

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PLACER HILLS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING; February 4, 2015

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

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

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

Directors absent: None

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

Guests:

2. Agenda approval:

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

3. Approval of the minutes:

The minutes for the regular meeting on January 7, 2015 were approved as written. (Tresidder/Wright).

4. Public Comment: None.

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

6. Information items:

a. Fire Chief Ian Gow's report:

- Engineer/Paramedic Chambers treated an elderly heart attack patient who coded in the ambulance. They shocked the patient and performed CPR. The patient was talking to them by the time they reached the hospital.
A young man suffered a significant head injury and broken bones from a skateboarding accident on Super Bowl Sunday. He was taken Code 3 to UC Davis.
- County has drafted an Ebola Standard Operating Guideline.
- Cal Fire is going to single layer wildland turnouts - heatstroke is more prevalent than burns. Captain Nelson's lower arms are scarred from when he was caught in a wildfire. This led to double layering. Chief Gow disagrees with the current trend.
- Staff working on replacing antiquated laptops in the response vehicles. Also researching different software for medical incident reporting.
- New construction is picking up in Winchester. Developers are looking at 80 acres near Winchester and acreage on E. Weimar Cross Roads with the possibility of 100 new homes.
- All 5 applicants for the Apprentice positions were hired. Still recruiting Interns. Will test for the Captain's position in the next couple of months. Captain McKinney has not given a definitive retirement date.
- Foresthill is also hiring a Captain. The budget is under control. Looking at Apprentice positions to give consistent partners. Foresthill's ISO rating was reduced to a "3".

b. Association Report by Chief Gow:

- Working on Awards Night, Pioneer Day and resurrecting Stag and Doe night or a Poker evening.

e. Board Committee reports:

Director Hills attended Northern California's Special Districts Insurance Authority's quarterly meeting. The Audit was approved. Some changes were made to the classifications of employees for reporting salaries.

Director Hills talked with Director Reams from Foresthill. The Board will appoint a 2-person committee to conduct formal negotiations with Foresthill at the next meeting.

7 Discussion and Action Items:

a. Feasibility Study for using Quick Attack Vehicles to Medical Aids:

Chief Gow summarized his paper on the use of Quick Attack vehicles. The district used to run quick attacks. We still have a unit at Station 85. There would be a capital outlay to purchase 2 new vehicles with the corresponding routine maintenance and service costs. Run times conducted with a command vehicle and engine were very similar. The district runs approximately 1000 calls per year and is routinely dispatched to calls that turn out to be something else. Many calls run back to back and on many occasions there are multiple calls at the same time. Chief Gow has personal experience of being diverted to a structure fire while in the Quick Attack. Chief Gow would require additional staffing to ensure that the engine was staffed to respond in these situations. The Finance Committee could not rationalize buying the additional apparatus. Mr. Jeffries was disappointed that the Board did not personally conduct the research into to use of quick attacks. Auburn City had told him that there was a cost savings of \$400 per call but this did not include staffing. He suggested using the command vehicles and pickup already owned by the district. These vehicles would have better response times on the districts narrow roads. The second station is also staffed. Auburn City's grant covered the cost of the staff and the response vehicle. Director Hills noted that Quick Attacks are mainly used in very busy stations and have at least 5 personnel staffing an engine. Mr. Jeffries was disappointed with the outcome of the study. He would not support any future bond issues. Director Hills stated that staff looked at it reasonably and that Mr. Jeffries' request was not ignored by the Board. The district is obligated to buy fire engines. Mr. Jeffries was appreciative that his suggestion was discussed.

b. Resolution 2015-001: Terms and Conditions for Compensation for out of district responses:

The Resolution from Cal OES ensures personnel will be compensated from "portal to portal" on out of district incidents. Motion made and approved unanimously to adopt Resolution 2015-001. (Wright/Harvey). Strike team personnel will be replaced after 14 days.

c. Midcourse Review of the Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015:

The Finance Committee met in December and January. The Committee recommended increases of \$10,000 in Property Tax Revenue and \$14,000 in strike team reimbursements. This will offset a \$21,400 increase in expenses mainly due to the

changes in salary and health benefits related to the MOU. Motion made and approved unanimously to accept the budget changes as recommended by the Finance Committee. (Tresidder/Harvey). The Placer Hills and Foresthill water tenders were out for 2 days on slash pile fires in the El Dorado Forest.

In the final budget for 2014-2015, Board approved \$475,000 for the purchase of a new Type 1 engine with 50% of the funds from the vehicle depreciation fund and 50% from mitigation fees. Staff recommends purchasing the engine from KME under the Orange County Fire bid. The district will save about \$14,000 - \$15,000 if it is paid at time of order. The Finance Committee recommended prepaying the engine and using the savings for new equipment for the engine. Staff anticipates that the reserve E-One engines are worth \$12,000 to \$15,000 each. The new engine will be housed at Station 86 as it does not fit in the bays at Station 84. Chief Gow does not think the district is in the running for an OES Type 3 engine. Motion made and carried to approve the Finance Committee's recommendation to purchase the KME engine and to use the prepayment savings for the equipment. (Harvey/Wright). 4 in favor. Director Tresidder abstained.

d. Proposition 172 and PILT monies as potential funding sources:

The Fire Districts Board Presidents and Fire Chiefs met with Supervisors Holmes and Montgomery. Supervisor Montgomery was a volunteer firefighter and her husband is a career firefighter. Supervisor Holmes was on Placer Consolidated FPD's Board of Directors. The Chiefs had made a PowerPoint presentation which showed the fire districts failing. The County gets \$38 million every year through Proposition 172. \$3,500,000 is needed for the Fire Districts and Placer County Fire Department to succeed. There have been some informal discussions with the Sheriff and the District Attorney. LAFCO's Municipal Services Review is due any day. The Fire Chiefs created the RFP and hired the consultant. They will meet with the Supervisors after the study is published. Supervisor Montgomery felt that the solution was still to go back to the public. Both Placer Hills and Placer County failed to pass an assessment and South Placer hired a consultant who advised against such a ballot measure. Director Hills noted the Supervisor Holmes was complimentary about the joint administrative functions. Chief Gow warned about the effects of the possible closure of the Ophir fire station which is centrally located to many agencies. According to the County Analyst, the County is being impacted by the additional responsibilities of the jails.

e. Approval of Budget Update and January 2015 expenses:

The medical expenses are due to the annual service of the defibrillators. Staff is still researching the funding needed for new software and computers. Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the budget update and the January expenses of \$95,389.47. (Tresidder/Harvey).

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:*

Appointment of a 2-person committee to conduct formal negotiations with Foresthill FPD.

c. *Reminder of next Board meeting:*
March 4, 2015 at 7 p.m. at the Meadow Vista Fire Station.

9. Adjournment:

Motion made and approved by all to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. (Tresidder/Harvey).

Respectfully submitted by: _____

Gillian Lofrano, Board Secretary

Approved by:

Alex Harvey _____

Peter Hills _____

Stephanie Stuart _____

Bret Tresidder _____

Mark Wright _____