

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2009

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners convened at 9:04 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. Interim Fire Chief Millage Peaks and Deputy City Attorney Janet Jackson.

The flag salute was followed by a moment of silence in honor of Los Angeles County Firefighters Arnaldo "Arnie" Quinones and Tedmund "Ted" Hall who tragically lost their lives in the line of duty on Sunday, August 30, 2009, fighting the Station Fire

The Board congratulated Chief Peaks on his appointment to Fire Chief.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT– Non-agenda items within jurisdiction of the Board.

Mrs. Chris Mattson regarding substance abuse policy.

Mr. Donald Loze, Benedict Canyon Association/Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council, regarding the DWP Mandatory Water Conservation Program and need for exemption for high fire hazard areas.

Mr. Troy Westbrook, Stentorians, regarding support for Chief Peaks' appointment.

Mrs. Patricia Hearst regarding high fire hazard area access and DWP Mandatory Water Conservation Program.

2. COMMISSION BUSINESS

A. Approval of Minutes - regular meeting of May 19, 2009 [BFC 09-091].

B. Approval of Minutes - regular meeting of June 16, 2009 [BFC 09-092].

Items 2.A. and B. considered jointly. **MOTION** (Friedman/Tolentino): That the Board approves the minutes as submitted. **ADOPTED:** AYES – 5

C. Consideration of the Board meeting schedule for the remainder of 2009.

MOTION (Friedman/Bontá): That the Board meets once a month through December and add meetings as necessary, the request of a Commissioner or Fire Chief, with proper notice.

ADOPTED: AYES – 5

D. Board of Fire Commissioners 2009-10 Election of Officers:

1. Election of Board President

Commissioner Friedman nominated Commissioner Hudley-Hayes for Board President, Commission Furillo second the nomination. There were no additional nominations. Commissioner Hudley-Hayes was elected President by a unanimous vote. **ADOPTED:** AYES: 5

2. Election of Board Vice President

Commisisoner Furillo nominated Commissioner Tolentino for Board Vice President. Commission Bontá second the nomination. There were no additional nominations. Commissioner Tolentino was elected Vice President by a unanimous vote. **ADOPTED:** AYES: 5

E. Announcements/Meetings/Events

Considered jointly with Item 3.B.

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2009

3. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

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

B. [BFC 09-063] – Calendar of Events.
Recommendation: Receive and File
Items 2.B., 3.A. and 3.B. considered jointly. Chief Peaks reported on past and upcoming events including the memorial service for two L. A. County firefighters.

C. Significant Incidents/Activities:
1. Verbal report - Significant Incidents/Activities for the period of August 31 through September 1, 2009.
Chief Rueda reported on resources committed to assist with the Station Fire and predeployment measures in anticipation of potential brush fires. At the request of President Hudley-Hayes, he provided an overview on mutual aide procedure. Discussion ensued on low media coverage of the fire and area evacuations. The Board requested that every assertive effort is made to work with the media so they provide emergency public announcements and broadcast emergency information. Chief Peaks discussed the modified coverage plan suspension procedure to manage incidents such as the brush fire and unanticipated use of funding. President Hudley-Hayes said she would work with the Fire Chief in an attempt to restore the Department's funding used for unanticipated emergencies.

2. [BFC 09-104] - Significant Incident Summary report for the period of July 5 through August 24, 2009.
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 July 22 through September 1, 2009.
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.
Chief Deputy Mack provided an overview of the LAFD Modified Coverage Plan (MCP) and budget deficit presentation given to Council. The Board instructed that the MCP be a standing item on the agenda and an impact report be provided. The report should include response time data, effect of loss of EMS Captain positions, budget and public safety issues, influenza/staffing planning. Discussion on the need to forward an analysis of the MCP and strategic plan to Council was entertained. President Hudley-Hayes requested that Bea Lopez work with Department staff to compile the necessary report information.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. Verbal update on the Fire Independent Assessor selection process.
Recommendation: That the Board provide direction and adopts any necessary action relative to the hiring of the Fire Independent Assessor.
President Hudley-Hayes provided an overview of the interview and selection process; she introduced Stephen Miller, the selected candidate. Mr. Miller shared his background and experience qualifications.

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2009

B. Verbal update on Fire Department Budget Fiscal Year 2009-10. Salvador Martinez, Chief Management Analyst, provided a status report on the Department's budget shortfall and impact on civilian positions. Discussion ensued on the need for a cost analysis to determine the revenue loss, service reduction resulting from furloughs and vacant civilian positions.

C. Verbal update on the implementation of recommendations of the Los Angeles Fire Department Arson Counter Terrorism Section Audit conducted by the Los Angeles Police Department, Audit Division (January 2009 - BFC 09-036).

Recommendation: That the Board provides instruction to staff and adopts necessary action relative to the audit-

Deputy Chief Rueda, Bureau of Emergency Services and Deputy Chief Thompson, Emergency Operations, discussed the implementation progress made thus far and process with the Board. A written report will be submitted for consideration at the next meeting.

D. Consideration of City policy compliance relative to the LAFD Explorer Program annual re-charter activities with Learning for Life. (Continued from June 16, 2009).

