



# North Sonoma Coast Fire Protection District

PO Box 386 The Sea Ranch, CA 95497

<http://nscfpd.org> - (707)785-2648

## NSCFPD Special Board Meeting Minutes

Friday, April 22, 2022, 2:30 p.m.

Sea Ranch North Fire Station (39250 Highway One, The Sea Ranch, CA, 95497)

---

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** 2:37 pm
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Directors Campbell, Gardener, Nybakken; Chief Plakos; CAL FIRE Battalion Chief Turbeville; Mark Bramfitt, Executive Officer, Sonoma County LAFCO
- III. **AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA:** None.
- IV. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** None.
- V. **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**
  - A. Discussion preparing for a meeting planned between all coastal agencies and BOS Supervisor Hopkins on May 11 at 5:30 p.m. Discussion centered around future personnel and equipment needs, regional issues, and funding needs. Discussed and finalized draft document summarizing these, attached as reference to these minutes.
- VI. **ADJOURNMENT** 3:30 pm

## North Sonoma Coast Fire Protection District

### Status Report

For Supervisor Hopkins' North Coast Fire Group Meeting

#### Current Status:

- District is able to provide solid service within our territory through use of CALFIRE contract, District volunteers, and ALS/ambulance coverage from Coast Life Support.
- Our volunteer ranks stable.
- Facility, vehicles, and equipment are in good shape for now, though aging will make them more expensive to maintain.
- Our finances are currently sufficient and stable to maintain service as it is. However, additional funding is needed to make any improvements, such as paid staff to manage the administration of the district, or enhanced CAL FIRE staffing

#### Future Concerns:

- Expectation that additional funding will eventually be required in order to maintain CALFIRE contract, probably within three years. We anticipate engaging with our residents to consider authorization of a special tax if needed.
- Continuing exactly as we are for the long-term is not sustainable, we need to shift away from volunteers doing most of the administration, and we want to increase our CAL FIRE staffing, at least by one person, to better meet the needs of the community. Both of these things require additional funding.
- Strong desire to see neighboring agencies, particularly Timber Cove, remaining viable.
- No resources to take on fire prevention/vegetation management responsibilities.
- Would like to devote more resources to community emergency planning initiatives.

#### Agency Reorganization:

- NSCFPD does not see an operational, leadership, or administrative need that would lead us to seek a reorganization with a neighboring agency.
- We understand that Timber Cove and Ft. Ross may face operational challenges in the future, but our geographical distance from their service area would seem to preclude any advantage to consolidation.
- We believe that the growing Northern Sonoma County FPD in District 6 may develop fire prevention/vegetation management programs that would be worthy of emulation in our territory. We would think that consulting with them or entering into a contractual arrangement could accomplish that given no operational/leadership/management imperative.

#### Other:

- We strongly support an increased CAL FIRE presence on the coast, and utilizing CAL FIRE as the vendor for career fire personnel for the entire region. We believe that the best but most difficult to obtain option would be an additional year-round CAL FIRE station somewhere between Sea Ranch and Jenner, other more attainable options should be seriously considered in

the near-term. We propose finding funding to support Amador (non-fire-season) staffing of E1451 at the Sea Ranch station, and funding of an Amador engine at the Cazadero CAL FIRE station. During the “winter” those engines could be regional resources, providing increased response for all of the coastal agencies.