



MINUTES
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING OF THE CRESCENT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD AND THE CRESCENT CITY CITY COUNCIL
CRESCENT FIRE HALL
255 W. WASHINGTON BLVD.
CRESCENT CITY, CA 95531

Monday **May 18, 2010** **6:00 p.m.**

Call to Order Mayor Schellong called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Roll Call Council Members present: Murray, Burns, Slert, Westfall and Mayor Schellong
Board Members present: Chairman Nelson, Short, Kelley, Erler
Others present: City Manager Rod Butler, Deputy City Clerk Robin Patch, City Attorney Robert Black, and Police Chief Doug Plack

Pledge of Allegiance Board Member Dave Short

COMMUNICATIONS

➤ **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD** – there were no public comments.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Receive report from Fire Chief Steve Wakefield on the joint administrative services between the two agencies.

Mayor Schellong expressed her appreciation for the members of the public in attendance and the volunteer firefighters for their service to Del Norte County. Fire Chief Wakefield introduced his wife, Deborah, and expressed his appreciation for her work for tonight's meeting. Don Brooks of Cal Fire spoke in regards to the relationship of the local fire departments and its benefit to those involved. He applauded the firefighters as being "outstanding" and the vision of both the Board and the City Council. He was encouraged by tonight's meeting and hopes for more in the future. Arcata Fire Chief John McFarland was introduced by Chief Wakefield. Chief McFarland gave a historical perspective of "Crescent Metro". He pointed out Arcata Fire District Chief Larry Mendez as being in the audience. Chief McFarland spoke regarding the history of the Crescent Fire Protection District Board in detail and about the creation of the Del Norte Strike Team during the Biscuit Fire in Gasquet. He also spoke in detail about grants that the Fire Department was able to obtain and the way the monies were spent to benefit them. He also stated that the dispatch at the fire department is a back up dispatch for the Sheriff's Office as well as Ms. Cindy Henderson being added to the department. Chief McFarland stated that Crescent Fire District was the first in the state to be a certified pet resuscitation facility. He spoke on the fact that Humboldt County and Del Norte County Fire Chiefs meet regularly to network and that recently Mendocino County and Trinity County asked to join them. He gave impressive statistics on the response time due to the coordination between Crescent Fire and City Fire. Chief Wakefield took to the podium and gave his detailed report with a PowerPoint presentation. He stated that last year the Fire Department responded to 1,491 calls. Chief Wakefield went over the www.iamresponding.com website and explained that firefighters log in by calling a phone number. It shows who is responding to what situation on the website and Chief Wakefield can access the information via the computer in his unit as well as on his cell

phone. Discussion began regarding the Fire Marshall job that is being done by Chief Wakefield. City Attorney Bob Black stated that fees are often charged in the inspection for multi-family housing, businesses, etc. in many communities. Chief Wakefield stated that would be a good idea for our fire department. Mr. Black agreed that it would make a lot of sense to have fees charged for the work that the Fire Marshall does for Del Norte County. Chief Wakefield stated that on June 16th at 6pm, there will be a Firefighter 1 graduation at the Cultural Center and encouraged both the Council and the Board to attend. Mayor Schellong asked if the City or County have a Firefighter Explorer program like Smith River - Chief Wakefield stated that it is difficult to ask the volunteers to do more than they already do, but that if someone in the Department wanted to take it on, he'd support it. Mayor Pro Tem Burns stated that he remembered the times that weren't as good as they are now and that he is pleased at how well the districts are working together. Mayor Schellong recalled the time when she presented the Medal of Honor to the fire department for saving Anthony Bookhammer's life and that it was an instrumental time in her term as Mayor. She stated that the volunteer firefighters mean a lot to her and applauded City Manager Rod Butler for his leadership for the City. Council Member Murray thanked the Board for hosting the meeting tonight and has learned quite a bit. She also thanked the volunteers and Chiefs for their work. Chairman Nelson stated that this relationship between the City and the Board has been a win-win situation. He hopes that other organizations use this group as a model.

Joe Gregorio, Crescent Fire, stated that they have the highest rate for saving people's lives.

Chief Wakefield invited everyone outside to watch the firefighter training already in progress.

➤ **City Council/Fire Protection Board Directives – None**

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn the meeting to the regularly scheduled City Council meeting on Monday, June 7, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Schellong adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m. to adjourn to the regularly scheduled City Council meeting on Monday, June 7, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

By: Robin Patch, Deputy City Clerk
for Rod B. Butler City Clerk