



BODEGA BAY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 6
510 Highway One
Bodega Bay CA 94923

Committed
to
Safety and Service

Minutes of Special Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 17, 2017, 6:00 pm

BODEGA BAY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
510 Highway 1, Bodega Bay, California

1. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance:

President Martin called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

2. Roll call:

President Martin, Directors Kruppa, Love, Pickton and Bone were all present. Chief Grinnell and several members of staff were present.

3. Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Director Bone, 2nd by Director Kruppa, all were in favor.

4. Public Comment: *Any person wishing to speak to the Board on any item not listed on the agenda may do so under public appearance. All presentations made under public appearance are normally restricted to three (3) minutes in length per meeting unless the Board President specifically authorizes additional time.*

None.

5. Board Committee Mission & Vision Review/Revise:

Director Bone reported that the reason we are all here is because there was a committee meeting and there was some discussion, he referred to the board package and said that the funding committee has already been given the authority to go and speak to supervisors or whoever needed. He stated that the committee is a little reluctant to accept that authority without some direction. He stated that Linda Hopkins is now supervisor and is receptive to speaking to us and that is one tactic, although if we went and spoke to her what would we ask for. He said we know we need money and we could go and tell her that we don't care where it comes from either TOT, prop 172 or wherever but we need \$400,000.00. He stated that another tactic would be to go and re-address our post prop 13 status or do we just try and get on as a line item in the budget. He reported that if we go there today and ask for money the first stumbling block that we are going to have is the question of have we went to the fire counsel first. He said that there is a protocol of sorts and do we want to be a maverick and ignore that process knowing we are going to be sent back. He informed everyone that it isn't just a simple task to go talk to them.

President Martin reported that she felt that there is also some things that are in play have not been in play in past years such as the consolidation committee. She stated that they have been working very hard on addressing the items like sustainable funding, the budget line item, etc. She stated that the goal is to change that and in order to do that the county and LAFCO has asked them to put together a strategy on how to protect the tourism on the coast. The question arose as to if we need to go directly to the Board of Supervisors and stop going to the different department heads, and Director Bone reported that is what one of the questions that we needed to discuss. He reported that the committee was operating on the premise of Bodega Bay Fire Protection District is in dire need of some reasonable sustained funding.

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Director Pickton stated that he felt that they were two separate issues, one being the consolidation issue that he does not see any solutions of that putting any money in our pocket in the next year and he stated that he looks at that as independent from sustaining our day to day and month to month operations. He stated that the other item he looks at is he and Chief Grinnell have talked to Peter Bruland, who has agreed to come up with moneys in order to avoid a situation where we have to cut staffing. He said that issue could be addressed by the funding committee although they would need to have our finances as they are, or the funding committee could be part of the group that meets with Peter Bruland. He said that either way we are seeking around \$200,000.00 and the likely hook of us getting that is slim but we will get something. He stated that this is the hand to mouth example of asking to bail us out but at this point he doesn't see an alternative to this and that he would hesitate to go to the Board of Supervisors right now because we have the Ad Hoc committee item going on that is going to go through LAFCO. He said that he felt that LAFCO's recommendation to the Board of Supervisors would carry more weight than us just going to Linda Hopkins and ask for money.

