

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

**APRIL 30, 2014**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS**

Call to Order and Roll Call

President Moore called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m., 72401 Hatch Road, Twentynine Palms, California. Those responding to roll call were Chancey Chambers, Suzi Horn, Sam Moore, and Roger Shinaver. Director Bourikas was absent. Also present were Fire Chief Jim Thompson, and District Secretary Cindy Fowlkes.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Future Agenda Items and Staff Tasks/Directors' Comments and Reports has been added as Item #3. Adjournment has been moved to Agenda Item #4.

Public Comments

None

1. Consideration and Possible Action on Request for Proposals for Voter Survey, Outreach and Education on Proposed Fire Tax Measure

Chief Thompson recommends the Board award the contract to Lew Edwards Group and authorize the Fire Chief to execute the contract in an amount not to exceed \$49,375, plus additional printing and postage costs, and include a provision allowing for the termination of the contract if survey results are not favorable in passing a tax measure. The Lew Edwards Group has extensive experience working with special tax ballot measures.

Ed Vallerand, of Twentynine Palms, spoke against Agenda Item #1 as it could result in losing a paid fireman earlier than expected should the tax measure fail.

Anna O'Hare, of Twentynine Palms, spoke to Agenda Item #1 against spending funds when the community has been given ample time to consider the issue and act accordingly and suggested presenting the information in the Desert Trail instead of hiring an outside agency.

After discussion, Director Chambers made a motion to authorize the Chief to execute a contract with Lew Edwards Group for voter survey, outreach, and education services in an amount not to exceed \$49,375 and to include a provision for the option to terminate the contract if voter survey results reveal a lack of viability and subject to the review of the contract by District legal counsel, seconded by Director Horn and approved by the following roll call vote.

Ayes: Directors Chambers, Horn, and Moore  
Noes: Director Shinaver  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Director Bourikas

2. Consideration and Possible Action on Requesting Financial Assistance for the Fire Department from the City of Twentynine Palms


Chief Thompson provided information to the Board regarding a verbal agreement with the City to install and maintain OPTICOM systems on the traffic signals. An OPTICOM system has not been installed at the traffic signal at Larrea Avenue and the City is proposing two more traffic signals at Encelia and Lear Avenues. Chief Thompson recommended that the Twentynine

Palms Water District and the City of Twentynine Palms work together to modernize and expand Fire Station 421 in the near future with funds provided by the City.


Ed Vallerand, of Twentynine Palms, spoke to Agenda Item #2 with suggestions for funding and street improvements.

The Directors were in agreement to ask the City for a Joint Meeting to address a proposal for financial assistance, in the amount of \$165,000, with the primary goal being sustainability of the Fire Department. The Directors would also like to include the proposals for the OPTICOM systems and the modernization and expansion of Fire Station 421.

3. Future Agenda Items and Staff Tasks/Directors' Comments and Reports  
Director Shinaver would like Ordinance 63 and the water code pertaining to emergency service fees included on the May Agenda.  
Director Chambers thanked the audience for their attendance and staff for their work.
4. Adjournment  
On motion by Director Chambers, seconded by Director Horn and approved by the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

  
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Kerron E. Moore, President  
Board of Directors

Attest:

  
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Tamara Alaniz, Board Secretary  
Twentynine Palms Water District