Recommendation: That the Board provides instruction to staff and adopts any necessary action relative to services, programs and association with Learning for Life, other organizations, entities or affiliates to ensure that LAFD programs and services are in compliance with City policy.

E. [BFC 09-103] – Fire Department Youth Development Program – Learning for Life Service provider transition report.

Recommendation: That the Board approves the report and recommendations.

Items 4.D and E. considered jointly.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Tom Anderson, Board Member, Learning for Life and David Tomblin, President, Learning for Life, commented on their Agency's program and policies; they expressed desire to continue providing Exploring Program services to the Department.

Deputy City Attorney Jackson reported that she discussed the issue with the City Attorney's Chief of Staff; a legal opinion will be provided in two weeks. She requested that the matter be continued without action until the Municipal Division Sr. Assistant Attorney provides the legal opinion. David Michael, Chief Assistant City Attorney and John Reamer, Bureau Director, Bureau of Contract Administration, discussed the procedure and work involved in providing the legal opinion. **MOTION** (Furillo/Bontá): That the Board continues items D and E. **ADOPTED:** AYES - 5

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. [BFC 09-094] – Proposed charge of fees for Aboveground Storage Tanks and modification the method of charging fees for Hazardous Materials under the Unified Program Facility Permit.

Recommendation: That the Board approves the report and recommendations.

MOTION (Furillo/Bontá): That the Board approves the report as recommended. **ADOPTED:** AYES - 5

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2009

6. NEW BUSINESS – CONSENT ITEMS

MOTION (Furillo/Tolentino): That the Board adopts the Consent Items as recommended.
ADOPTED: AYES - 5

- A. [BFC 09-083-R1] – Professional Service Contract with TRACSTAR SYSTEMS, INC., for satellite communication services. The agreement is for a term of one year with four renewal options at a cost of \$30,000 per year.
Recommendation: That the Board approves the report and recommendations.

ACTION: APPROVED.

- B. [BFC 09-095] – Fire Line Passes Quarterly Report for the period of April 1 through June 30, 2009.
Recommendation: Receive and File.

ACTION: RECEIVED AND FILED

- C. [BFC 09-096] - Acceptance of equipment donation valued at \$29,169.96 for seven fire stations from Grateful Hearts.
Recommendation: That the Board approves the report and recommendations.

ACTION: APPROVED.

- D. [BFC 09-097] – Acceptance of equipment donation from Toluca Lake Chamber of Commerce. Donation consists of one BBQ valued at \$850. Equipment will be assigned to Fire Station 86.
Recommendation: That the Board approves the report and recommendations.

ACTION: APPROVED.

- E. [BFC 09-098] – Acceptance of equipment donation from Mr. Joey Schwartz. Donation consists of two HHP computers, monitors and printers valued at \$1851.33. Equipment will be assigned to Fire Station 10.
Recommendation: That the Board approves the report and recommendations.

ACTION: APPROVED.

- F. [BFC 09-099] – Acceptance of equipment donation from Valley Glen Neighborhood Association. Donation consists of a new sprinkler system and lawn for Fire Station 102 valued at \$1484.94.
Recommendation: That the Board approves the report and recommendations.

ACTION: APPROVED.

- G. [BFC 09-100] – Acceptance of donation valued at \$26,500 from Bel Air Association. Donation consists of construction of a wall and installation of an automatic electric gate at Fire Station 71.
Recommendation: That the Board approves the report and recommendations.

ACTION: APPROVED.

- H. [BFC 09-101] – Acceptance of donation from Mr. and Mrs. Little. Donation consists of a 50" LCD Samsung Television for Fire Station 78, valued at \$1445.25.
Recommendation: That the Board approves the report and recommendations.

ACTION: APPROVED.

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2009

- I. [BFC 09-102] – Acceptance of donation from Swett and Crawford Professional Services Group in the amount \$10,000.00 and from Venice Beach Rotary Club in the amount of \$2,659.00. Donation is sponsored through the Firemen’s Fund Heritage Program and will consist of installation of lockers for Fire Station 63, a total value of \$12,659.

Recommendation: That the Board approves the report and recommendations.

ACTION: APPROVED.

- J. [BFC 09-105] - Fire Department Statistics for Fiscal Year 2008-09.

Recommendation: Receive and File.

ACTION: RECEIVED AND FILED

- K. [BFC 09-106] - Corrective Action Summary - Notice of Discharge, Suspension, or Probationary Termination reports filed with the Board of Fire Commissioners during the period of July 11 through August 21, 2009.

Recommendation: Receive and File.

ACTION: RECEIVED AND FILED

6. ITEMS CALLED SPECIAL

None.

7. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Flu planning process and policy recommendations (Bontá)
- DWP Mandatory Water Conservation Program/high fire hazard area access. (Hudley-Hayes)
- Budget shortfall and reform impacts; recruit and management training (Hudley-Hayes)

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m. (Tolentino/Bontá)

ATTEST BY:

GENETHIA HUDLEY-HAYES
President

BLANCA GOMEZ-REVELLES
Commission Executive Assistant II

Date: December 15, 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.