**EAST DAVIS COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

**625 COURT ST STE 204**

**WOODLAND, CA 95695-3490**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD February 18, 2021**

**VIA ZOOM MEETING**

**PRESENT:** Commissioners John Lindsey, Bill Weisgerber, Michael McMahon, David Robert

**ABSENT:** Tad Henderson

**OTHERS PRESENT**: Rich Reed, Assistant Supervisor, Joe Tenney, Davis Fire Department Chief

Chair Weisgerber called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**MINUTES**

Weisgerber summarized the minutes from the November 19, 2020 meeting and said that he would follow up and let the Chiefs Association know that the Board has withdrawn its support for the Proposition 172 effort. Weisgerber then told the Board that the new mailing address would be Station 33 so that correspondence can arrive more promptly. Robert then moved to approve the minutes. McMahon seconded. McMahon, Lindsey, Robert, and Weisgerber voted to approve the minutes.

**County Supervisor**

Reed then updated the Board on the County’s COVID-19 vaccination efforts. Reed reported that the County has been doing aggressive outreach programs to get vulnerable populations vaccinated. The County has recognized that many do not have access or are unable to access online resources so the County has been working with Meals on Wheels and other caregivers to vaccinate elderly residents in their homes. The County has had some residents refuse vaccinations but the staff is trying to get as many people vaccinated as possible.

Reed gave the Board an update on the Putah Creek ownership transfer and also said that the County is working on getting funding for the smaller fire districts that are currently struggling. Reed also reported that the County is working with Davis City Councilmembers Josh Chapman and Lucas Frierichs on the Mace Boulevard traffic issues.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE**

Chief Tenney updated the Board on the Department’s COVID-19 efforts and said that 70% of the Department employees have had their second round of vaccinations. Tenney said the County should be in the red tier by the coming week and that rates of infection are going down in the County. Tenney said that the Yolo County Chiefs organization is working on helping with vaccinations for the public and that they are also looking at call volumes to try and work together to respond to some of the rural districts that do not have consistent fire service.

Tenney then offered details on the Department’s effort to secure funding for a ladder truck to serve the City. Currently the Department has to call for outside help if a ladder truck is required and that there are currently over 200 3-story buildings in Davis with more 4 to 7-story buildings in planning or being built. The equipment the Department has can only reach to the 2nd story of a building so there is a great need for a ladder truck. The Department will present the final proposal to the City Council on March 16th and if approved the specification and bid process will begin. The Department is seeking grants to pay for the truck, staffing for the truck, and new dual-band radios to enable personnel to carry one radio instead of the current system of having to carry one VHF radio and one 800 MHz radio in order to be able to communicate with other agencies. Tenney said that the Department is also looking at replacing one of the Engine trucks in July.

Tenney then told the Board that the Department is holding Battalion Chief exams in order to fill the vacancy for the “A” shift. Once that position has been filled, the Department will work to promote other personnel to the Captain rank and then also hire new firefighters to replace current firefighters who will be retiring soon. Tenney said that the City is going to a 2-year budget cycle and that he hopes that funding will be available for restoring some positions that were defunded due to COVID-19 revenue shortfalls.

Tenney reported that he is also working on the Mace Boulevard traffic issues with City and County staff in order to reduce any effects on response time from Station 33. So far there have not been many issues but calls made to the blocks south of Cowell often result in traffic blockages as the responding units cannot fit in the lane with other vehicles because of the narrow width of the lane.

Weisgerber then asked about where the ladder truck would be stationed when it arrives. Tenney said that the plan would be to have it stationed at Station 31 downtown but that it might have to be at Station 33 at times because Station 31 is in need of remodeling due to a lack of space.

McMahon asked about the status of the trailer that the District funded and Tenney said that he would check on the trailer and report back to the Board.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

Chair Weisgerber asked the Board to approve a $150 payment to Mark Krummenacker to prepare the annual SCO report. McMahon moved to approve the payment and Lindsey seconded the motion. McMahon, Lindsey, Weisgerber, and Robert all approved the motion.

**BUDGET PREPARATION**

Weisgerber said that he will engage with Mark Krummenacker and Marc Rotteveel to get the budget process started. Tenney let the Board know that Rotteveel is taking a new position on March 8th with West Sacramento but that the Department is looking to hire a replacement that would be 100% dedicated to Department financial management instead of the current 60%/40% shared position with the Police Department. Weisgerber said he will get in touch with Rotteveel as soon as possible so that there is no disruption in the budget process.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

* Budget review
* Weed abatement inspection tour
* Set weed abatement enforcement date

**NEXT MEETING**

**March 18, 2021** via Zoom meeting or in person depending on State health guidlines.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Robert, seconded by McMahon, to adjourn the meeting; approved unanimously at 6:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

John W. Lindsey

Board Member