FIRE PROTECTION/EMERGENCY SERVICES SPECIAL TAX FUNDING REPLACEMENT ON THE NOVEMBER 8, 2016 BALLOT (47:11)**

Resolution and Ordinance to place measure on ballot.

- A. DISCUSSION AND POSSOIBLE ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. 2016-4, A RESOLUTION OF THE RODEO HERCULES FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT CALLING AN ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 8, 2016, FOR VOTER CONSIDERATION OF A LOCAL FIRE PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY SERVICES SPECIAL TAX FUNDING REPLACEMENT ORDINANCE, FOR THE CONTINUED MAINTENANCE OF LOCAL FIRE PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES;**
- B. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ORDINANCE NO. 2016-1, AN ORDINANCE OF THE RODEO HERCULES FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TO AUTHORIZE THE LEVY OF A LOCAL FIRE PROTECT**

Counsel clarifies underlined language this may be different from what was received. Language was added.

Director Gabriel makes motion for approval of Resolution and Ordinance, seconded by Director Williams.

ROLL CALL VOTE

PRATHER-AYE  
GABRIEL-AYE  
WHEELER-AYE  
WILLIAMS-AYE  
THORPE-AYE

5-0 unanimous vote.

**C. Supplemental Contract**

Chief Craig presents amended contract for continued services from Lew Edwards Group.

Director Gabriel got clarification regarding the amounts.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Teagan Clive**—comments regarding costs and polling.

Catherine McGuire comments regarding polling.

Chair Wheeler commented regarding costs.

Board members commented regarding additional services, and costs.

Director Williams makes motion to approve amendment to additional contract, seconded by Director Gabriel.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

PRATHER-AYE

GABRIEL-AYE

WHEELER-AYE

WILLIAMS-AYE

THORPE-AYE

5-0 unanimous vote.

**13. APPROPRIATIONS LIMIT (1:04:40)**

Chief Craig gave report on appropriations limit. Required by law. Limit is set by the state based on a calculation.

Motion to approve appropriations limitation by Director Williams; seconded by Director Prather. All in favor, motion passes unanimously.

**14. REVIEW AND APPROVE OR REVIEW AND PROVIDE FURTHER DIRECTION ON PROPOSED EDITS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' RULES & PROCEDURES (1:06:55)**

Counsel discusses redlined proposed policies and procedures for review, explained changes made.

Chair Wheeler would like to table to ad hoc committee to make final changes for final approval.

Would like to bring back in September.

**15. FIRE CHIEFS REPORT (1:11:48)**

Fire Chief's report incorporated herein and attached as part of these minutes.

**Public comment**

**Teagan Clive**-sought clarification regarding incident log in Fire Chief's report.

**16. STAFF REPORTS (1:12:05)**

Board Clerk gave reminder that there is now a timestamp on the minutes that reflect where item is on audio.

**17. BOARD REPORTS (1:15:08)**

**A. Board member reports**

Director Wheeler- reminder that the Fire Commissioner Directors Association meeting is in September.

**18. AD HOC BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS (1:16:27)**

- a. Policies and Procedures ad hoc committee-tabled.
- b. Live Broadcast ad hoc committee—nothing to report.
- c. Fire Chief Search ad hoc committee-on hold
- d. Contra Costa fire Contract ad hoc committee-Draft complete, to bring back to ad hoc.
- e. Budget ad hoc committee-will be setting up to work with staff.
- f. Rfp ad hoc committee -none

**19. LOCAL 1230 (1:17:43)**

**Jerry Short—Local 1230.** Thanked board for unanimous vote. Hopes for a successfully run campaign.

**20. REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (1:18:37)**

Director Gabriel would like to look at outside firms to review budget every quarter. Chief Craig clarified that he has discussed pricing for a contract with Mike Oliver's group.

Director Wheeler would like to see record retention brought back at some point.

Director Wheeler would like an item to terminate the additional staff hours put in place.

**21. ADJOURNMENT (1:21:21)**

Meeting adjourned at 9:53 p.m.

Audio from this board meeting can be heard at <http://rhfd.org/board-meetings/>

\*Number in parenthesis is time stamp on audio where agenda item begins.



Andrew Gabriel, Board Secretary