

CALL AND NOTICE OF EMERGENCY MEETING

MONTECITO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MONTECITO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Held at El Montecito Presbyterian Church, 1455 East Valley Road, Montecito, California, August 6, 2007 was called to order by John Venable, Secretary at 6:00 p.m. Present were Director Jensen, Director Venable and Director Newquist. Others present at the meeting: Kevin Wallace, representatives of the U.S. Forest Service, Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office, California Highway Patrol, Montecito Water District, and several hundred members of the public.

1. Notification of the meeting was given to the Board Members at least one hour prior to the meeting. No local newspapers, radio or television stations have requested notice of special meetings. Chief Wallace briefly explained the purpose of the meeting related to the emergency situation presented by the Zaca fire. John Venable, Secretary of the Board acted as temporary chair. On a motion made by Director Newquist, seconded by Director Venable, the Board noted unanimously to determine that an "emergency situation" as defined in Government Code Section 54956.5 exists due to the Zaca fire which threatens public safety in the Montecito Fire Protection District.
2. Many public comments and questions were received throughout the meeting.
3. Fire Chief Kevin Wallace introduced Dan Klienman, Deputy Incident Commander from the U.S. Forest Service, two Santa Barbara County Sheriff Deputies, two representatives from the California Highway Patrol, John Bridgewater District Ranger of the Ojai District of the United States Forest Service, and Ken Heffner, Forest Supervisor of the Los Padres National Forest.

4. Deputy Operations Chief Dan Klienman gave a lengthy update on the Zaca fire and its current location. He explained that the fire had breached the Buckhorn Road and was approximately three and a half miles from the Santa Ynez River. Lengthy discussion and public questions followed.
5. Fire Chief Wallace and the Sheriff Deputies described evacuation processes and procedures. Salud Carbajal, First District County Supervisor, and Deputy County Administrator Terry Maus-Nisch provided additional information. Members of the public were referred to MERRAG and the Fire District's website, www.montecitofire.com. Fire Chief Wallace explained that if the Zaca fire crosses the Santa Ynez River, a 24 hour evacuation warning will be issued. If the Zaca fire crosses East Camino Cielo heading south, a six hour evacuation warning will be issued and at some point an evacuation order could be issued.
6. Members of the public asked numerous questions regarding the evacuation process and procedures and responses were provided by the U.S. Forest Service, the Fire Chief, County Sheriff's Department, and the California Highway Patrol.
7. Director Venable adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Attached is a copy of an article from the Santa Barbara News-Press regarding the emergency meeting, as well as an e-mail from the District summarizing the meeting.