

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2009

DRAFT

BFC 09-118
NOV 3, 2009

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners convened at 9:10 a.m. in the Fire Commission Meeting Room, City Hall East, 200 N. Main Street, Los Angeles.

Present: President Genethia Hudley-Hayes, Commissioners Diana Bontá and Andrew Friedman; Fire Chief Douglas Barry and Deputy City Attorney Janet Jackson.

Absent: Vice President Casimiro Tolentino and Commissioner Jill Furillo

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.

I. ITEMS NOTICED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Clyde Williams, LA-32 Neighborhood Council/LA Audubon Conservation Committee, commented regarding the Brush Clearance Program and water shortage compliance.

2. [BFC 09-071] - Fiscal Year 2009-10 Annual Cost of Special Services Fee Adjustment report. Change of the following fees*:
1. Division 4 – Continuing Permits (L.A.M.C., Section 57.04.12C - Attachment A).
 2. Division 5 - Non-Continuing Permits and Emergency Inspections (L.A.M.C., Sections 57.05.31 and 57.05.32 - Attachment B).
 3. Miscellaneous Fees (L.A.M.C., Sections 57.01.28, 57.01.30, 57.05.14, 57.05.15 and 57.06.15 - Attachment C).
 4. Construction and Plan Review Inspection Services (L.A.M.C., Section 57.15 – Attachment D)
 5. Brush Administrative Cost Fee (L.A.M.C., Section 57.21 – Attachment E)
 6. High Rise Building Annual Inspection and Permit Fees (L.A.M.C., Section 57.119 – Attachment F)
 7. Unified Program Fees (L.A.M.C., Section 57.14.10C – Attachment G)

*Note: Please refer to the report for detailed fee changes.

Recommendation: That the Board approves the report and recommendations.

MOTION (Friedman/ Bontá): That the Board approves the report as recommended.

ADOPTED: AYES – 3 (Absent: Furillo and Tolentino)

II. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Donald Loze, Benedict Canyon Association/Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council, commented on the DWP Mandatory Water Conservation and Brush Clearance Programs.

2. COMMISSION BUSINESS

- A. Board meeting schedule for the remainder of 2009.

The impact of furloughs on the Board meeting schedule was briefly discussed and carried for discussion by the full Board.

President Hudley-Hayes announced that Chief Barry would be retiring and this was his last Board meeting. The Board acknowledged his accomplishment, leadership and wished him continued success in future endeavors. Chief Barry provided departing remarks and thanked everyone for their support.

- B. Board of Fire Commissioners 2009-10 Election of Officers:
1. Election of Board President
2. Election of Board Vice President

Postponed to the August meeting.

- C. Structural organization and management issues of the Bureau of Fire Prevention & Public Safety.

Chief Deputy Mack, Administrative Operations, provided an overview on the Department's evaluation of personnel issues. He reported that the Professional Standards Division, Workforce Excellence Unit was conducting a comprehensive survey and a review of management practices is being performed. The Board requested that periodic updates be provided.

- D. Announcements/Meetings/Events.

Considered jointly with Item 3.B.

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 Barry reported on the past and upcoming events.

- C. Significant Incidents/Activities:

1. Verbal report - Significant Incidents/Activities for the period of July 18 through July 21, 2009.

Chief Rueda reported on deployment activities for the Michael Jackson funeral and Sepulveda Pass brush fire. The Board inquired on the budgetary impact of the additional resources allotted for the events. Commissioner Bontá requested information on CUPA/Haz- Mat dangers to firefighters and weather related resource preparedness.

2. Verbal update on the Brush Clearance Program - weed and refuse abatement and fire related activities.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mrs. Patricia Hearts, The Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations, Inc., commented on fire hazards and secondary access of Brentwood areas.

Assistant Chief Fry, Bureau of Fire Prevention & Public Safety, provided a status report on brush hazards including the water restriction ordinance. He reported that 12,00 notices of brush clearance non-compliance had been issued. The matter was open for questions and discussion with the Board.

3. [BFC 09-089] - Significant Incident Summary report for the period of June 1 through July 5, 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 June 17 through July 21, 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 Barry reported that Council confirmed the reappointment of Commissioner Bontá to the Fire Commission.

4. OLD BUSINESS

- A. [BFC 09-011] – LAFD Leadership Continuum - presentation by Training and Support Bureau (Part IV– continued from April 22, 2009).

