

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PLACER HILLS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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www.placerhillfire.org

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING; December 3, 2014

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

Director Hills convened the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m.

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

Directors absent: Stuart

Staff in attendance: Chief Gow, District Manager Lofrano and Engineer Paskey.

Guests: Mr. Harris, Mr. Jeffries and Mr. McCray

2. Agenda approval:

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

3. Approval of the minutes:

The minutes for the regular meeting on November 5, 2014 were approved as written. (Tresidder/Harvey).

4. Public Comment: Mr. Jeffries requested that the Closed Session be moved to the end of the meeting. Director Hills assured Mr. Jeffries that the Closed Session would only take a few minutes. Mr. Jeffries urged the Board to consider responding quick attack vehicles to medical calls. This would reduce response times and costs. Mr. Jeffries reported that Auburn City's costs for responding a quick attack was \$400 per call, excluding personnel, and that responding an engine was \$1,000 per call. Director Hills knows that the Chief has discussed this with the Apparatus Committee. Directors can put matters on the agenda under item 8.

Mr. Shane Harris is a commercial beekeeper. The County will not classify his proposed new construction as an exempt agricultural building as he owns less than 10 acres. He requested a waiver of the fire fees. The Board cannot take any action on non-agenda items. Director Hills suggested that the Chief review this matter and bring back next month. He also suggested that Mr. Harris could pay the fire fees now and bring back to the Board next month as an agenda item. Mr. Harris could not pay the fees at this time.

5. Correspondence (not covered in Agenda items below):

Discussed the increased rates for legal counsel.

6. Information items:

a. *Fire Chief Ian Gow's report*

- Average call volume for the month.
- Chief Gow attended the funeral for fallen Deputy Davis. Staffed engines lined the route to the cemetery.
- Chief Gow attended the Elks Lodge Public Safety Recognition Dinner. Engineer Justin Wood was recognized for excellence in public safety.
- An arson investigation was conducted after a structure fire in a storage locker. The perpetrator was arrested with Captain Nelson's help. Crews were dispatched to a medical aid call which turned out to be a working structure fire in a mobile home. Crews quickly contained and extinguished the fire which was probably started by an electrical fault.

- Policy on Ebola will be updated by next month. Dispatch can now ask appropriate questions. Responding fire crews will not enter the scene. AMR has an ambulance specifically designed for this disease.
- Foresthill's ISO evaluation is done – hoping to get a lower rate. Foresthill is struggling with poor salaries and benefits. Looking at midterm budget options. The budget is on track. The Board is settling in well. Director Hills noted that we will need to discuss the future plans with Foresthill.
- The Association's Christmas party is at Engineer Wood's home on December 6.

7 Discussion and Action Items:

a. *Oath of Office for Directors Hills, Tresidder and Wright:*

Directors Hills, Tresidder and Wright were sworn in by Director Harvey.

b. *The Board Adjourned to Closed Session at 7:30 pm:*

- a.i. Govt. Code Section 54957.6 (a) Labor Negotiations: Board to discuss Memorandum of Understanding with Nevada County Professional Firefighters, Local 3800

The Board reconvened into open session at 7:35 pm. Director Hills reported that the Board approved the MOU with NCPF Local 3800 4-0 with 1 absence.

c. *Approval of MOU with NCPF, Local 3800 for the term July 1, 2014 to December 31, 2015:*

Motion made and approved by all present to approve the MOU with NCPF, Local 3800. (Tresidder/Harvey). Director Stuart was absent.

d. *Approval of proposed salary and benefit adjustments:*

Director Hills reviewed his salary and benefit adjustments memo to the Board. This included the changes from the MOU, the same salary and benefit adjustments for the Chief and District Manager as the represented employees, and salary adjustments for the apprentices, part-time staff and interns. The Finance Committee will meet in January to review the budget and recommend mid-year changes to the budget. Motion made and approved by all present to accept the proposed salary and benefit adjustments as outlined in the memo. (Tresidder/Wright). Director Stuart was absent. The District Manager will make the necessary adjustments to the payroll.

e. *New policy; Mechanic job description:*

Chief Gow reported that equipment maintenance is critical to our mission. Engineer Lippold could keep up with the maintenance if he worked 16 hours per week. Staff have run the numbers and this would be cost neutral for the district. Engineer Lippold is a certified mechanic and is going to school to get his diesel certifications. Motion made and approved by all present to adopt the Mechanic job description with the addition of holidays to section 9 under Physical demands and working environment. (Tresidder/Wright) Director Stuart absent.

f. *Amendments to the job descriptions of the Apprentice Employees and Interns:*

A length of service salary adjustment was added to the Apprentice Employee job description and a stipend for the interns for every 48 hour shift they work. Motion made and approved by all present to approve the amendments to both job descriptions. (Tresidder/Harvey). Director Stuart was absent.

g. Approval of implementing the Fire Facility Fee Schedule on January 1, 2015:

The Board adopted the Fire Facility Fee Plan and Schedule at the August meeting. The Board of Supervisors approved the plan and schedule in September. Motion made and approved by all present to implement the fee schedule on January 1, 2015. (Wright/Tresidder). Director Stuart was absent.

h. Strike Teams discussion:

Chief Gow sent his Strike Team white paper, including the legal opinions, to Engineer Paskey. He met and discussed this with Engineer Paskey. The district submits the rates of the full-time employees. If part-time employees were paid at the same rate that the district is reimbursed while on strike teams, they could argue that this is their normal rate. The Board pays a legal stipend to volunteers and part-time employees while on strike teams. Strike Team reimbursement also helps to balance the budget.

i. Notice of election of the Governing Board of FAIRA (provides district's liability coverage):
There was no interest from the Board.

j. Discussion on Proposition 172 and PILT monies:

Penryn's Board President, who led the Special District's discussion on Proposition 172 funding, was not re-elected. Penryn will appoint another member to the committee. They will meet on the December 22.

k. Approval of Budget Update and November expenses:

The district charges for the DMV firefighter drive tests. We are the only agency doing this in this region. Motion made and carried by all present to approve the budget update and the November expenses of \$66,823.00. (Tresidder/Wright). Director Stuart was absent.

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.

Director Wright enjoyed the Fire Ops 101 training put on by Local 3800. He learned a lot. He and Director Stuart crawled through a maze in full turnouts on air with their masks blacked out. There was a good turnout with several people from the media. Director Wright also watched Captain McCarthy's helmet camera video of the mobile home fire.

Director Harvey met Lisa Stark from Union Pacific. UP has grants up to \$10,000 for fire equipment. Mr. McEldowney, Program Manager OES, is the lead for any potential funding from the oil.

b. Request items for inclusion in subsequent meetings, or request a special meeting:

c. Reminder of next Board meeting:

January 7, 2015 at 7 p.m. at the Meadow Vista Fire Station.

b. Adjournment:

Motion made and approved by all to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. (Tresidder/Wright).

Respectfully submitted by: _____

Gillian Lofrano, Board Secretary

Approved by:

Alex Harvey _____

Peter Hills _____

Stephanie Stuart _____

Bret Tresidder _____

Mark Wright _____