

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PLACER HILLS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
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www.placerhillsfire.org



Alex Harvey
Peter Hills
Fred Lofrano
Mark Wright

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING; July 1, 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, Lofrano and Wright.

Directors absent: Director Stuart resigned.

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

2. Agenda approval:

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

3. Approval of the minutes:

The minutes for the regular meeting on May 6, 2015 were approved. (Wright/Harvey).

Director Hills abstained as he was absent and Director Lofrano was not a Board member.

The minutes for the regular meeting on June 3, 2015 were approved. (Wright/Harvey).

4. Public Comment: None.

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

Robert W. Johnson, the district's auditor, sent the standard letter confirming his services.

The Healthy Families Act Paid Sick Leave is in effect. Employees who work 30 or more days in a year will accrue 1 hour of sick leave for every 30 hours worked. The employer may limit the use of the sick leave to 24 hours or 3 days in each year of employment. The employer may choose to provide 24 hours or 3 days of paid sick leave at the beginning of each 12-month period. More to follow.

GASB 68 rules are in effect for this current fiscal year. This re-looks at the district's retirement obligations and costs. This will be addressed in the audit. The cost of the report from PERS will be \$850. Staff will clarify if this is for each plan or for the full report.

6. Information items:

a. Fire Chief Ian Gow's report:

- We are running 80 to 85 calls per month. Flew a patient with a significant injury. Crews put out a tractor trailer fire at West Paoli and assisted with a commercial fire in a half-way house in Auburn.
- A boy scout will landscape the corner of Placer Hills and Combie Roads for his eagle project.
- Placer County Chiefs are standardizing the Knox Box system countywide.
- Chief Gow met with Andy Heath, Deputy County Executive Officer. The County is estimating a 10% increase in property tax revenue.
- The Placer County Grand Jury released its Final Report on the examination of fire hydrant inspection and maintenance. This stemmed from a problem with a hydrant

near a school in Newcastle which was subsequently resolved. Most water companies periodically test their hydrants.

d. Local 3800 report by Captain Nelson:

- Local 3800 will be selling sodas at the Nevada County Fair – please support them!
- Local 3800 is working with the Fire Chiefs on annexations and mergers. Also working with the California Professional Firefighters.

e. Board Committee reports:

- Director Hills attended the South Placer Fire Board meeting with Chief Gow. The South Placer Board discussed a possible merger with Loomis. LAFCO gave a presentation on the process for consolidation. Director Hills was a little surprised that these agencies were moving forward with these discussions ahead of the LAFCO study being released. The LAFCO study should be out in the next 30 to 90 days. The Board discussed the possibility of ALS ambulance services being expanded with the consolidation. The process also requires negotiations with the County over the transfer of tax revenues to the new district. In the discussion for additional revenues from the 172 monies for the 6 special district, Director Hills suggested that these monies should be built into the base tax dollars of a new district. The new district would then get the growth on this money every year. LAFCO may have the authority to require these dollars to be permanently shifted. Special assessments will stay local. South Placer is still interested in the countywide discussions. Chief Bettencourt is leaving in 6 months.

7 Discussion and Action Items:

a. Badge Presentation for Mark Bahlke who has completed his initial probation:

Captain Nelson introduced Mark Bahlke who has successfully completed his initial probation. The Board congratulated Firefighter Bahlke and Chief Gow presented him with his badge.

b. Procedure to fill Board position vacated by Director Stuart:

Motion made and passed by all present to accept Director Stuart's resignation and declare a vacancy on the Fire Board. (Lofrano/Harvey). Director Hills thanked Ms. Stuart for her services. Director Hills will be out of town for the August meeting. A Special Meeting was set for July 27, 2015 at 6 p.m. to fill the vacancy. The usual procedure will be followed.

c. Letter to Placer County regarding interest in the consolidation discussions:

Mr. McEldowney, OES Program Manager, requested a letter from all the fire agencies to participate in consolidation discussions. Chief Gow recommended sending the letter. The County is funding the Ophir Fire Station through fire season. Auburn City may also be interested in consolidation discussions. Chief Gow is unsure if the Rocklin, Roseville and Lincoln are interested. Rocklin's Chief is retiring, Roseville has an interim Chief and Lincoln is considering bringing on a new Chief. South Placer is working on an additional fee for engines that respond to medical aids along with the ambulance. Motion made and passed by all present to send the requested letter to the County. (Harvey/Wright).

d. Consideration of a State OES Type 3 engine:

Chief Gow reported that there is a good chance that OES might offer the district a Type 3 engine. These engines must be staffed for statewide incidents. The engine can be used if the district's engine is broken. The district will not be reimbursed engine rental on strike teams. It cannot be cross-staffed by multiple agencies. Action will be required by the Board if and when the district is offered an engine.

e. Discussion on potential funding from Proposition 172 and PILT monies:

Foresthill's current budget is \$35,000 in the black. The budget for Fiscal Year 2015-16 will be \$50,000 to \$70,000 in the red. However still pursuing other funding sources. Foresthill's Board is seriously considering not responding the engine into the Federal lands. The ambulance will still respond. Chief Gow was legally advised that the district's liability would be covered through Mutual and Auto-aid agreements.

j. Budget update and approval of expenses in June 2015:

New developments are being planned in the East Weimar, Heather Glen and Winchester areas. Motion made and passed to approve the budget update and the expenses for June of \$146,532.85. (Wright/Harvey). Director Lofrano abstained from 3 line items concerning District Manager Lofrano.

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:*
- c. *Reminder of next Board meeting:*
July 27, 2015 at 6p.m. at the Meadow Vista Fire Station.

9. Adjournment:

Motion made and approved by all to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: _____
Gillian Lofrano, Board Secretary

Approved by:

Alex Harvey _____

Peter Hills _____

Fred Lofrano _____

Mark Wright _____
