

**MINUTES of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS, REGULAR MEETING
ANDERSON VALLEY COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
BOONVILLE FIREHOUSE, 14281 Highway 128
March 20th, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.**

APPROVED

1. Called to order by Director **McKenna** at 5:31 pm. Members present: Kathleen **McKenna**, Larry **Mailliard**, Paul **Soderman**, and François **Christen**. Valerie **Hanelt** on speaker phone. Staff present: Joy **Andrews**, Clay **Eubank**, Andres **Avila** and Patty **Liddy**
2. RECOGNITION OF GUESTS AND HEARING OF PUBLIC: Mark **Scaramella** and Emergency Services Coordinator of Mendocino County Rick “Alert” **Elhert**. **Andrews** addressed the Board to share that there is a new group being formed in Anderson Valley to address the usage of Round-up at the wineries. They may be coming to the Board to keep them apprised.
3. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED – Reviewed.
4. CHANGES OR MODIFICATION TO THIS AGENDA: Changes were made to accommodate Rick **Elhert** to address the Board regarding the Emergency Sirens. 10.a. to 6.a. 16.e. to 6.c. 6. a to 6.b. 6. b. to 6.c. 6. c. to 6.d. 6. d to 6.e. and 6.e to 6.f. *Motion by Christen to change the agenda. 2nd by Soderman. All ayes, no nays.*
5. CONSENT CALENDAR:
 - a. Approval of February 20th, 2019 CSD Board Minutes.
 - b. Approval of Expenditures as Reviewed at the March 13th, 2019 Budget Committee Meeting Per the Minutes. The consent calendar was accepted.
6. NEW BUSINESS:
 - a. Emergency Sirens – Elhert presented to the Board that there is federal funding available through the Hazard Mitigation Grant. Mendocino is in the process of getting fire cameras throughout Mendocino County for “look-outs”. Some of these are free through a company called Script. The Alert and Warning Sirens federal money is being passed through the State. The State accepted County letters of interests. Now they’re working on a grant application for approval. These sirens would be for all hazards; not just fire, but tsunamis and other hazardous acts. The County will be managing the project. The funding side is a 25% matching grant with 75% being funded by the Hazard Mitigation Grant. **McKenna** asked what would the price of one siren be and the answer is that Elhert is not sure yet. Cases of what models will be feasible will depend on location, terrain, if a power pole is in place and other considerations. He guesses that the high-end will be around \$25,000. Fire Districts will have the duty of keeping up the maintenance of the sirens. **Scaramella** wanted to know what the public should do when these sirens go off. Elhert explained that along with the siren grant will be funding to educate the public. The sirens are meant as a “wake up” call and the public should look for information, take notice and get ready to evacuate. **Avila** shared that the Fire Protection Committee voted against the sirens because of a concern about the public panicking. Does the cost justify what may happen in six to ten years from now? Who pays then? Any tool is good, but is this going to be effective? Rancho Navarro is committed to paying for their siren and so is Yorkville. We have \$13,000 in emergency reserves that the Budget Committee deems available if this road is pursued. **Mailliard** expressed great concern about the panic issue. He stressed that there must be a well-thought-out evacuation plan that people will adhere to. **Christen** agreed with **Mailliard** and that educating the public was a top priority suggesting KZYX and other sources to give out the information during a siren warning. **Christen** also thinks that if the sirens don’t work in six years or more that we then re-think the strategy. Elhert shared that the sirens that they are considering will be guaranteed for ten to fifteen years. The sirens would be sealed and not need much in terms of maintenance. He also said that there will be feasibility studies by the siren vendor who will do studies on the topography, vegetation, fog, etc. Comptche has already declined the sirens because of their thick canopy of forests where the sound will not travel effectively. **Eubank** asked Elhert if there were any case studies for the sirens. There is not. **Avila** asked Elhert when the memorandum of understanding (MOU) deadline was. Elhert says that if the plan is not a good fit for the Anderson Valley that we can pull out even if we write a letter of consent. *Motion by Mailliard to write a letter of commitment to get into the grant process, but we need more time pending the MOUs from Rancho Navarro and Yorkville and the feasibility studies. 2nd by Christen. McKenna – aye, Christen – aye, Mailliard – aye, Hanelt – aye, Soderman – nay. Soderman* wondered if our community should have input. Elhert said that community outreach will be a part of this County wide, but we can’t have the community outreach until the grant is approved.
 - b. Current State of Ambulance (EMS) Presentation – **Eubank** updated the Board about the current state of the EMS. Staffing issues regarding the ambulance shifts is a big concern. The annual budget for the EMS has been about \$100K. With the ALS enhancement fund it is possible to spend \$40k on volunteer stipends which gives each person \$30 a shift. The ALS enhancement fund also allows the AVEMS to have a paramedic on call for the weekends and to help out on other shifts as well. The membership is at 580 members. **Eubank** is doing three to five shifts a week.

