

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PLACER HILLS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
P.O. Box 350, Meadow Vista, CA 95722
(530) 878-0405 Fax (530) 878-0959
www.placerhillsfire.org



Alex Harvey
Peter Hills
Gary Johnson
Stephanie Stuart
Bret Tresidder

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING; February 11, 2013

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

Director Hills convened the regular meeting at 7 p.m. There was not a quorum for the February 6, 2013 meeting and this was the next closest date to have a majority of directors in attendance.

Directors in attendance: Harvey, Hills, Stuart and Tresidder; Johnson absent.

Staff in attendance: Chief Gow, District Manager Lofrano and Captain Nelson.

Guests: 5 members of the public.

2. Agenda approval:

The posted agenda was approved. (Tresidder/Stuart).

3. Approval of the minutes:

The minutes of the regular meeting on January 9, 2013 were approved as written. (Tresidder/Harvey).

4. Public Comment:

Mr. Rucker shared newspaper articles of Higgins Fire District's upcoming special tax measure and Contra Costa Fire's station closures.

Mr. Proctor inquired about the district's loan to Winchester as it is now out of receivership. Director Hills responded that legal opinion is that there is no legal successor and that the district is entitled to retain the funds.

5. Correspondence (not covered in Agenda items below): None.

6. Information items:

a. *Fire Chief Ian Gow's report*

- The 1995 ambulance was sold for \$4001 – good return for the initial \$1 outlay!
- There was a significant series of calls with 2 medical aids at the same time as a chimney fire. Dispatch did a great job and Chief Gow mitigated the chimney fire with a Battalion Chief and 2 fire engines from CalFire. The ambulance response time to both medical aids was appropriate.
- Testing for the apprentice positions this Friday.
- Elected officials and union representatives will be attending the County Fire Chiefs meeting this week to discuss county cooperation. Supervisors Holmes and Montgomery are in favor.
- Chief Gow has almost completed the annual mask fit testing and the turnout inspections that are mandated by OSHA. The full-time staff's turnouts will be sent out to be professionally inspected, repaired and cleaned. SCBA inspections soon.
- Chief Gow spends about 40 hours every year maintaining the DMV employer testing program. The Administrative Division Chief for CalFire from the Sacramento

headquarters has several foresters that need to be tested. The fee covers the cost of the drive test.

- Captain Nelson has all commercial inspections up to date. He is working on pre-plans and formatting them for the new county computer system. Weimar Institute is retrofitting Echo Hall.
- The Fire Safe Council was awarded a grant to clear the roadside along McElroy. Working on a grant to clear the scotch broom.
- Director Stuart has almost completed the EMT/ EMT refresher application for S-SV EMS Agency. This has great revenue potential and she would like the district to be a nationally registered site in the future.

d. *PHFSEA (Local 3800) report by Captain Nelson*

- There are 3 volunteer applicants. The Placer County Volunteer Academy will run from March to June with 2 meetings per week. Placer County Fire, Foresthill, Colfax, Alta, Dutch Flat and Iowa Hill will be participating. The academy will not conflict with the EMT class.
- No-one has stepped up to preside over the Firefighters Association. To improve participation, Captain Nelson suggested that the Association should meet quarterly. He recommended moving Awards dinner to the evening before Pioneer Day making it less formal and inviting families.
- Local 3800 meets quarterly and Clayton Thomas is the new President.
- Director Hills attended the quarterly meeting of Northern California Special Districts Insurance Authority, the district's workers compensation carrier. NCS DIA self-insures up to \$200,000 and then contracts with a company for claims over that amount. Currently, there are 3 large claims. They project a 15% increase in the contribution for workers compensation insurance for next fiscal year. The State rate is going up 35%.

7. Discussion and Action Items:

a. *Nomination of member for election on the FAIRA Board of Directors:*

There was no interest from the Board.

b. *FEMA Fire Prevention and Safety Grant update:*

Director Stuart filed the grant with FEMA. Applied for 3-grants; senior assistance with defensible space, community education and a web-based system to self-register and track high risk hazards. This system could be further developed to notify the community during large events. We are still in the running for the SAFER grant.


c. *Renewal of Auditor Johnson's contract for the next 3 years:*

Motion made and approved by all present to retain Mr. Johnson's services for the next 3 years. (Harvey/Tresidder).

d. *Board consideration of Resolutions No. 2013-01 and 2013-02 to participate in CalPERS health programs:*

This item was handled at the special meeting on February 7, 2013. The resolutions were filed by the 10th of the month, with a start date of March 1, 2013 and a cost savings for the district. Looking at a trust fund to offset the district's future liability for retirees.

- e. *Resolution No. 2013-03 appointing the Board representative and alternate for the Northern California Special Districts Insurance Authority:*
Director Hills volunteered to be the representative with Chief Gow as the alternate. Motion made and approved to adopt Resolution No. 2013-03 with Director Hills as the representative and Chief Gow as the alternate. (Tresidder/Stuart).
- f. *Board consideration of Resolution No. 2013-04 to participate in the countywide Hazardous Vegetation Abatement Program:*
Chief Gow explained that this affects unimproved parcels that are within 100 feet of an improvement on an adjacent parcel. It is complaint driven and administrative costs are reimbursable. If approved, the district may be eligible for future grants through the county. Motion made and approved by all present to adopt Resolution No. 2013-04. (Tresidder/Harvey).
- g. *Potential change of day for future Board meetings:*
Director Johnson has classes on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The classes end in June. Director Stuart has a conflict with Thursdays. The consensus of the Board was to keep the regular meeting on the first Wednesday of the month.
- h. *S-SV EMS Agency and AMR response times:*
No report.
- i. *Approval of the expenses of \$108,083.27 for January 2013:*
Chief Gow noted that the maintenance account was over budget. Property tax revenue is slightly higher than budgeted. Motion made and approved by all present to accept the expenses for January 2013. (Tresidder/Harvey).
- j. *Adjourn to Closed Session, Government Code 54957.6 (a) Labor Negotiations to discuss Memorandum of Understanding.*
Board adjourned into closed session at 7:53 p.m. The regular meeting was resumed at 8 p.m. Director Hills reported that no action was taken.
- k. 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:*
Ratification of the district's matching funds for the Fire Prevention and Safety grant application. Director Stuart requested a description of the monthly purchases and expenditures.
 - c. *Reminder of next Board meeting:*
Next regular Board meeting: Wednesday, March 6, 2013 at 7 p.m. at Station 84. Director Hills will miss the March meeting.
- l. Adjournment:
Motion made and approved by all to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: 
Gillian Lofrano, District Manager

Approved by:

Alex Harvey _____

Peter Hills _____

Gary Johnson _____

Stephanie Stuart 

Bret Tresidder 