Deputy Chief Fox, Bureau of Training and Support and Battalion Chief Kawai conducted the last segment of Leadership Continuum presentation, the Executive Appraisal. The matter was opened for discussion with the Board.

- B. Verbal update on Fire Department Budget Fiscal Year 2009-10.

Chief Barry reported that the 10% salary reduction is being address through civilian furloughs, consideration of early retirement incentive and resource closures.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Pat McOsker, President, UFLAC Local 112, commented against resource closures.

- C. [BFC 09-080] – Fire Department response to 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.

- D. [BFC 09-081] – Fire Department response to the UFLAC letter (BFC 09-078) concerning Los Angeles Fire Department Arson Counter Terrorism Section Audit conducted by the Los Angeles Police Department, Audit Division.

Items C. and D. considered jointly. Assistant Chief Manning, Bureau of Emergency Services, reported that the Department is in the process of implementing the audit recommendations and discussed the process. President Hudley-Hayes indicated that the Board wants to see a written report at the next meeting, as previously directed by the Board. Commissioner Friedman directed that the report be in the similar format to the previous audit implementation plan.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Pat McOsker, President, UFLAC Local 112, commented on meet and confer issues relative to the implementation process.

5. NEW BUSINESS – CONSENT ITEMS

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

ADOPTED: AYES - 3 (Absent: Furillo/Tolentino)

- A. [BFC 09-088] - Fire Department Statistics for First Quarter 2009

Recommendation: Receive and File.

ACTION: RECEIVED AND FILED

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- B. [BFC 09-087] - Request for authorization to write off five uncollectible Department charges for services of Fire Safety Officers, Inspection Restitution and High Rise Inspection for Fiscal Years 1999-2005 in the amount of \$14,667.60.

Recommendation: That the Board approves the report and recommendations.

ACTION: APPROVED.

- C. [BFC 09-086] - Request for authorization to write off 13 uncollectible Department charges for services of Fire Safety Officers, Inspection Restitution and High Rise Inspection for Fiscal Years 1995-2002 in the amount of \$5,572.87.

Recommendation: Receive and File.

ACTION: RECEIVED AND FILED

- D. [BFC 09-085] – Acceptance of equipment donation from PORTER RANCH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL. Donation consists of two folding cots for Brush Patrol 8 valued at \$120; one reverse osmosis water filter for Fire Station 8 valued at \$200; three Tom Tom-XL 330S Portable Global Positioning Devices each valued at \$199.99.

Recommendation: That the Board approves the report and recommendations.

ACTION: APPROVED.

- E. [BFC 09-084] – Acceptance of equipment donation from CRENSHAW CHRISTIAN CENTER. Donation consists of one Everest Refrigeration Unit valued at \$3839.95; equipment will be assigned to Fire Station 64, Battalion 13.

Recommendation: That the Board approves the report and recommendations.

ACTION: APPROVED.

- F. [BFC 09-083] – Professional Service Contract with TRACSTAR SYSTEMS, INC., for satellite communication services. The agreement is for a term of one year with two one-year renewal options at a cost of \$30,000 per year.

Recommendation: That the Board approves the report and recommendations.

ACTION: APPROVED.

- G. [BFC 09-082] – Forecast Exists of DROP Enrollees Quarterly Report

Recommendation: Receive and File.

ACTION: RECEIVED AND FILED

- H. [BFC 09-079] - Corrective Action Summary - Notice of Discharge, Suspension, or Probationary Termination reports filed with the Board of Fire Commissioners during the period of June 9 through July 10, 2009.

Recommendation: Receive and File.

ACTION: RECEIVED AND FILED

- I. [BFC 09-074] – LAFD Special Training Fund Annual Report Fiscal Year 2007-2008 – Account 002R.

Recommendation: That the Board approves the report and recommendations.

ACTION: APPROVED.

6. ITEMS CALLED SPECIAL

None.

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7. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- CUPA/Haz-Mat dangers to firefighters and public safety (Bontá)
- Weather related resource preparedness.
- Fire Department Technology projects - budget status (Hudley-Hayes)
- Written Arson Audit Implementation Report (Hudley-Hayes)

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m. (Friedman/Bontá)

ATTEST BY:

GENETHIA HUDLEY-HAYES
President

BLANCA GOMEZ-REVELLES
Commission Executive Assistant II

Date: November 3, 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.