

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PLACER HILLS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING; October 2, 2013

1. Call to order; Flag salute; Roll call:

Director Hills convened the regular meeting at 7 p.m.

Directors in attendance: Harvey, Hills, Stuart, Tresidder and Wright.

Staff in attendance: Chief Gow, District Manager Lofrano, Engineers Brittner, Clark, Hollingsworth, Paskey and Wood and Intern Firefighter.

Guests: Mr. Clark, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Lapham, Mr. Lofrano, Mr. McCray, Mr. Stuart and Mr. Wright

2. Agenda approval:

The agenda was approved as posted. (Harvey/Tresidder).

3. Approval of the minutes:

The minutes of the regular meeting on September 4, 2013 were approved as written. (Tresidder/Stuart).

4. Public Comment: None.

5. Correspondence (not covered in Agenda items below): Board received letter from Chief Armstrong, California City FD, appreciative of Chief Gow's visit and his expertise regarding communication services.

6. Information items:

a. *Fire Chief Ian Gow's report*

- Usual call volume for the month. Crews at both the American and Rim fires. There was a horrendous vehicle accident on the freeway with a piece of angle iron going through the car windshield and striking the driver. Crews called for the helicopter to get the patient to the neurosurgeon as soon as possible.
- Hired part-time firefighters. A full-time Captain will be out on a medical leave for a couple of months.
- All engines have been repaired except Engine 86 which has a radiator problem. Repairs will cost approximately \$6,000. An Auburn shop put the wrong turbo into Engine 84. Our diesel mechanic put in the correct one. Chief Gow is negotiating with the Auburn shop. This shop will not be used again.
- Placer County Fire Chiefs are working on consolidation efforts. LAFCO is looking at Emergency Medical Services (EMS). AMR's contract with the County is up in the near future. Chief Gow is pleased with AMR's average response times which are down to 12 minutes. S-SV EMS Agency is in charge of the ambulance contract. The Emergency Medical Care Committee (EMCC) advises the Board of Supervisors the status of the medical services in Placer County. Mr. Cunha of OES, who also manages Placer County Fire, asked the AMR representative to step down as chair of EMCC and for his personal secretary to take over the position. Medicare may pay better due to the Affordable Care Act. The Fire Chiefs and Ms. Pinette of S-SV EMS Agency are concerned about the county taking over emergency services and getting rid of S-SV

EMS Agency. Chief Gow met with Supervisor Holmes. The Chiefs helped Ms. Pinette write the ambulance contract. Both Roseville and Rocklin are interested in transporting. If this happens, it may not be profitable for an ambulance company to provide services to the rest of the county. The Chiefs may look at a JPA for EMS. This will be on next month's agenda.

- Working on the Fire Safe grant to clear McElroy road from Meadow Vista to Christian Valley and also to cut a firebreak from Winchester Country Club down to Combie Lake. Almost all of the property owners have approved the project.
- Working on evacuation routes and mass shooter policies.
- Chief Gow will again be attending career day at Colfax High School.
- Chief Gow is on the Board of Directors for Junior Falcons Football.
- Received bids for the surplus apparatus.

e. Board Committee Reports:

- The Finance Committee will report under final budget.
- The Personnel Committee will report in Closed Session.
- The Long Range Committee met. The State Fire Fee issue needs to be resolved before going back to the public for additional funding. It was decided to develop a PowerPoint presentation to show at community meetings and to plan for a future open house. The PIO(s) will be reactivated. Staff will research bank loan rates and costs for architects to draft site plans for a new Meadow Vista fire station.

7. Discussion and Action Items:

a. *Presentation by Bill Lapham on the district's website:*

Auxiliary member Bill Lapham is updating the website. He is open to any ideas. He discussed Facebook and Twitter pages. Director Wright also wants to be an administrator. The Board was pleased with the updates.

b. *Presentation to former Board Member Gary Johnson:*

Director Hills presented a plaque to Mr. Johnson in appreciation of his services to the fire district.

c. *WillDan Financial Services agreement to update the Capital Improvement Plan:*

Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the agreement. (Harvey/Tresidder).

d. *MOU with Placer County for \$5,000 funding for defensible space inspections:*

Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the MOU. (Wright/Harvey).

e. *Resolution No. 2013-07; Appointment of Director Hills as the Representative and Director Wright as the alternate for Northern California Special Districts Insurance Authority:*

Motion made and passed unanimously to approve Resolution No. 2013-07. (Tresidder/Harvey).

f. *Final Budget approval for Fiscal Year 2013-2014:*

The Finance Committee recommends a cautious 2% increase in tax revenue. The County is predicting 3-4%. We will get real numbers in December and can adjust at that time. Replacing a duty vehicle and purchasing turnouts. Strike team revenues, maintenance costs and the education and training account have all been increased. Fewer reserves have been used to balance the budget. Motion made and passed unanimously to adopt

the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014. (Tresidder/Harvey). The Finance Committee will meet in January.

g. Review of Strike Team reimbursement and policy:

Director Stuart requested the actual costs of the American Fire. Director Stuart recommended increasing the strike team stipend for the volunteers and part-time employees. District pay rates are submitted to OES annually. Director Tresidder had concerns about sending the Water Tender on a Federal fire for 2 weeks. This was an unusual event. There are several neighboring agency water tenders available under the mutual aid agreement.

h. Review of District utility providers:

Staff will research possible savings with bundling phone, cable and TV services.

i. Consideration of joining California Special Districts Association:

The Finance Committee recommended not joining the association. Extra funding was put into the education account. Director Stuart was disappointed with the benefits of the association. This item was tabled to later in the year.

j. Discussion of future ballot measures for additional funding:

Long Range Committee report given earlier. Director Stuart proposed utilizing the website to make a statement about the State Fire Fee. Director Hills suggested that the Board could pass a resolution against the fee.

k. Budget update and approval of expenses of \$130,716.48 for September 2013:

Medical expenses reflect the annual service of the defibrillators. Still over in apparatus maintenance. Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the budget update and the check register for September 2013. (Tresidder/Stuart).

l. Adjourn to Closed Session; Govt. Code 54957.6(a) Labor Negotiations; Board to discuss Memorandum of Understanding:

The Board went into closed session at 8:25 pm. Open meeting resumed at 9:30 pm. Director Hills reported that the negotiating team was given direction.

8. Directors' comments:

a. *Report on activities of interest to the District which the Director is engaged in or is considering. No action will be taken on these items at this meeting.*

b. *Request items for inclusion in subsequent meetings, or request a special meeting:*
Agenda items for next month: amended strike team policy, new reserves policy and Board by-laws (Personnel Committee to work on by-laws).

c. *Reminder of next Board meeting:*

Wednesday, November 6, 2013 at 7 pm at Station 84.

b. Adjournment:

Motion made and approved by all to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m. (Tresidder/Harvey).

Respectfully submitted by: _____

Approved by:

Alex Harvey _____

Peter Hills _____

Stephanie Stuart _____

Bret Tresidder _____

Mark Wright _____