CITY OF LOS ANGELES
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19 2006

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners convened at 3:15 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 Genethia Hudley-Hayes and Casimiro U. Tolentino. Fire Chief William Bamattre and Deputy City Attorney Janet Jackson.

Absent: Commissioner Andrew Friedman

The flag salute was followed by a moment of silence in honor of Nicholas (Nick) Steinbacher, United States Army, First Cavalry Division, (son of Firefighter Paul Steinbacher, Fire Station 97, “B” Platoon), who was killed in Iraq on December 10, 2006, while on military duty.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT- None.

2. COMMISSION BUSINESS

   A. Approval of the Minutes:
   1. Regular Meeting of November 21, 2006
   2. Regular Meeting of December 5, 2006

   MOTION (Hudley-Hayes/Tolentino) that the Minutes of November 21st and December 5th be adopted as submitted. ADOPTED: AYES - 4 NAYS - 0

   B. [BFC 06-041-S] – Continued discussion and consideration of actions related to the Board of Fire Commissioners’ Action Plan and Stakeholder Workgroup policy recommendations:
      - Leadership and Communication
        - Verbal status report on Vision Statement
      - Complaint and Disciplinary Process
        - Motion (Tolentino/Hudley-Hayes) - adoption of the preliminary draft framework for the Division of Professional Standards [BFC 06-110].
      - Human Relations Issues
      - Drill Tower Recruit Training Academy

   John Miller, President, Chief Officers Association provided an overview of the conceptual plan for the professional standards division and complaint disciplinary process. Dennis Bloemhof, Director of Systems distributed a handout titled Human Resources System (HRS) and gave an overview of the proposed human resource system that would consolidate, integrate, and enhance new technology standards into a single system. Captain Armando Hogan, President, Stentorians, provided a summary on the Stakeholder Workgroup’s work to date. Captain Hogan submitted two documents to the Board, “LAFD Disciplinary Action Guidelines for Sworn Members, December 15, 2006” and “Proposed Training Matrix, November 28, 2006.” The Board
opened discussion on the matter. City Attorney Jackson cautioned the Board against voting to adopt a preliminary draft framework and suggested that the Motion language be modified to read, …“support” the preliminary draft framework…, rater than “adopting” the preliminary … She explained the reasons for not adopting draft work.

PUBLIC COMMENT - Chris Mattson provided verbal and written public comment. The Board and Fire Chief Bamattre discusses the matter further, followed by a call for revision of the main Motion.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION (Hudley-Hayes/Tolentino): Following extensive and thoughtful deliberation by the Stakeholders, the following joint motion is submitted for the Board’s consideration: As a Joint Motion by Commissioner Hudley-Hayes and Commissioner Tolentino, we Move that the Commission support the preliminary draft framework and direct the Department to complete position analysis and fiscal and practical implication reviews for the Division of Professional Standard which was adopted by the Commission on May of 2006.

ADOPTED: AYES - 4   NAYS - 0

Emily Williams, Sr. Project Coordinator, Human Relations Commission, and Fire Chief Bamattre provided status reports on the ongoing process of the vision statement and core values revisions.

C. Board of Fire Commissioners Committee Reports:

1. Report from the Fire Commission Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Committee [Furillo/Friedman]
   a. Report on OCD Audit

Vice President Furillo indicated that it would not be possible to schedule the public hearing previously requested by the Commission because the auditors would not be available to attend the hearing. She suggested that the Board support the EMS Committee’s prior recommendation relative to not civilizing the dispatcher positions; and, that the other 18 positions referenced in the OCD audit be further reviewed by the EMS Committee.

2. Report from the Fire Commission Human Relation Development Committee (HRDC) [Sotelo/Hudley-Hayes]
   a. Human Relations Committee Report regarding evaluation of Training
   b. Recruitment Plan and HRDC Budget Request

President Sotelo noted that Chief Mack presented the initial training plan to the HRDC for review. She said that HRDC would be addressing the allocation of HRDC funds for the recruitment of women and explorer programs. Commissioner Hudley-Hayes commented on the need to address the retention of women in the fire service.

C. Continued discussion and consideration of the Board of Fire Commissioners’ legal authority on future settlements [Los Angeles City Charter Section 272 and 273].

City Attorney Jackson informed the Board, that a City Attorney Office representative would be contacting the Board Secretary to schedule a presentation on the role of the Commission and to address Commissioner Friedman’s questions.
D. CF 06-1305-S4– Verbal update and discussion relative to Smith/Zine
Motion recommendation that the City Attorney utilize outside Council to
negotiate a settlement, and if needed, to litigate Pierce vs. City of Los
Angeles on behalf of the City.
Fire Chief Bamattre indicated that the Motion had been adopted by the City Council.

3. GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT

A. Significant Incidents/Activities
Deputy Chief Hill reported that Channel 4 News would be doing an expose on the
Staple Center project. Fire Chief Bamattre discussed the matter with the Board.

B. Status report on assignments from the Board
Fire Chief Bamattre indicated that the status of assignments could be found on the
information matrix.

C. Status report on City Council/Committee issues relative to the LA FD
Assistant Chief Bercik reported that Motions moving forward through the Council
Committees were: 1) Leadership training for the LA FD command structure (Smith/Zine);
2) Reallocation of $460,700 from the 2005 Homeland Security Grant funding to the L.A.
County, Command and Communication Bureau for the purchase of vehicles.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. [BFC 06-109] – Fire Department transmittal dated December 4, 2006,
submitting Helitanker Aircraft Services Request for Proposal (RFP)

Department’s Recommendation: The Board approves the findings and
directs the Department to release the RFP to obtain the services of an
outside contractor.
The Board discussed the project with Fire Chief Bamattre and Deputy Chief Rueda.
MOTION: Commissioner Hudley-Hayes MOVED for approval. SECOND:
Commissioner Tolentino. ADOPTED: AYES – 4 NAYS - 0

6. ACTIVITIES/EVENTS/MEETINGS/ANNOUNCEMENTS
Fire Chief Bamattre provided information on the upcoming LA FD events.

7. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
Commissioner Furillo requested that an update on the new 5-year EMS Plan be
provided. Georgia Matter, Fire Administrator, indicated that an update would be
provided sometime in February, after the “Blue Book” Budget is released.

Fire Chief Bamattre indicated that this was the last Board meeting that he would be
attending. He provided closing remarks and thanked everyone who supported him
during his tenure that expands over 30-years of service.
8. CLOSED SESSION - At approximately 5:27 p.m., President Sotelo announced that the Board would convene into closed session to discuss the following:

A. The Board will convene in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54957:
   Public Employee Performance Evaluations:
   Senior Personnel Analyst II
   Commission Executive Assistant II

B. 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
   Fisher vs. City of Los Angeles, et al, BC 355899
   Norwood vs. City of Los Angeles, et al, BC 356737
   Sawyer vs. City of Los Angeles, et al, CV06-0412FMC(CWx)
   Ward-Wallace vs. City of Los Angeles, et al, BC 358255

The Board reconvened into open session at 6:05 p.m. City Attorney Jackson reported that the Board convened in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 to do a Public Employee Performance Evaluation of the Senior Personnel Analyst II; and, that the Board also met in closed session, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a) to confer with Legal Counsel on pending litigation cases of Bressler, Lee, et al. vs. City; Fisher vs. City; Norwood vs. City; Sawyer vs. City; Ward-Wallace vs. City, and that no action was taken.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:06 p.m. (Hudley-Hayes/Furillo)

ATTEST BY:

DALILA T. SOTELO, President
BLANCA GOMEZ-REVELLES
Commission Executive Assistant II

Date: January 2, 2007

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.