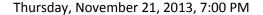


## Wildfire Prevention Assessment District

## Staff Report for





Trudeau Center, 15500 Skyline Blvd., Oakland CA (Wheel Chair Accessible)

Meeting Called to Order by the Chair Bob Sieben at 7:02pm.

Board Members present: Bob Sieben (Chair), Dinah Benson, Fred Booker, Diane Hill, Katherine Moore, Ken Thames, Barbara Goldenberg, Doug Wong, Nick Luby, Lar Bryer, and Lin Barron (OWLS)

Also present was Vincent Crudele Supervisor Fire Prevention Bureau, City of Oakland, Oakland Fire Department and Chief Theresa Reed.

- 1) Staff Report- Vincent Crudele gave a 'staff' report or update on the following:
  - a. Fire inspection status; 2013 inspections were nearly complete including all reinspections and public and private parcels. No written report given or distributed to the Board with numbers and %.
  - b. Vegetation management report, outstanding contracts. Vincent reported by November 8th that the contractor had cleared the 2<sup>nd</sup> clearing of Shepherd Canyon roadside and Clarewood and Bagshotte Drives. He reported that there were 2 more roadside clearance contracts going out to bid and that there were 34 Private Parcel Contracts to be completed in 2013.
  - c. Update on the Goat Grazing Contract. No new action as the Goat Grazing Company was 'too busy' to meet with Vincent and the Department to discuss the next contract.
  - d. Progress on the hiring process for the funded Program Analyst II and the Botanist- The Chief spoke here with opening remarks geared to the reading of a letter in Open Forum that she felt misquoted her and then she went on to ask the Board if they wished her to pursue the Program Analyst II position given the election results. The Board approved unanimously the Chief and Fire Department continuing with the hiring of the Program Analyst II. No specific action was taken by the Board to seek hiring and setting a funding limit for the Botanist however both the Board and citizens in attendance thought the District would still need to develop the 2014 Vegetation Management Plan and that this plan would need to be informed and assisted by the Botanist. The Chief closed her remarks by saying that she would inform HR to establish and schedule interviews with the primary candidates for the Program Analyst II.
  - e. Status of the Fire inspectors and the need for advocacy by the Board for their being full time was discussed. Vincent Crudele stated that the elimination of full time inspectors has greatly reduced Staff ability to complete inspections in a timely manner and greatly delayed all vegetation management practices on public and private properties alike.

- Staff is advocating the Advisory Committee and Citizens contact the Mayor, City Council, and Fire Chief to hire full time inspectors. The Chief mentioned that she would speak with Vincent about possibly changing the temporary timing of their current temporary contracting so it better coincided with the actual inspection regimen.
- f. Status of the CEQA (including Chabot, Skyline, Garber Park and beyond). There was no further update as October's report which had identified Darren Ranoletti within the City as the responsible party the Staff had no new CEQA updates.

The December WPAD Advisory Board Meeting is Thursday, December 19, 2013 at 7pm at Trudeau Center.