

**MINUTES OF A RESCHEDULED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE TWENTYNINE PALMS WATER DISTRICT  
72401 HATCH ROAD, TWENTYNINE PALMS, CA 92277**

**DECEMBER 16, 2009**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS**

Call to Order and Roll Call

President Cisneros called the meeting to order at 6:16 p.m., 72401 Hatch Road, Twentynine Palms, California. Those responding to roll call were Directors Chancey Chambers, Philip Cisneros, Chris Gallagher, Sam Moore and Roger Shinaver. Also present were Fire Chief Jim Thompson, Financial Consultant Wayne Jones and District Secretary Paula Rogers.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

None

Public Comments

None

1. Closed Session

a. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS – Pursuant to Section 54957.6 of the California Government Code

Agency Designated Representatives: Legal Counsel Joseph Sanchez  
and Jeff Ferre

Unrepresented Employee: Fire Chief

Director Moore moved to enter closed session at 6:17 p.m., seconded by Director Gallagher and unanimously approved.

The Board returned to open session at 6:54 p.m. Director Cisneros announced no action was taken during closed session that is required to be reported under the Brown Act.

2. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve Fire Chief Employment Agreement  
Following discussion, the Board approved the Fire Chief's Employment Agreement by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Directors Cisneros, Gallagher and Moore  
Noes: Director Chambers and Shinaver

3. Discuss and Approve Staff Recommendation Concerning Application for Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant

Chief Thompson stated the requirements of an application for the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant. Chief Thompson further explained that if an application is submitted, the department would incur minimal fiscal impact during the first two years, but further requirements of the Grant would result in a fiscal impact of \$400,000. Chief Thompson also added that this fiscal impact would occur in the final year that the special tax rate is projected to fiscally support current staffing. Chief Thompson stated Staff recommendation is to forego the submission of a SAFER Grant application due to its fiscal impact. Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Board that the Fire Department forego the Application for Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant.

4. Appointment of Director to the Fire Department Task Force

Chief Thompson briefly explained the breakdown of committee members required for the Fire Department Task Force, consisting of two City of Twentynine Palms Council Members and two Twentynine Palms Water District Board Members. Chief Thompson further stated it is necessary to replace Alan Anthony, a former Board Member. Following discussion, Director Gallagher volunteered to serve on the Fire Department Task Force. It was the consensus of the Board that Director Gallagher replace Alan Anthony as a Fire Department Task Force member.

5. Consent Calendar

- Minutes of the Rescheduled Meeting held on November 18, 2009
- Audit List

Director Moore requested removal of the audit list.

Director Moore moved to adopt the Minutes from the consent calendar, seconded by Director Gallagher and approved by the Board.

6. Items Removed From the Consent Calendar for Discussion or Separate Action

The audit list was removed from the Consent Calendar. Following discussion, Director Moore moved to adopt the audit list, seconded by Director Gallagher and approved by the Board.

7. Department Reports

7.1 Fire Chief's Report

Chief Thompson reported the Department responded to 181 calls for assistance during the month of November. Chief Thompson reminded citizens of winter advisories such as watching their speed during periods of rain and to safely use heating appliances.

7.2 Finance Report

Mr. Jones stated the Fire Department is currently tracking above budget.

7.2.1 Grant Status Report

Chief Thompson reported the Department finally received 2007 State Homeland Security Grant reimbursement monies from the County. Chief Thompson further stated delays for receiving the money were due to the tightening of reporting requirements from the County to the State. Chief Thompson also said there is \$9,000 available for the 2009 State Homeland Security Grant.

8. Future Agenda Items and Staff Tasks/Directors' Comments and Reports

Director Cisneros wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

9. Adjournment

On motion by Director Moore, seconded by Director Shinaver and approved by the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

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Philip C. Cisneros, President  
Board of Directors

Attest:

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Mike Wright, Board Secretary  
Twentynine Palms Water District