CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2008

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners convened at 9:08 a.m. in the Fire Commission Meeting Room, City Hall East, 200 N. Main Street, Los Angeles.

Present: President Genethia Hudley-Hayes, Vice President Casimiro Tolentino, Commissioners Diana Bontá, Andrew Friedman and Jill Furillo. Fire Chief Douglas Barry and Assistant City Attorney Carlos De La Guerra.

The flag salute was followed by a moment of silence in honor of past and present members of the Los Angeles Fire Department who devote their lives to the protection of the community.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT
None.

2. COMMISSION BUSINESS

A. Announcements/Meetings/Events.
Considered jointly with Item 3.B.

3. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Events/Meetings/Announcements:
Considered jointly with Item 3.B.

B. [BFC 08-177] – Calendar of Events.
Recommendation: Receive and File
Items 2.A., 3.A. and 3.B. considered jointly. Fire Chief Barry reported having attended the Chief Officer's training, which focused on disciplinary procedures and the complaint tracking system. He reported on the November 20th recruit graduation at Drill Tower 81, the November 26 disaster management initiative press conference and the Sayre Fire burnt-area-tour given to the Board. The December events were announced. President Hudley-Hayes thanked Fire Chief Barry and Deputy Chief Rueda for the instructive tour of the Sayre burnt areas. She explained how the visual tour helped the Board's perspective of the Department's operational budget needs. The matter was opened for discussion.

C. Significant Incidents/Activities:
1. Verbal report - Significant Incidents/Activities for the period of November 27 through December 2, 2008.
Deputy Chief Rueda, Bureau of Emergency Services, reported on deployment preparations to handle rain related emergencies. He reported on a suspicious car-fire incident that is under investigation by the Joint Terrorists Task Force.

2. [BFC 08-182] - Significant Incident Summary report for the period of November 3 through November 17, 2008.
Recommendation: Receive and File
The report was received and filed.
D. Verbal report on the disposition of LAFD matters considered by or referred to City Council/Committees during the period of November 19 through December 2, 2008.  

Recommendation: That the Board provides instruction to staff and adopts any necessary action relative to the LAFD matters considered by or referred to City Council/Committee during the reporting period.

Assistant Chief Yamahata reported that the Sayre Fire issues were discussed at a joint Council committee meeting and a Motion was introduced to address mobile home fire safety. He reported that the Charter provision for the Board’s Independent Assessor position is moving forward for placement on the March ballot. The CAO’s proposed budget reduction recommendations include funding reduction of 18 EMS captain positions. He will continue to work with the CAO to resolve the funding issues and Chief Barry will meet with Councilmember Parks. Discussion ensued on the importance of the EMS captain positions. The Board requested that a thorough report be provided at a subsequent meeting on fire safety and public health issues regarding the Sayre Fire. The report should include, the County and Health Department’s plans for addressing health and safety issues, the availability of City and County resources for the high-fire areas and information on the State architectural committee’s proposed development changes and mobile home rebuilding guidelines.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. Verbal status report and consideration of the Department’s strategic implementation plan - indicators of progress/measures of success and reforms.  

Recommendation: That the Board provides instruction to staff and adopts the necessary action relative to the Department’s plan for reform.

Chief Barry provided an overview of the Department’s progress and discussed relevant information with the Board. Chief Fox reported on the proposed leadership-training program and HR component; a detail report will be forwarded to the Board. Vice President Tolentino requested that the report be forward to HRDC/Personnel Committee for review prior to forwarding to the Board.

B. [BFC 08-151/08-181] – Professional Standards Division response to October 8, 2008 correspondence from the Fire Commission relative to Audit Implementation Plan issues.  

Recommendation: That the Board provides instruction to staff and adopts the necessary action relative to the Department’s report.

Assistant Chief Terrazas discussed the report with the Board. President Hudley-Hayes indicated that she was pleased with the report because it clearly provides insight into the Department’s needs for additional personnel and resources. She recommended the report be forwarded to all Council offices. The matter was opened for discussion. MOTION (Tolentino/Furillo): That the Department forwards the report with a cover letter to the Council’s Joint Committee for their information. ADOPTED: AYES - 5  NAYS – 0  

MOTION (Friedman/Furillo): That the letter be drafted by the Department staff and submitted to the President of the Commission for her approval and signature before it is sent out. ADOPTED: AYES - 5  NAYS – 0
5. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. [BFC 08-178] – Spot-Check and Film Safety Officer Fees - proposed modification of fees:
   1. Amend the Los Angeles Municipal Code (L.A.M.C.), Chapter 5, Article 7, for collection, review and fee calculation of Spot Check and Film Safety Officer fees (refer to report for complete details);
   2. Increase fee from $85 per film permit to $65 per filming location;
   3. Modify the Uniformed Fire Safety Officer/Film Safety Officer Fees; increase to $77 per hour.

   **Recommendation:** That the Board approves the report and recommendations.

   Report withdrawn.

B. Verbal status report and consideration of any related recommendations for ordinance or policy changes that may be necessary in response to the Syre Fire, incident date November 14, 2008.

   Item considered jointly with 3.D.

6. **CONSENT ITEMS**

   **MOTION** (Furillo/Friedman): That the Board adopts the Consent Items as recommended.

   **ADOPTED:** AYES - 5  NAYS – 0

   A. [BFC 08-173] - Fire Department - Fiscal Year 2008-09 Annual Organization Chart

      **Recommendation:** That the Board approves the report and recommendations.

      ACTION: Approved.

   B. [BFC 08-179] - Request for authorization to renew the El Camino Community College District Agreement for Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic Training and Instruction Program.

      **Recommendation:** That the Board approves the report and recommendations.

      ACTION: Approved.


      **Recommendation:** Receive and File

      ACTION: Received and Filed.

7. **ITEMS CALLED SPECIAL**

   None.

8. **REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

   • Sayre Fire Task Force findings and recommendations.
9. **ADJOURNMENT**
The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m. (Friedman/Tolentino)

ATTEST BY:

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GENETHIA HUDLEY-HAYES   BLANCA GOMEZ-REVELLES
President      Commission Executive Assistant II

Date:   January 22, 2009

Note:  Actions of the Board shall become final at the expiration of the next five meeting days of the City Council during which the Council has convened in regular session, unless the Council acts within that time by two-thirds vote to bring the action before it or to waive review of the action.