

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PLACER HILLS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING; August 7, 2013

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

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

Directors in attendance: Harvey, Hills and Stuart. Director Tresidder was absent.

Staff in attendance: Chief Gow and District Manager Lofrano

Guests: Mr. Lofrano, Mr. McCray, Mr. Stuart and Mr. Wright

2. Agenda approval:

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

3. Approval of the minutes:

The minutes of the regular meeting on July 2, 2013 were approved as written. (Harvey/Stuart).

4. Public Comment: Mr. McCray requested that item 8c, reminder of next Board meeting, be addressed before the Board going into Closed Session. Mr. McCray missed the July meeting because it was changed to Tuesday, July 2.

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

6. Information items:

a. *Fire Chief Ian Gow's report*

- ◆ Routine call volume for the month. Several auto aid calls to Cal Fire. There were 2 significant medical aids with seizure like activity and violent behavior due to the ingestion of bath salts. Staff is training on this new trend. One of the patients, who was found at Nettleton's mobile home park, contacted Chief Gow a few days later concerned about his HIPPA rights. He was unaware that he had told everyone at the crowded scene what had happened.
- ◆ Bills are being sent out for the State Fire Fee. The Judge voted in favor of the Howard Jarvis Tax Payers Association's law suit moving forward. Everyone must send in the protest forms that are on the Tax Payers website.
- ◆ We have hired apprentices and part-time employees. This should reduce overtime. There are now Interns on all the shifts.
- ◆ The Fire Service had no input into the Grand Jury's Communications report. The Fire Chiefs will be discussing this at their meeting tomorrow. Communications is a contributing factor in firefighter fatalities. The Chiefs feel there are too many dispatch centers in Placer County. Lincoln is contracting with Rocklin for dispatch services and Rocklin and Roseville are in discussions.
- ◆ The State has refunded the Proposition 1A reduction monies.
- ◆ Director Stuart submitted the SAFER grant. Senator Gaines is sending a letter in support of our grants. Staffing would be greatly improved with this grant. Working with Placer County for grant funding for defensible space inspections.
- ◆ We are soliciting bids for a consultant to redo the Fire Facility Fee Plan and Schedule.

- ