

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PLACER HILLS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
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Alex Harvey  
Peter Hills  
Fred Lofrano  
Russell McCray  
Mark Wright

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## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING; February 3, 2016

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

Director Hills convened the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. (Staff completely remodeled the meeting room with new windows, flooring and heating/ air conditioning- job well done).

Directors in attendance: Harvey, Hills, Lofrano, McCray and Wright.

Directors absent: None.

Staff in attendance: Chief Gow, District Manager Lofrano, Captain Lippold and Engineer Chambers.

2. Agenda approval:

Director Hills suggested moving item 7a, Promotion of Engineer Lippold, to the beginning of the meeting. The amended agenda was approved. (Lofrano/Wright)

3. Approval of the minutes:

The minutes for the regular meeting on January 6, 2016 were approved. (Harvey/McCray).

4. Public Comment: None.

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

7. a. Personnel Promotion: Engineer Lippold's promotion to Captain:

The meeting room was filled with Engineer Lippold's family and friends. Chief Gow highly recommended Engineer Lippold for the Captain's position. Engineer Lippold joined the district in 2002 as a volunteer and has promoted through the ranks. He is one of the "go to" guys. He created the maintenance program with Captain Nelson which has reduced the costs for both Placer Hills and Foresthill. He is part of the Apparatus committee that designed and ordered the new Type 1 and 3 engines. Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the promotion of John Lippold to Fire Captain. (Lofrano/McCray). Captain Lippold was congratulated by all. There was a short recess to enjoy cake and lemonade.

6. Information items:

a. Fire Chief Ian Gow's report:

- The district responded to a couple of auto-aid fires and covered Foresthill during an extended incident.
- Foresthill FPD is looking at a mid-year review of the budget. There are some staffing issues with personnel being offered positions with other agencies.
- Unfortunately Auxiliary President Colleen Lewis' husband passed away. Kenny was a former Board member for the district. He requested a fire engine at his service.

d. Local 3800 and Association reports by Captain Nelson:

- Captain Nelson thanked the Board for approving the MOU with Local 3800.
- The Association approved sponsoring \$300 to an Eagle Scout candidate for a kiosk at the Placer Nature Center.

e. Board Committee Reports:

- The Finance Committee will meet this month to review the current budget.
- Director Hills attended the Northern California Special Districts' Insurance Authority's quarterly meeting. The JPA had a clean and complete audit. Excess insurance rates are going up again. The Board decided not to give a dividend at this time. Target Solutions, the online training program, has a fire expert on staff. All bills go through a review process which significantly reduces costs. The Claims Manager is retiring in December, after 26 years. She always takes good care of our employees. The Board discussed hiring employees or contracting out the business.

7. Discussion and Action Items:

b. Consider and Approve Lease-Purchase Financing Agreement with Leasing 2 Inc. for Type 3 HME engine dated as of January 15, 2016:

District Counsel is reviewing the agreement. Motion made and passed unanimously to authorize Chief Gow to sign the agreement with Leasing 2 Inc. with the proviso that it is approved by District's Counsel. (Lofrano/Harvey). Both new engines should arrive in April.

c. Discussion on the District's Unfunded Liability Obligation with PERS:

The Cal PERS representative will give a presentation at next month's meeting.

d. Discussion on Funding Sources and Placer County's Consolidation Study:

Director Hills and Chief Gow attended a presentation given by Penryn FPD to the Penryn Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) about the state of the fire district and the possibility of funding from the 172 monies. Supervisor Holmes was also in attendance. Supervisor Holmes made some interesting comments about the ERAF shift (property tax shift to schools). It was brought up that in the Attorney General's opinion, fire districts are eligible to receive Proposition 172 monies. Director Hills suggested a similar formal presentation to the Meadow Vista and Weimar/Applegate/Colfax MACs. Chief Gow noted that both Supervisors Holmes and Montgomery want the fire districts to go back to their respective public for additional funding. The Consultant for the Placer County Fire Study was supposed to meet with the fire chiefs before meeting with the Supervisors. However, he is meeting with the Supervisors in the near future. Chief Gow relayed this information to Chief Morris from Cal Fire as he will probably get an invite to this meeting. At tonight's Meadow Vista MAC meeting, Chief Gow reported that Supervisor Montgomery believes both Penryn and Ophir are going back to the public for funding. Director Hills noted that the County has kept back \$9.1 million of 172 monies.

Chief Gow reported that Foresthill has engaged the services of a consultant for \$25,000 to conduct a feasibility survey for a ballot measure for funding. It will cost another \$25,000 to have a special election. Foresthill has received \$190,000 in strike team monies with more to come. The County is going forward with a transportation tax on the ballot. The Howard Jarvis Taxpayers League received approval of the Class Notices for the Class action against the State Fire Fee. It was the consensus of the Board to give a "State of the Fire District" presentation at the Meadow Vista and Weimar/Applegate/Colfax MACs.

Director Hills volunteered to help with the PowerPoint presentation and hopefully it will be ready for the March meetings.

e. Discuss the goals for the District in the coming year:

It was decided to arrange a public workshop at the end of March to discuss the goals of the district.

f. Budget update and approval of expenses in January 2016:

Director Hills noted that the property tax revenues are coming in at the expected 55%. Medical expenses are over. Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the budget update and the expenses for January. (McCray/Harvey).

g. Adjourn to Closed Session:

- i. Govt. Code Section 54957.6(a) Labor Negotiations: discussion of MOU
- ii. Govt. Code Section 54957.6 Conference with Labor Negotiators (Harvey/Lofrano) (Fire Chief)

The public meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. as the Board went into closed session.

The public meeting reconvened at 9:20 p.m.

- i. Director Hills reported that the Negotiating team was given direction regarding some language clarification in the MOU with Local 3800.
  - ii. Director Hills reported that the Board voted unanimously to approve the salary adjustments for the apprentices, mechanic and part-time employees. Director Hills reported that the Board voted 4 – 0 in favor of approving the Chief and District Managers salary and benefits adjustments. Director Lofrano was not present for that discussion.
- h. Consider and Approve the Salary and Benefit Adjustments:  
Motion made and passed to approve the proposed salary and benefit adjustments for the Chief and the unrepresented employees. (Wright/Harvey). Director Lofrano abstained from the vote.

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 McCray noted that 4 Board positions are up for election in November.
- b. *Request items for inclusion in subsequent meetings, or request a special meeting:*
  - The Agreement with Foresthill FPD will be put on next month's agenda.
- c. *Reminder of next Board meeting:*  
March 2, 2016 at the Meadow Vista Fire Station. The start time of the meeting will be either 3 p.m. or 8 p.m. depending on the Cal PERS and State of the Fire District presentations.

9. Adjournment:

Motion made and approved by all to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
Gillian Lofrano, Board Secretary

Approved by:

Alex Harvey \_\_\_\_\_

Peter Hills \_\_\_\_\_

Fred Lofrano \_\_\_\_\_

Russell McCray \_\_\_\_\_

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Mark Wright