

CAMBRIA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

TO: Board of Directors

AGENDA NO. **7.B**

FROM: Matthew McElhenie, General Manager

Meeting Date: January 9, 2025

Subject: Discussion Regarding Title and Focus of the
Proposed New Standing Committee - Amended
1/6/2025

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no direct financial impact; however, staff time is associated with the preparation, administration, and support of this item.

DISCUSSION:

The Cambria Community Services District (CCSD) Board of Directors has expressed interest in enhancing oversight and community engagement regarding fire protection services. Currently, the Board addresses fire protection issues as part of broader discussions in general Board meetings. However, a dedicated standing Fire Protection Committee could provide more focused review, guidance, and support for the Cambria Fire Department's ongoing needs and initiatives.

The Fire Protection Committee would be established to advise the Board in ensuring the safety of people and property through effective fiscal planning, fire prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery strategies.

Proposed Statement of Purpose & Responsibilities of the Fire Protection Committee:

The proposed Fire Protection Committee would support and seek to enhance the District's fire protection services. The committee will serve as an advisory body to the Board of Directors, focusing on the effective planning, implementation, and evaluation of fire protection policies, resources, and programs.

Strategic Planning and Policy Development:

- Evaluate fire protection, prevention, and safety policies, ordinances, and procedures.
- Recommend steps to align CCSD fire services with local, state, and federal regulations and agencies.

Budget and Resource Support:

- Recommend funding priorities for equipment, training, and personnel, with the goal of optimizing fire protection services and meeting future needs within current budget constraints.
- Working with partners such as the Cambria Fire Safe Focus Group, identify grants, partnerships, or alternative funding sources.

Community Risk Reduction

- Review and recommend programs and initiatives focused on fire prevention and public safety education.

- Assess community risk profiles and recommend mitigation strategies.
- Support wildfire prevention efforts, including vegetation management and defensible space initiatives.

Community Engagement:

- Act as a District and community liaison to ensure transparency and foster trust.
- Facilitate community meetings to gather input on fire protection priorities and concerns.
- Promote public education campaigns on fire safety, evacuation plans, and emergency preparedness.

Meetings would be held on the third Thursday of every month at 10:00 a.m., allowing the committee to provide timely updates and recommendations to the Board.

It is recommended that the Board of Directors discuss the new Standing Committee's title and focus and provide direction to the staff.

ATTACHMENTS: