The Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners convened at 3:05 p.m. in the Fire Commission Meeting Room, City Hall East, 200 N. Main Street, Los Angeles.

Present: President Dalila Sotelo, Vice President Jill Furillo, Commissioners Andrew Friedman and Genethia Hudley-Hayes. Commissioner Casimiro U. Tolentino arrived at 3:08 p.m. Fire Chief William Bamattre and Deputy City Attorney Janet Jackson.

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

1. PUBLIC COMMENT - None.

2. COMMISSION BUSINESS

A. Approval of the Minutes:
   1. Regular meeting of October 3, 2006
   2. Regular meeting of October 17, 2006

   ACTION: The Minutes were adopted as submitted (Furillo/Hudley-Hayes)
   AYES: 4 (Friedman, Furillo, Hudley-Hayes, Sotelo) Absent: Tolentino

B. [[BFC 06-041-S]] – Continued discussion and consideration of the Board of Fire Commissioners’ Action Plan relative to the Fire Department audits. Stakeholder Workgroup policy recommendations relative to:
   - Proposed Charter Changes
   - Leadership and Communication
   - Complaint and Disciplinary Process
   - Human Relations Issues
   - Drill Tower Recruit Training Academy

   Captain Armando Hogan, President, Stentorians, provided a status report on the strategic implantation work being conducted by the Stakeholder Workgroup. Commissioners Tolentino and Hudley-Hayes provided insight into the complexity of the work being conducted and the progress that the group has made. The matter was opened for discussion and direction from the Board.

   PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Pat McOsker, President, UFLAC, commented on the proposal to add captains to the sworn investigation unit and urged that no unilateral changes be made while the union is in meet and confer. He commented that the union’s decision to withdraw from the Stakeholder Workgroup was in part due to a conflict with the meet and confer process.
C. Discussion and consideration of the Stakeholder Workgroup email address for Audit Action Plan input (Hudley-Hayes/Tolentino)

Commissioner Hudley-Hayes indicated that as the Stakeholders’ work is disbursed out to the membership, there is a need to obtain input from everyone. Commissioners Hudley-Hayes and Tolentino will set up an exclusive e-mail address (LAFDstakeholdersinput@hotmail.com) for the collection of said input. The e-mailbox will only be accessible to the two commissioners.

D. Status report on the Personnel Department and the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) verbal report, in response to Motion (Zine-Perry-Miscikowski) relative to the LAFD grievance process for discriminatory and retaliatory complaints, and related matters [CF 05-0801 – considered by the City Council Personnel Committee on 11/1/06]

(Out of order- considered under item 2.B.)

President Sotelo indicated that one area of concern discussed at Committee was UFLAC’s withdrawal from the process. She clarified for the record, that at no time had it ever been the intent of the Stakeholder Workgroup or the Commission to waive anyone’s meet and confer rights. Vice President Furillo and Commissioner Tolentino were in accord and provided their respective assessment relative to the meet and confer process rights. Fire Chief Bamattre provided a summary of the presentation made to the Personnel Committee on November 1st.

E. Board of Fire Commissioners Committee Reports:

1. Report from the Fire Commission EMS Committee [Furillo/Friedman]

Vice President Furillo indicated that the EMS Committee continues to follow up on all issues assigned to them. She reported that the Department has been following up on the EMS system impacts that are resulting due to ER closures. She noted that Chief Bamattre spoke at the County’s hearing and addressed the crisis issues related to ER closures and the impacts on the Department’s emergency service system.

2. Report from the Fire Commission HRDC Committee [Sotelo/Hudley-Hayes]

President Sotelo indicated that progress is being made in the hiring of an evaluator for the training program.


Commissioner Tolentino indicated that they continue to follow up on UFLAC’s concerns. He said that the monthly summary discipline report has been modified to address the identifiable concerns; and that three whole score and other HR processes and policies are being reviewed.
4. Report from the Fire Commission Technology Committee
   [Hudley-Hayes/Tolentino]
None.

5. Report from the Fire Commission Budget Ad Hoc Committee
   [Sotelo/Friedman]
None.

3. GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT

   A. Significant Incidents/Activities
   Fire Chief Bamattre provided relevant information on recent incidents and upcoming events.

   B. Status report on assignments from the Board
   Fire Chief Bamattre distributed the assignment Department’s tracking sheet.

