

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2007**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners convened at 3:12 p.m. in the Fire Commission Meeting Room, City Hall East, 200 N. Main Street, Los Angeles.

Present: Vice President Jill Furillo, Commissioners Andrew Friedman, Genethia Hudley-Hayes and Casimiro U. Tolentino. Interim Fire Chief Douglas Barry and Deputy City Attorney Janet Jackson.

Absent: President Dalila Sotelo

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 – Chris Mattson commented regarding the LAFD Substance Abuse Policy and submitted a written copy of her comments.

2. COMMISSION BUSINESS

A. Approval of the Minutes - Regular Meeting of April 17, 2007

MOTION (Hudley-Hayes/Tolentino): That the Board adopts the Minutes as submitted.
ADOPTED: AYES - 4 NAYS - 0 (Absent: Sotelo)

B. Board of Fire Commissioners Committee Reports:

1. Verbal status report from the Fire Commission Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Committee – [Furillo/Friedman]

Vice President Furillo reported on ongoing issues that have been considered by the Committee including, EMS management and supervision oversight and the proposed LAFD Paramedic Training Academy. She said that the EMS recommendations relative to the Controller's Review of the Dispatch Staffing and Special Duty Assignments would be presented along with the Department analysis under item 5.C.

2. Verbal status report from the Fire Commission Human Relation Development Committee (HRDC) – [Sotelo/Hudley-Hayes]

Commissioner Hudley-Hayes reported that due to the Griffith Park fire deployment of special duty employees, there was minimal business conducted at the last HRDC meeting. She said that Battalion Chief Palacios did give an overview of the Explorer program and would be submitting a program expansion plan for review at the next Committee meeting. The Committee anticipates discussing the human relations training program evaluation that is being conducted by the Human Relations Commission consultant.

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3. Verbal status report from the Fire Commission Technology Committee
- [Hudley-Hayes/Tolentino]

Commissioner Hudley-Hayes reported on ongoing projects that have been considered by the Committee. She indicated that a comprehensive report on the EMS Electronic Report system would be considered at the next Committee meeting; that the disciplinary tracking system is being field-tested and the data would be available for review soon.

3. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Significant Incidents/Activities

Chief Barry reported on the memorial service for Captain Cypert conducted on May 10th at Fire Station 5. He reported on the first Drill Tower 81 recruit graduation and on the Fire Service Day events. Deputy Chief Rueda provided an overview of recent emergency incidents, deployment activities and firefighter related injuries. He provided a status report on the recent brush fires and discussed the Griffith Park and Catalina incidents with the Board members. The Commissioners acknowledged **and commended** the Department's **actions success** in handling the brush fires.

B. [BFC 07-032] - Review of the Information Requested by the Board of Fire Commissioners status report dated May 7, 2007

Chief Barry indicated that the Employee Recognition Program is under development and no report would be available at this time.

C. Discussion and consideration of LAFD matters scheduled before the City Council and Committees:

1. [BFC 07-033] – Review of the Council Motion/Action Tracking – Active status report dated May 8, 2007

Chief Barry indicated that the Council has been conducting budget hearings and that no new Department issues had been considered since the last Board Meeting.

2. Verbal report on the disposition of matters considered/referred since the last Board Meeting

Received and filed.

D. Verbal status report on the proposed 2007-08 Fiscal Year Fire Department Budget

Fire Chief Barry indicated that the City Council budget hearings are ongoing and there is no final determination on the Department's budget at this time.

Deputy Chief Keane provided a status report on the regional radio interoperability project. The feasibility study has been completed and reviewed by the Federal Department of Homeland Security; a regional steering committee is pursuing funding for the project with letters of support from various sources. He requested a letter of support from the Board. The matter will be placed on the next agenda for discussion and action.

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4. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Verbal report on the Brush Clearance Program and projected cost analysis overview

Battalion Chief Kerbrat and Captain Knight provided an informational overview of the program and discussed the matter with the Board. Commissioner Hudley-Hayes requested that information on the City's program funding policy be provided at a subsequent meeting.

5. CONSENT ITEMS

- A. [BFC 07-030] - Fire Chief's transmittal dated May 8, 2007 requesting acceptance of four Holmatro BCT3120 Spreaders from the Westside Neighborhood Council. The equipment donation is valued at \$35,722.50.

MOTION (Tolentino/Hudley-Hayes): That the Board approves item 5.A. under the consent reports and that items 5.B. and C. be considered special.

ADOPTED: AYES - 4 NAYS – 0 (Absent: Sotelo)

ITEMS CALLED SPECIAL

- B. [BFC 07-031] - Fire Chief's transmittal dated May 8, 2007 submitting proposed fees for plan check, inspection and certification of testers of methane gas detection systems

Battalion Chief Jackson provided an overview of the proposed fee cost recovery process and relevant public safety information. The matter was opened for discussion and questions from the Board. It was clarified that the Board did not have to conduct any additional public hearings and that the report could be transmitted to the City Council.

MOTION (Tolentino/Hudley-Hayes): That the Board approves the Department recommendations and proposed fees.

ADOPTED: AYES - 4 NAYS – 0 (Absent: Sotelo)

- C. [BFC 07-034] - Fire Chief's transmittal dated May 8, 2007 submitting the Department's Dispatch Staffing and Special Duty Assignments Analysis

Commissioner Friedman reported that the Fire Commission EMS Committee had considered the matter extensively and that Chief Barry's position is consistent with that of Chief Bamattre's prior report, which the Committee supported, to maintain the sworn positions. Commissioner Friedman concluded that considering all the procedural point of views, it is the EMS Committee's commendation to maintain the current OCD sworn staffing system as recommended by the Fire Chief. The matter was opened to discussion and questions from the Board.

MOTION (Tolentino/Friedman): That the Board approves the Department recommendations.

ADOPTED: AYES - 4 NAYS – 0 (Absent: Sotelo)

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4. ACTIVITIES/EVENTS/MEETINGS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fire Chief Barry provided information on the events scheduled for the months of May and June.

5. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Vice President Furillo requested information on emergency procedures for responding to incidents on hospital premises.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m. (Friedman/Hudley-Hayes)

ATTEST BY:

JILL FURILLO, Vice President

BLANCA GOMEZ-REVELLES
Commission Executive Assistant II

Date: June 5, 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.