

**AMADOR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Meeting Was Recorded

Jackson, California  
Tuesday, July 21, 2020  
10:29 a.m.

The Board of Directors of the Amador Fire Protection District met in the County Administration Center, 810 Court Street, Jackson, California, on the above date pursuant to adjournment, and the following proceedings were had, to wit:

**Present:**

Pat Crew, Chair, Director  
Frank Axe, Vice Chair, Director  
Richard Forster, Director  
Brian Oneto, Director  
Jeff Brown, Director

**Absent:** None

**Staff:**

Walter White, Fire Chief  
Nicole Cook, Clerk of the Board

**\*\*\*It should be noted at this time Director Crew made the following announcement relative to the closed session meeting held on Tuesday, June 16, 2020 "this room was being occupied so we could not report out so I am reporting out at the end of closed session June 16th on public employee discipline dismissal release it was moved by Director Axe, seconded by Director Forster with direction authorizing the Chief to release dismiss or accept the resignation of the Volunteer and carried to approve 4-1-0, with ayes from Crew, Axe, Forster Brown and nay by Director Oneto and that reading is reflected in the Minutes that will be approved in the meeting later today.**

**AGENDA**

**MOTION:** It was moved by Director Axe seconded by Director Oneto, and carried to approve the agenda as presented.

**PUBLIC MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA:** John Colburn, City of Plymouth addressed the Board of Directors his frustration with finding today's agenda and meeting details on the website. Greg Gillott, County Council assured Mr. Colburn that though it may not be easy to find it is located on the Amador Fire website.

Jamie Lubenko addressed the Board of Directors apologizing for not having Director Crews correct phone number, assured the Board that she is not here to dismiss other people's opinions and urged them not to dismiss the 530 petition signatures of bringing Volunteer Battalion Chief A. Moreno back to AFD. Jamie addressed Director Crew and asked the status of the follow-up with Volunteers. Director Crew and Director Axe to meet with Volunteers.

Keith White, City of Plymouth addressed the Board of Directors that Plymouth was fortunate to have fireworks within the city of Plymouth, Mr. Moreno was there to ensure safety. I have also heard from Mr. White (Chief), Director Oneto and Director Forster. Thank you for reaching out.

Director Oneto to Keith White, asked if he was “concerned” or “unhappy” with the dismissal of Antonio Moreno. Keith replied “unhappy”.

Diane Bennett of Fiddletown addressed the Board of Directors expressing her unhappiness with the Board of Directors decision and would like to see Antonio reinstated.

Mark Merrick of Fiddletown of 20 years addressed the Board of Directors expressing how upset and unhappy he is with the decision of the Board of Directors of how easy it was for them to dismiss someone who had almost 40 years of service.

David Bellerive, former Fire Chief of AFPD addressed the Board of Directors stating that he 100% supports the decision of the Board of Directors. Mr. Antonio Moreno continued to undermine authority of the District and Board of Directors and reinstating would be a very bad idea. The decision of the Board only moves the District forward. I am available if anyone wants to reach out to me.

John Colburn, City of Plymouth addressed the Board of Directors stating how he disagreed with Director Brown’s military analogy at the last meeting and expresses how upset and mad that the City of Plymouth is in the dark. We are under contract with AFPD and there has been no official response from them. I request that a protocol be set up for situations like these.

Director Oneto reads a letter from Frank Moreno resident of Shenandoah Valley

Director Forster states that Mr. Colburn made a statement that we lack transparency. We cannot by law release information from closed session which is a disadvantage sometimes but making such a statement is not correct. We have received more emails such as one from Wendy Reagan who is a 5<sup>th</sup> generation resident of Amador County supporting our decision.

Director Oneto expresses his unhappiness of Chief White not giving him as requested the West Valley contract and how many people attended training.

Nicole Cook, Board Clerk address Director Oneto stating that the contract was emailed that morning. Chief White addressed Director Oneto stating that he will follow up with the Training Battalion Chief Aaron Watkins.

Director Oneto states that Butch Martin who is a retired Sutter Creek Chief also a volunteer for over 40 years stated that is very unhappy with what the AFPD BOD is doing. Need Volunteers, why are we getting rid of them. Local Chiefs are very unhappy.

Director Forster states that Battalion Chief Antonio Moreno also dismissed 7 volunteers on his own while with AFPD.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**June 2020 Calls Report:** Discussion ensued relative to subject matter. Chief White reviewed and presented subject report with the Board.

**Vehicle Maintenance Report:** Discussion ensued relative to subject matter. Battalion Chief Hamre reviewed and presented subject report with the Board.

**Training Report:** No Report given at this time since Training Officer Aaron Watkins was deployed on a strike team.

**Safe Surrender:** Discussion ensued relative to subject matter and presented by Community Risk Specialist Kayla Dale. Safe surrender baby sites are Station 111 in Pioneer, Station 114 in Pine Grove and Station 122 in Plymouth. Director Forster asked that when training occurs to please include all departments to work together.

**PUBLIC MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA:** Mark Matthews, Fire Chief of Pioneer Fire Protection District addressed the Board of Directors expressing his gratitude for the relationship they have with AFD.

### **MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS**

#### **Minutes for Meetings of June 16, 2020 and Special Meeting June 30, 2020:**

**MOTION:** It was moved by Director Oneto, seconded by Director Brown and unanimously carried to approve both sets of minutes with the following minor changes of spelling of names and replacing “concern” with “unhappy”.

**CLOSED SESSION:** At 11:42 a.m., the Board recessed into closed session. The following person was present during portions of this closed session: Members of the Board, the Fire Chief and Board Clerk. This portion of the meeting was not recorded.

#### **Closed Minutes of June 16, 2020:**

**MOTION:** It was moved by Director Oneto, seconded by Director Forster, and unanimously carried to approve the closed session minutes of June 16, 2020 with minor changes.

**ADJOURNMENT:** At 11:43 am., Chair Crew adjourned the meeting until August 18th at 10:30a.m.



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Chair, Amador Fire Protection District