

GOLDEN GATE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
BOARD MINUTES  
Of  
November 18, 2009

The tape recordings of the meeting are to be used by the recording clerk for reference purposes only in creating these minutes and are not kept as a permanent record.

The Board meeting was called to order by Board President Barbara Crawford at 6:59 p.m. The meeting was held at Fire Station #1, 32360 Robinson Hill Road.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Barbara led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Board Members present: Barbara Crawford, Amy DeVos, Robert Thiessen and Doug Miller. Kerri Crawford was absent due to a conflict with work. Her absence was excused by the Board.

Also in attendance: Cathy Kowitz, Administrative Assistant. Kelly Sorvig, Fire Chief was in attendance but arrived late.

Community members Bill Marshall, John Cady, Patty Near, Grant Ruesch, Paul Grabowski and Adam Grabowski were in attendance. Fire fighters Gerrit Verschuur and Aaron Skeen were also in attendance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There was no public comment.

**PRESENTATION BY WATER MANAGEMENT TEAM**

The Water Management Team, including Bill Marshall, John Cady, Patty Near, Grant Ruesch and Paul Grabowski, gave a presentation to the Board of their findings of the cisterns in the District. (Members of the team not present were Dave Primmer, Ron Pitcock, and the Department Water Liaison Officer Dannel Agar). Bill provided a handout to the Board (handout attached). The team has found 81,000 gallons of reliable water in seven of the 20 cisterns checked. All of the reliable water was in the Crawford Gulch Zone. The team wants the Board to support the seven written recommendations listed on the attached handout in order to attain a minimum level of 50,000 gallons of Reliable Water in each of the four zones that have been identified in the District in order that both GGFPD and Mutual Aid will have water to fight structure or Wildland fires in the District. The team asked the Board to indicate by vote their support for the recommendations before the Water Management Team could justify spending any more time on this project. The Board unanimously agreed that they would be supportive of all seven action items presented by the Water Management team. The team indicated that they will come back at a later date to ask for money when they have more information on what needs to be done for specific items. Bill stated that there needs to be money in the 2010 budget to

address the issues raised by the team. Three comments highlighted the importance of the Water Management Team's effort to identify Reliable Water in the District:

1. Bill Marshall stated that the evidence shows that there has been no effective water management process in the District for a decade, and that the paradigm for the future District water management appears to be (subject to recommendation in the first two months of 2010) two 50,000 gallon cisterns at the two Stations complimented by a much more limited number of intensely managed (Audited) cisterns distributed at key locations in the District.

2. Paul Grabowski voiced the concern of the entire Water Management Team when he said, "As a 15 year resident and a civil engineer by training and a surveyor by profession, I volunteered my 24 years of field experience in the hope that it would be useful to my neighbors. The written reports on our physical cistern inventories are downright confidence shaking...empty, leakers, sludge, frozen valves, flammable fluid residues. After seeing what I have seen, I don't feel protected. Neighbors must take responsibility for the operating condition of their cisterns, and GGFPD must manage cisterns better. Let's pick the important tanks and get started! Let's get them fixed. Let's have the Department do Voluntary Compliance Audits to ensure that they can pump water from cisterns. My conclusion: As a neighbor, tax payer and volunteer, I want to repeat, I feel less safe now than when we started! Don't study this to death. Let's get started.

3. Director Doug Miller spoke for the Board when he thanked the Team for what he described as the most important project that the District has undertaken in a long time. He pledged the Board's support for getting results and improved Water Management in 2010, not just some vague point in the future.

Barbara Crawford pledged the Board's support to get available cisterns up and running and to create a plan of action and a financing plan to meet the total water needs of the District as outlined by the Water Management Te

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

#### **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Regular Board meeting from October 21, 2009 were reviewed and presented as corrected. The minutes were unanimously approved by the Board.