Steve Herzberg reported that he felt that because of the Brown Act, unless everyone is sitting in the same room not everyone gets the same big picture and information. He stated that we are playing a short term game where in order to stay in the "big board game" we have to stay afloat. He stated that we have to ensure that we have our staffing and make sure that we got a new ambulance, this being the short game that started years ago. He stated that it started with our supervisor who did not understand our problems and having to explain to him what the issues were out here and convincing him that tourism is not particularly good for the residents who are paying for the safety net. He stated that after the commission came in and began to see the bigger picture they promised by the end of 2014 they would have solved our problems, after everything this became the "big board game". He felt that on one hand the Board has had to play the small game strategy of let's stay afloat, keep our employees, let's try and have a reserve account and let's try and be able to field equipment but never giving in on this bigger vision. He said that there are different roles being played and the big board strategy at the county level was handed off to the consolidation committee. He said that the task they had was to solve the funding issue and he felt that is what they have been doing and that he felt that they have come back and reported everything that has happened and how hard everyone has been working. He felt that the end goal is going to play out well for them but that there were other areas that he felt the funding committee would operate and that the consolidation committee had the county side covered but would not be touching the state side. He said that he hoped that the funding committee would go to the state and ask for funding on their end. He stated that he felt that the county level is taken care of and that he felt that we need general fund money or TOT and that they have been working towards getting that earmarked. He stated that looking at the big picture, there are multiple ways of getting funding that we have used or are working for such as grants and other options, but that we shouldn't limit ourselves. He said that he feels like we are in no position right now to go to the Board of Supervisors and ask for anything, he said that there are three ways to get on a agenda, one being in the public comment or go to an agency that deals with the money we are asking for they can go and ask them to calendar it, the third way is to go to our supervisor and tell her we would like this to be put on the agenda. Any way of going about it we would need to have a clear goal and that the big goal at the county level is being worked on by the consolidation committee and that he hopes the funding committee will do the same at the state level.

Director Bone reported that the funding committee felt that we need to have a decided tactic of how we are going to do things and who is going to be doing what, when and how so that we don't have multiple people going in and speaking to the same person on behalf of the District. He felt that it should be one group that goes in and says this is what we want and how we would like to go about it. Steve Herzberg stated that he felt that the consolidation committee has been doing exactly that, they have been doing all the hard work and then bringing it back to the Board to report everything that has happened.

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Director Pickton recommended that we take a look at where we are and what makes sense going forward. He stated that he did agree that there are different funding areas and that the grant funding should be left alone and leave it to Ray Hill and Dewey Kribs. He stated that he looks at the consolidation committee project as a separate issue and that that if someone needs to attend the funding committee meetings to make sure that everyone is up to date, then that is something that needs to be done. He said that he feels that the consolidation committee is doing great and that he doesn't necessarily feel that the funding committee needs to become a big part in the project but that the sustaining funding issue is definitely something that would be worth getting involved in and that he felt it would be good to have someone from the funding committee attend the next meeting that is scheduled with Peter Bruland. He stated that he felt that the state would have money somewhere and that would be the funding committee's place to research. He said that he feels that the consolidation committee is working very well and that he would not want to see that tampered with, although if they are not reporting to the funding committee enough he would like to see that happen more.

Director Bone reiterated that the funding committee already has their walking orders to go out and speak to people but that he knows that there are already other things in motion and that he is worried that when they go forth or someone else goes forth and speaks to the same person it may be counterproductive. He stated that the goal of this meeting was to clear up what we are going to do and how we are going to go about it. He said that if the consensus of the Board was that the consolidation committee has a handle on a huge amount of money then that is ok, he just wants everyone to be on the same page. Director Pickton reported that the consolidation committee has transformed into a MSR and that is what we should focus on. He stated that there will be a lot of information will be turned over to Mark Branfitt at LAFCO and he will turn it into the MSR. He stated that this is something separate and will not interfere with any other venues of asking for funding. After a long discussion on which committees are going for what funding and the communication between the committees the Board decided that the best option at this time would be to continue gathering all the information to put the document together to do the MSR and have someone brief the funding committee in more depth on where that process is before anyone goes to the state or county to ask for funding.

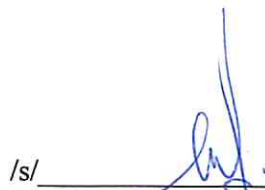
Director Pickton made a motion not to go to any state or county Board until we have our document ready, that the funding committee outlines a plan to take to the state once the document is ready and that we leave the grant funding alone. 2nd by Director Bone, approved by all (5-0-0)

6. Close:

The meeting closed at 7:04 pm.

Minutes approved on: 2/15/17
(date)


Liz Martin, Board President

/s/ 
Sean Grinnell, Fire Chief, Board Clerk