The good news is that there are seven fire fighter personnel in the EMT class right now so there is potential for new staff.

c. EOA Update - **Avila** reported on the latest happening in regards to the Request for Proposal (RFP). Recently there was a bidding proposal conference which he and **Eubank** attended. There were many questions asked by Fire Districts. It was mandatory that any contractors attend this conference. Each contractor will give their own model of how they will fit in with the County. There was discussion of one paramedic full-time or intermixing of paramedics part-time. If we have a paramedic here in Anderson Valley, if the RFP goes forward, we will not have the ALS grant nor be eligible for IGT or GEMT funds. **Avila** stresses four points in all of this:

- Maintain or increase quality of existing emergency medical services to our community
- Local autonomy to ensure long term stability of our ambulance service with or without the EOA
- Promote and retain the use of local EMS personnel
- Maintain AVFD ambulance membership program and reciprocity from the awarded contractor

This was just an informational presentation at this time.

Eubank and Elhert left at 7:04pm

d. GSRMA Vote for Special District Representative – it was decided that the AVCS D Board will vote for Comptche Community Services District. *Motion by Soderman to vote for Comptche as the GSRMA Special District representative. 2nd by Christen. All ayes, no nays.*

e. Letter of Support for Bill to Increase Safe Water Drinking Act – **Hanelt** presented a letter to the Board for their consideration that we send a letter of support to Senator Monning for Bill SB 200. The bill recognizes that low income people who may not have the funds for safe drinking water should have safe drinking water. *Motion by Hanelt to send a letter of support for SB 200 bill. 2nd by Mailliard. All ayes, no nays.* **Andrews** will get the letter ready for **Hanelt** to sign.

f. LAFCo – CSA #3: Dissolution of Inactive Districts – **Avila** wanted the Board to be aware that he is monitoring this. LAFCo oversees the money that goes to special districts and he wants to make sure we are guarding out area. The MCAFD is also watching this.

Hanelt disconnected at 7:20pm

g. California Fire Chiefs Association Template to Comply with CA Senate Bill 1205 (Informative Only) Part of the new requirements is that the Chief report to the Board his annual inspections. Accountability is now on policy makers to make sure that the Fire Chief is doing inspection reports.

7. GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT: (Copy attached):

- ATM Update
- Airport Layout Plan
- Injury & Illness Prevention Plan
- EMS IGT Funding

8. FIRE CHIEF’S REPORT: (Copy attached)

- Elkhorn Structure Burn – Scheduled for March 30th. This course will result in an Office of State Fire Marshall (OSFM) “Fire Control 3” certification.
- District Fire Inspections are in full swing.
- OSFM Inspector 1 Task Book – The Fort Bragg Prevention Chief will come down and review and verify **Avila**’s inspection program and signoff as much as he can.
- LARRO Equipment. Our Low Angle Rope and Rescue Operations (LARRO) equipment throughout the district needs replacing. **Avila** informed the Board of his intention to be using much of the rescue budget to order this equipment to outfit the central and west battalions.
- Yorkville Fire Station has recently lost its fire insurance.

9. FIRE PROTECTION COMMITTEE REPORT/EMS COMMITTEE: (Copies attached). Most of these minutes were discussed in the ambulance presentation by **Eubank** and the EOA update by **Avila**.

10. BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: (Copy attached).

a. Budget Chairperson Report & Recommendations:

- (1) Review and Recommend New Grant Opportunities: The USDA grant is pending.
- (2) Approved Purchase of 7400 Utility Vehicle – The Budget Committee recommended to the Board to approve this purchase. \$67k will cover the purchase of this and there will still be \$20K in the Apparatus Reserves. *Motion by Christen to approve of the purchase of a utility vehicle not to exceed \$67,000. 2nd by Soderman. All ayes, no nays, Hanelt absent.*

11. AIRPORT COMMITTEE REPORT: **Soderman** reported that there will be an inspection by Cal Trans at no cost. There was a discussion about the water/sewer project and that there is a large culvert that runs under the runway.
12. RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT: (Copy attached).
 - a. Review of Recreation Class Proposals or Trip Report Forms:
 - (1) Day Trip to Chico
 - (2) Basketball Camp
 - (3) AV Elderhome Community Garden
13. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT:
 - a. Recommendation for Salary Increase 3% plus COLA. Tabled until the next Budget and Board meeting.
14. POLICIES & PROCEDURES COMMITTEE REPORT: Did not meet.
15. OTHER BUSINESS: None
16. OLD BUSINESS:
 - a. Water Project Update – **McKenna** said the water plan cannot go forward until there is a site. **Andrews** shared that she will be going to Mendocino CSD to find out how their water system works.
 - b. MCAFD Update – Did not meet.
17. ANY SPECIAL ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA BUT APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE BOARD OR LEGALLY REQUIRED OR AUTHORIZED FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION-None
18. CONCERNS OF DIRECTORS- **Soderman** wanted to inform the Board that there is a new FPC member - Ed Pardini.
19. Adjourned at 8:05pm

Recording Secretary – Patty **Liddy**