

GEORGETOWN FIRE DISTRICT

District Administrative Code
(By-Laws) Adopted April 17, 1991
Revised February 12, 1992
Revised February 17, 1993
Revised September 8, 1993
Revised April 8, 1998

These Administrative Codes (By-Laws) shall replace any and all previous By-Laws and Administrative Codes of the Georgetown Fire District which may have been adopted by a previous Board of Directors.

History

The Georgetown Fire District was formed under the Health and Safety Code Section 14017 and approved and adopted by the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors on July 12, 1937, and duly recorded and approved by the Secretary of State on January 27, 1958; conformed to new fire codes in 1961, recorded in El Dorado County on May 2, 1961: Book 548, page 349; and now is in conformance with the Fire Protection District Law of 1987 (Health and Safety Code), which, under Senate Bill 515, repealed the Fire District Law of 1961.

Article I

Objectives

- A. The objectives of the Georgetown Fire District are to provide fire protection, rescue services, emergency medical services, hazardous material emergency response services, and other services to protect lives and property.
- B. The purpose of this Administrative Code is to describe the District; its Governing body, Chief Officer and staff; and their basic decision making and management processes.

Article II

District Service Area

- A. The boundaries of the Georgetown Fire District are shown on the enclosed map, exhibit A, as well as being recorded by El Dorado County L.A.F.CO.
- B. The boundaries may only be changed by two thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the Directors

and the permission of El Dorado County L.A.F.CO.

- C. Services may be extended beyond the District boundaries in the event of a local emergency or at the request of another legally constituted Emergency Services entity.

Article III

Amended February 12, 1992
Amended February 17, 1993
Amended September 8, 1993

Board of Directors

- A. The District is governed by a Board of five (5) Directors, each elected at large.
- B. The Directors serve 4-year terms which are staggered. The term for Director `A' expires the first Friday in December 1992; Director `B' and `D' expires the first Friday in December 1994; Director `C' expires the first Friday in December 1996; Director `E" term expires the first Friday in December 1992; and every four years thereafter. Directors' duties are listed in the District Personnel Policy manual.
- C. Directors must be registered voters of and reside within the District boundaries.
- D. Directors may serve as volunteers in the Georgetown Volunteer Fire Department provided that:
 - 1. The Director receives no compensation for such volunteer services except O.E.S. pay.
 - 2. The Director meets all training and physical requirements required by the volunteer position.
 - 3. The Director abstains from all Volunteer Department financial matters and elections.
 - 4. The Director may not serve as a fire line Officer of the Volunteer Department.
- E. The Directors shall, on an annual basis, at a regular meeting in January, elect a President and a Vice President. The President will serve no more than two consecutive terms.

Amended April 8, 1998

- F. As authorized by Health and Safety Code Section 13857, each member of the District Board may receive compensation in an amount set by the District Board not to exceed seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) for attending a meeting of the District Board. This compensation is for participation at sanctioned meetings of the District Board and shall not exceed four meetings in any calendar month.

Article IV

Meetings

- A. Regular meetings will be held once a month with time and date set by the Board. Meetings will be conducted by the President or in the President's absence the Vice President and include at least the following items: Roll Call - Public Input - Approval of Agenda - Approval of Minutes - Correspondence - Action Items - Discussion Items - Old Business - New Business - Chief's Report - Executive Session - Adjournment. The presiding officer shall have a vote on all action items. Board may recess at any time deemed necessary. The Board may change the order in which meeting is conducted. All meetings will be conducted at all times pursuant to the Brown Act Open Meeting laws.
- B. Special meetings may be called at any time by an officer of the Board or a quorum of the Board and must comply with all rules of order. All meetings are open to the public, except closed session, and must comply with the Brown Act.
- C. A quorum will consist of a majority of members. Should less than a majority be present, the President shall announce that no meeting will be held due to lack of a quorum. A time and date shall be set for a special meeting.
- D. Public participation is encouraged at Board meetings. The Board President may place time limits on individual comments and specify a place on the agenda for public testimony. The District Secretary will draft Board meeting minutes which will be placed on file at the Main Office for public viewing between the hours of 8 AM to 5 PM, Monday through Friday. Agendas will be typed and made available by the District Secretary for public view at the Main Office of the District no less than 72 hours prior to each regular Board meeting. It shall be the policy of this District to issue copies of all records and/or documents of this District at cost upon request, with the exception of personnel records and medical records.
- E. Resolutions, Policies and Ordinances may be adopted by the following procedure:
 - 1. The proposed document is presented in writing by a Director at a legally noticed Board meeting.
 - 2. The proposal is posted and listed as an action item at a subsequent regular Board meeting at which a public hearing will be held.
 - 3. The Resolution, Policy or Ordinance is adopted by at least 2/3 affirmative

roll call vote of Directors present.

Article V

Powers

The District's expressed and implied powers are covered under Health and Safety Code Chapter 5, Section 13861 through 13879 of the "Fire Protection District Law of 1987". A copy of this document is available for public review in the District main office. The Georgetown Fire District shall have and may exercise all rights and powers, expressed or implied, necessary to carry out the purposes and intent of its objectives, including, but not strictly limited to, the general powers listed in the California Health and Safety Code, Chapter Five. The State of California by enacting the Fire Protection District Law of 1987 has found the exercise of such rights and powers as necessary for the public health, safety, and welfare, and ordered that they be liberally construed to effectuate such purposes.

