

**CARPINTERIA-SUMMERLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF JANUARY 3, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER

President Cawthon called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. at Carpinteria City Hall, Council Chambers, 5775 Carpinteria Avenue, Carpinteria, California.

ROLL CALL

Directors Present: Suzy Cawthon, President
Jena Jenkins, Vice-President
John Nicoli, Secretary
Randy McGlade, Director

Administrator: Robert Kovach, Fire Chief
District Counsel: Mark Manion

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Director Jenkins

**INTRODUCTIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, AND
RECOGNITIONS**

There were none at this meeting.

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR TO FILL A RECENT VACANCY

Director Cawthon conducted a Public Hearing to fill the vacancy created by Director Guravitz's resignation effective December 7, 2023.

Chief Kovach reported that the Affidavit of Posting – Notice of Vacancy in Office is on file with the District records.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**INTRODUCTIONS, PROCLAMATIONS,
PRESENTATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**

**APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR TO
FILL VACANCY**

Chief Kovach asked the applicant to state for the record that he was indeed both a resident and registered voter in the District.

Board members had a brief interaction with one candidate, Doug Qualls.

Director Cawthon then opened the meeting for Public Comment, at which time Lisa Guravitz shared her support of Mr. Qualls.

Director Nicoli motioned for Doug Qualls to be appointed to the Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District Board of Directors; it was seconded by Director Jenkins and passed unanimously.

Director Cawthon administered the Oath of Office to Doug Qualls, who was then seated.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments at this meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Montecito Fire Protection District Emergency Dispatch Services cost increase letter dated December 6, 2023, that took effect July 1, 2023.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Director Nicoli motioned to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Minutes of December 6, 2023; they were seconded by Director McGlade and passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Director Jenkins motioned to approve the Financial Status Report for the 2023/2024 Fiscal Year; they were seconded by Director McGlade and passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Chief Kovach updated the board on the following items:

Two promotions were completed and announced: Battalion Chief Mike Hayek and Fire Captain Brian Bull. Their badge ceremony will be held on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. at Station 61 in Carpinteria. Our new firefighter testing

PUBLIC COMMENT

CORRESPONDENCE

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

FINANCIAL MATTERS

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

started on January 3rd and will go through Friday, January 5th. We had approximately 100 applicants, with 20 being invited to participate in testing.

Regency Innovation LLC has contacted Santa Barbara County Public Works for the status of a Road Encroachment Permit Application for geological hand trenching along Ortega Hill Road in Summerland. Andy Brown of Regency submitted the permit on November 11, 2023. An email was sent to the contractor on December 13, 2023, stating the permit requires clearance from the zoning department since the project is in the coastal zone. The Zoning Department requested Geologist Adam Simmons to contact them directly. No new information has been obtained, probably due to the holidays. A request was sent today to Santa Barbara County Public Works for a status update for our District.

There is litigation pending from a lawsuit filed by AMR West. The court date has been postponed several times, and the impact is unknown. Santa Barbara County Fire Department is still moving forward with March 1, 2024, when the AMR contract expires. The hiring process for Ambulance Supervisors, Paramedics, and EMTs has been completed with assistance from our agency.

Construction of the Regional Fire Communications Center is on track to open in June 2024. We are still set to transition to Montecito Fire Protection District in January 2025.

The budget development for fiscal year 24/25 will start this month with a goal to meet with the Finance Committee in mid-February.

We need to schedule a Fleet & Facilities Committee Meeting to review the headquarters' lease contract for the property at 1140 Eugenia Place, Suite A, in Carpinteria.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Director Cawthon thanked the Station 62 firefighters for the "Santa visit" to her home.

UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

Sta 61, Sta 62 current and future, Sta 63, and Annex House

The Board adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

ATTEST:



John Nicoli, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Grace Rampton, Clerk of the Board/Executive Assistant