   C. Status report on City Council/Committee issues relative to the LAFD
   Assistant Chief Bercik reported on the Homeland Security Phase II; Fire/Personnel Departments response to discriminatory and retaliatory complaints pertained to the audit; USAI and SHSGP Grant funding closeouts; Culver City and Oxnard Apparatus Loan extensions; and the Prop Q Dispatch Center, Battalion Chief position authority.

   E. Status report on emergency preparedness activities
   Fire Chief Bamattre reported on the 2006 CERT Refresher training held October 22nd. He said that 20 Fire Stations are serving as polling locations for the California General Election; CERT Team members have been deployed to each polling site.

   F. Status report on Homeland Security issues
   Assistant Chief Warford provided information on the United Jewish Community 75th General Assembly to be held at the Convention Center on November 12-15. He said that approximately 70 LAFD members will be deployed to coordinate with LAPD on this event. Fire Chief Bamattre provided a summary on redeployment activities to handle the change in weather conditions.

4. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

MOTION (Tolentino/Hudley-Hayes) ADOPTED. AYES: 5   NAYS: 0

   A. [BFC 06-100] – Request for Proposals – Los Angeles/Long Beach Regional Fire/EMS Communications and Dispatch Centers
ACTION: Received and Filed
ACTION: Received and Filed

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion and consideration of Motion (Parks-Greuel) relative to the Los Angeles Fire Commission’s development of a penalty guide that provides additional guidance beyond the Policies of the Personnel Department, Section 33.2, Guide to Disciplinary Standards, and related matters. [CF 06-2262 – Budget and Finance Committee, 10/30/06]
(Out of order- considered under item 2.B.)
Commissioner Hudley-Hayes and Fire Chief Bamattre reported on the joint-presentation they made at the Budget and Finance Committee on October 30th. Commissioner Hudley-Hayes indicated that they were able to provide the Committee specific details on the on-going process and the work status of the Stakeholder Workgroup.

B. Discussion and consideration of City Administrative Officer (CAO) report relative to Fiscal Year 2006-07 projections for the hiring and attrition rate of sworn personnel in the LAFD. [CF 06-1947 - City Council Personnel Committee Meeting 11/1/06]
Captain Wells, Planning Section provided an overview of position-projection based on attrition averages.


Department’s Recommendation: That the Board: 1) Approve the proposed budget for FY 2007-08, subject to technical adjustments; 2) Authorize the Department’s Budget Management Section to make technical adjustments, as necessary, to implement the Board’s intention; 3) Authorize the Department to transmit the proposed budget to the Mayor and the Office of the City Administrative Officer.

Georgia Mattera, Fire Administrator, discussed the proposed budget with the Board. Commissioners Sotelo and Hudley-Hayes expressed concern that there was not sufficient funding to assure a strong training program as directed by HRDC. The Board requested that a funding analysis of the Public Assemblage Unit and related fundamental training be conducted. Ms. Mattera indicated that a placeholder for the Department’s overall mandated training funding could be submitted in the budget.
MOTION: Commissioner Friedman MOVED to adopt the proposed budget. SECOND: Hudley-Hayes. AYES: 5 NAYS: 0
6. ACTIVITIES/EVENTS/MEETINGS/ANNOUNCEMENTS
None.

7. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
None.

8. CLOSED SESSION
At approximately 4:55 p.m., City Attorney Jackson announced that the Board would convene in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a) to confer with Legal Counsel on the following matters:

   A. The Board will convene in Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a) to confer with Legal Counsel on the following pending litigation cases:
      Bressler, Lee, et al. vs. City of LA et al., BC 336783
      Bernal vs. City of LA., BC 340489
      Hernandez vs. City of LA, BC 34794
      Pierce vs. City of LA., BC 342845
      Smith vs. City of LA., BC 356824

At approximately 5:22 p.m. City Attorney Jackson called the meeting back in session and reported that during closed session the Board met with its legal counsel to review the matters listed on the Board’s Agenda, under item 8; and, that no formal action was taken or recommended in the closed session.

9. ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned at 5:23 p.m. (Hudley-Hayes/Friedman)

ATTEST BY:

DALILA T. SOTELO, President
BLANCA GOMEZ-REVELLES
Commission Executive Assistant II
Date: November 21, 2006

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.