#### **ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA**

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda. Amy informed the Board that the Bank told her that the account with the \$384.00 has been closed. She is waiting to receive information about whether the District can still get the money.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

**Monthly Report:** Amy Devos gave the Treasurer's Report. The November Treasurer's Report was reviewed and was approved by the Board. Approval was given by the Board to pay the bills presented. Cathy is to void the original check cut to Overhead Door and pay the revised invoice.

## **CHIEF'S REPORT**

**Emergency Calls:** Kelly stated that the fire department has responded to five calls in the past month, two rescue/vehicle and three EMS. There was no fire loss for the month.

**Membership update:** Chief Sorvig stated that there are currently 10 regular members, four candidates, two new applicants and one member on suspension pending resolution by the Chief. (Chief's report attached). Barbara let Kelly know that the Golden Fire Department has five spots being held for GGFD members for the Fire Fighter 1 Academy and it starts in April 2010.

## **CULTURE REPORT**

Bill Marshall gave a handout to the Board. He stated we now have 162 total volunteers, including first responders and FAN volunteers. He stated the large increase is due to the response to the letter that went out asking for donations for the EUV/FR. Bill informed everyone that \$12,878 has been spent on the EUV and trailer so far and we have received \$24,402 from donations for the EUV. Bill stated that there is a new category of volunteer called Cistern FANS, who are those people whose cisterns have passed the Cistern Compliance Audit.

## **RECRUITMENT**

Barbara stated that she has sent a letter to the state asking for a consideration and explanation regarding a FF applicant who is unemployed and cannot receive state unemployment benefits if they become a volunteer firefighter.

## **GRANT UPDATE**

Barbara gave a handout with the status on all grants (handout attached). She stated that there are four outstanding grants.

## **ADDITION OF MONTHLY WATER MANAGEMENT REPORT**

This is to be added to the agenda.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Needs Survey**

Bill Marshall reported that he would have a draft of the 2010 NEEDS Survey to the Board before the December Board Meeting. He also handed out the new GGFPD Leadership Model that he is using to categorize the 2010 NEEDS. A copy of the model is attached to the minutes.

### **Communications Authority**

Robert Thiessen gave an update on Mt. Thorodin and the problems there and trying to find a new site for the repeater.

### **Budget Committee**

The Committee is ready to start working on the Budget.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **CISTERN AT STATION #2**

Doug got a proposal from Clearwater Environmental Group who gave an estimate of \$9,400 to fix the leak in the cistern at St. #2. The Board agreed not to spend t \$9,400 to fix the leak. Gerrit is to get a quote to clean up the area around the cistern and cover it over.

**AWARDS BANQUET/HOLIDAY PARTY**

The Awards Banquet is set of Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. The Board and the Chief reviewed the gifts and awards to be given out. Doug is to purchase the soda, wine and beer for the party.

**EUV/FR FUNDRAISING UPDATE**

Bill Marshall gave an update earlier under the Culture discussion.

**PAGERS**

Barbara let everyone know that the Chief, Cathy, Barbara, Doug and Robert are listed as contact people on the account. Barbara also let everyone know that she ordered six new pagers (two are replacements).

**STATION #1/REMODEL OR NEW BUILDING**

Robert is to talk to Jefferson County about what the District can do on the Station #1 property regarding remodeling or new construction.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**EXTENDED WARRANTY ON EUV/FR**

The Board decided not to go with an extended warranty for the EUV/FR.

**TRUCK/TRUCK CHASSIS**

Doug stated that there is not enough feedback on what the District's needs are. The Board is to have someone from MAX Fire come talk to the Chief/Board about truck needs for the District.

**MISC**

Doug has the signed snow removal contract for Station #1 from Tom Hawn. Cathy is to file the contract. The Board approved a NTE of \$300 to build a storage closet upstairs at Station #1.

**UPCOMING DATES**

A list of upcoming dates:

- December 12<sup>th</sup> – Awards Banquet/Holiday Party
- December 16<sup>th</sup> – Regular Board meeting – St. #2
- January 20<sup>th</sup> 2010 – Regular Board meeting – St. #1

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

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Amy Devos, Secretary

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Board Member