Article VI

Staff

- A. The Board will appoint a Chief (manager), who will serve at the pleasure of the Board. Duties and qualifications of the Chief are outlined in the Personnel Policy Manual. The Chief will serve as Executive Secretary to the Board. The Chief manages the Fire Department. The Chief will be responsible for hiring, reviewing performance and discipline of all personnel. The Chief will make an annual written report summarizing the status and activities of the District, personnel, facilities, equipment, and the Volunteer Fire Department to the Board at each regular January meeting. The Board will provide a written review of performance to the Chief each regular June meeting during closed session. Nothing contained in these By-Laws shall be construed to limit the Directors' ability to delegate responsibility and authority to the Chief, nor shall the Chief's legally mandated responsibility as the District Official charged with the protection of life and property from fire be limited by these By-Laws.
- B. The Board may appoint committees comprised of citizens and a Director to advise the Board. The Board may have standing committees that report to the Board on a regular basis.
- C. The District policies shall comply with all statutes of the State of California and the Federal Government pursuant to health, safety and fire, the Fair Employment Practices Act, Public Records Act, or any applicable code. Employees shall have the right to self organization. Personnel records may be reviewed by an employee after submitting a written request to the Chief. Records may be made public only with written permission of the employee.

- D. The Georgetown Fire District recognizes the Georgetown Volunteer Fire Department as an entity that provides essential resources including Volunteer Firefighters for the protection of life and property within the Georgetown Fire District. Said Volunteer Fire Department was originally established in 1854. The District accepts the By-Laws of said Georgetown Volunteer Fire Department subject to final approval and adoption by the Board of Directors of the District. The Volunteer Fire Department recognizes the Georgetown Fire District Board of Directors as the sole local elected body and authority legally empowered to provide Emergency Services specified in Article I above. Once adopted, both the Volunteer Department By-Laws and these District Administrative Codes become legally binding on both the Volunteer Department and this Fire District. The District Chief shall be the Chief Officer of said Volunteer Fire Department.

Article VII

Budget

It shall be the responsibility of the Fire Chief to submit, during each regular May meeting, to the Board a proposed preliminary budget. The Board will adopt a preliminary budget before June 30 of each year. The Fire Chief will submit a proposed final budget, during each regular August meeting, to the Board. The Board will adopt a final budget by October 1 of each year. The Board will hold public hearings on each budget pursuant to the Health and Safety Code Sections 13890 through 13895. It shall be the responsibility of the Fire Chief to commit and expend funds within budget line item limits. The Fire Chief shall make any budget transfers approved by the Board.

Payments

Authority to approve and pay bills, and other public indebtedness, may be delegated to the Fire Chief by the Board. This authority is limited and shall not exceed the amount of money remaining in an individual budget line item.

Monthly the Fire Chief shall present to the board an executive budget summary of line item expenses reflecting both the year-to-date expenses and the funds remaining.

The Fire Chief shall maintain a record of payments by billing period and present such record during each monthly meeting to board members and the public for review.

This Board retains sole authority to cancel this authority, without cause, at any time.

Article VIII

Facilities

It shall be the policy of the Georgetown Fire District not to offer for public use the facilities of the District's stations or meeting rooms. Exceptions: use for elections, disasters, shelters for homeless in time of major disasters, or special classes offered to the public.

Article IX

Insurance

It shall be the policy of the District to maintain at all times adequate insurance coverage including at least:

- A. Workers Compensation which will compensate up to the maximum benefits as stated in the Worker's Compensation Laws of the State of California for all employees including Volunteers.
- B. Comprehensive General Liability including Property Damage and Bodily Injury coverage for all District activities.
- C. Health insurance for all career compensated employees.
- D. Property Damage insurance for all District Facilities, Equipment, Vehicles, and other property.
- E. Property Damage insurance for all Equipment and Vehicles on loan to or shared by the District.
- F. All contractors providing services to the District will be required to furnish proof of adequate Comprehensive General Liability coverage and Workers Compensation insurance.
- G. Each contractor providing services to the district shall have a valid form W-9 (TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER AND CERTIFICATION) on file with the district, before payment for service is made to the contractor.

Article X

Amendments

This document may be revised (not to exceed powers authorized under the Health and Safety Code) by the Board of Directors at any time deemed necessary by the following process.

- A. The proposed amendment is presented in writing by a Director at a legally noticed regular Board meeting.
- B. The proposed amendment is posted, noticed in the local newspaper, and listed as an action item at a subsequent regular Board meeting at which a public hearing about the document will be held.
- C. The amendment is adopted at the next following Board meeting by at least 2/3 affirmative roll call vote of all Directors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Georgetown Fire District hereby adopt this Administrative Code.

THIS ACT having taken place during the regular session of the Board of Directors of the Georgetown Fire District this 17th day of April, 1991, with the following roll call vote:

AYES 2

NOES 0

ABSTENTIONS 0

Secretary Shari Holmstrom

Director Robert C. Heald

Director Paul Peterson

AMENDMENT:

April 8, 1998 Ayes: Currie, George, Clark, Harston
 Noes: Kelley