

## **West Plainfield Fire Protection District**

24901 County Road 95, Davis, California 95616 (530)756-0212

**Minutes - December 15, 2020  
West Plainfield Board of Commissioners  
Held via Video and Teleconference**

**Remote Meeting Locations:**

25258 County Road 95, Davis, CA 95616  
34791 Creeksedge Road, Davis, CA 95616  
25635 County Road 96, Davis, CA 95616  
37007 Russell Boulevard, Davis, CA 95616  
26213 County Rd 96, Davis, CA 95616

**1) CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by James McMullen and a quorum was established.

Present were:

**Commissioners:** James McMullen, Jim Yeager, Richard Guarino, and Charles Hjerpe (joined at 7:05pm)  
**Staff:** Fire Chief Cherie Rita, Assistant Chief Bill Heins, Assistant Chief Stiles, Captain Scott Bravo, Lieutenant Patrick Fish, Firefighter Steve Sheehan (in his capacity as a district resident)

**2) PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**3) OLD BUSINESS**

a) Update – Forced Abatements

i) APN 037-110-005 – 26960 County Road 96

AC Heins had a discussion with the head of maintenance for the Davis Joint Unified School District. After discussing the process and the additional costs associated with the administration of forced abatement, the head of maintenance decided she would much rather have them do the work themselves. The head of maintenance is now in the process of obtaining bids for the work to be completed. AC Heins suggests the Board allow the school district a few weeks to get that accomplished. If abatement is not completed, then the board can bring the forced abatement to the next meeting.

**Motion By:** Commissioner Yeager

**2nd:** Commissioner Hjerpe

**To have the Davis Joint Unified School District remove the vegetation on Russell Blvd. at their own expense.**

President McMullen asked for a roll call.

Commissioner Yeager - Aye

Commissioner Hjerpe - Aye

Commissioner Guarino - Aye

Commissioner McMullen - Aye

### **Motion Passed 4-0**

#### **b) Update – Weed Abatement (AC Heins)**

AC Heins stated that of the properties originally identified as being deficient in their weed abatement, several have made enough progress that the district no longer needs to pursue forced weed abatement. However, there have been additional properties that have been identified that continue to be deficient in their weed abatement. AC Heins stated an update will come to the board at the next meeting if regarding those that have not completed their abatement.

Commissioner Yeager stated his concern is that these properties that have not completed their weed abatement will not get done until next year since the rainy season is near. AC Heins stated that, weed abatement is a year-round process. He recognizes that just because there has been one rainfall, does not mean that the vegetation management in the district isn't continuing to be a problem. The district will continue to enforce abatement as appropriate.

Commissioner McMullen asked how the district will get the job done and the vegetation managed before the next fire season, unlike this year. AC Heins stated that due to inconsistent staffing for the past 3 years the weed abatement has not been consistent. Now that this year there has been consistent staffing the weed abatement was not achieved until halfway through the season. AC Heins also stated that because of Chief Rita's rewrites of the letters and cards sent out to residents, the district now has a hard start date. Additionally, the district now has the ability to utilize volunteers to make initial inspections much timelier. Finally, he estimates by the end of April or beginning of May, the district should have identified the properties with issues and for the process to be much more streamlined.

Commissioner Hjerpe suggests there be consequences to the properties who are deficient in their weed abatement. AC Heins also agrees and noted that there is a process the district goes through to make a correction prior to forced abatement.

Commissioner Yeager suggests starting next year with the properties who have not been committed to the program first. AC Heins agrees with Commissioner Yeager's suggestion.

#### **c) Update - W230 Replacement (Chief Rita)**

Chief Rita requested AC Stiles give the update instead. AC Stiles stated he traveled to South Dakota last month for a final inspection on W230. Some issues were found but have since then been corrected prior to delivery. W230 was delivered December 11 and picked up and taken to Chief Stiles' shop for final equipment installation. W230 should be in service towards the end of December.

## **4) LILLARD HALL**

#### **a) Manager Report (Manager Sinclair)**

Manager Sinclair is currently in the process for collecting bids to repair hall doors. After consulting a locksmith, it was discovered that the hall doors need to be replaced, due to out of date hardware. She is now collecting bids on replacing the hall doors from door companies. Manager Sinclair also stated she is collecting bids from tree trimming companies to have the trees outside the hall pruned.

President McMullen asked about the current use of the hall. Manager Sinclair answered that due to COVID the hall is still currently closed and to be only used for training for the Fire Department. Commissioner Guarino and Commissioner Yeager had a suggestion about Nonprofits' use of the hall and recommended that nonprofits that are in the district can have use of the hall at no cost. This is to be added to the agenda for the upcoming meeting in January.

## 5) NEW BUSINESS

- a) Discussion / Action – Out of District Volunteer Applications (AC Heins)

AC Heins stated that at this time there are no out of district applicants.

- b) Discussion/Action – Support for County Sales Tax Ballot Initiative (Chief Rita)

Chief Rita stated that since the last meeting the county has not put out a plan regarding use of funds that would be collected if a ballot initiative were put to a vote and passed; there is not much more to update at this meeting. She also stated the AC Stiles, who is a member of the committee, attended a recent committee meeting and suggested he give the board an update based on that meeting.

AC Stiles stated that nothing was decided in the meeting and they plan to meet again in January with county representatives. He stated that the county's goal is to have a plan finalized in January, out to the county chiefs by February, to the boards of each fire district by February or March, and to the board of supervisors by April.

Commissioner Yeager's concern is who is going to vote on this tax. AC Stiles stated that the intent of the tax is to collect a ½ cent tax on rural sales. It will not be applied to anything sold within the incorporated areas. It will be voted on in unincorporated areas.

## 6) APPROVAL OF PRIOR BOARD MEETINGS

Clerk Gonzalez stated that she wanted to get these minutes corrected and uploaded to the website since these minutes were created by the previous clerk.

- a) Special Meeting of October 19, 2020
- b) Regular Meeting of October 20, 2020
- c) Regular Meeting of November 17, 2020

President McMullen stated that if any committees or liaison commissioners had any meetings to report on to do so at that time.

Minor corrections were noted.

**Motion By:** Commissioner Guarino

**2nd:** Commissioner Hjerpe

**To approve the minutes of October 19, October 20, and November 17 as corrected.**

President McMullen asked for a roll call

Commissioner Yeager - Aye

Commissioner Hjerpe - Aye

Commissioner Guarino - Aye

Commissioner McMullen - Aye  
**Motion Passed 4-0**

**7) CALENDAR**

Next regular Board meeting on January 19, 2021 at 7:00pm unless another date is agreed upon

**Motion By:** Richard Guarino

**2nd:** Jim Yeager

**To Adjourn Meeting.**

President McMullen asked for a roll call

Commissioner Yeager - Aye

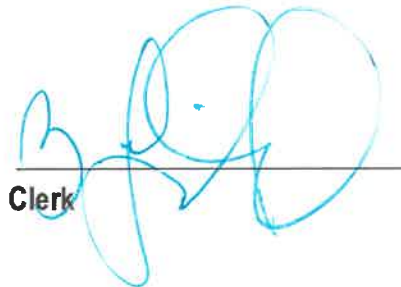
Commissioner Hjerpe - Aye

Commissioner Guarino - Aye

Commissioner McMullen - Aye

**Motion Passed 4-0**

**Meeting adjourned 7:37 pm**

  
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**President**  
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**Clerk**