

Chester Public Utility District
PO Box 503
251 Chester Airport Rd.
Chester, Ca. 96020
530-258-2171

Minutes of Special Meeting: October 10, 2023, at 5:30pm. Located in the Chester Public Utility District conference room: 251 Chester Airport Road.

Directors Present: Kim Green, Steve Voboril, Arthur Tharpe, Royce Raker and Steve Graffweg,

Directors Absent: None

Guests Present: 11

Staff Present: 7

1. **Call to Order:** Director Voboril called the meeting to order at 5:31pm.
 - a. Director Voboril led the Pledge of Allegiance.
 - b. Roll Call/Attendance: Director Voboril let it be known that all Directors were present.
 - c. Agenda Approval: Director Voboril suggested switching items 3 and 4. Director Green made a motion to accept agenda. Director Raker seconded. All in favor, motion carried.
2. **Public Comment Agenda Items:** None
3. **Closed Session: read verbatim from the agenda by Director Voboril at 5:35pm:**
 - a. Public Employee Appointment Gov. Code, Section 54954.3
4. **Reconvene:** 6:05pm
5. **Report on Closed:** Information only. Advice given to Board by District Counsel.
6. **Resignations of General Manager and Chief:**
 - Director Green stated her support of the GM and the Chief and stand behind them.
 - GM Cox stated that he has appreciated working with this board and wished that Seneca Hospital and Plumas County supported Chester Fire in the efforts to keep the doors open.
 - Chief Balzarini believes he is a distraction. He will have a presentation at the October 25th meeting to show clarity in what he has dealt with over the last year.

After some off topic public comments and brief discussion, Director Tharpe made a motion to table the accepting of the 2 resignations until October 25th. Director Raker seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

7. **Comments:**

Directors: Director Raker stated that GM Cox is very intelligent. He is sorry that he and the Chief have been put in this position. He is sorry to see them go.

Director Green wants to find other revenue opportunities. GM Cox stated that he didn't see anywhere else to cut expenses.

Director Graffweg stated that he volunteered for Chester Fire for 9 years, years ago. Responding to 911 calls was viewed as heroic. He feels this is just part of the job. The fighting with the unions has been overwhelming.

Staff: none

8. **Adjournment:** Director Raker made a motion to adjourn at 6:45pm. Director Green seconded the motion. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Clerk to the Board, Cheryl Johnson

Approval of Minutes 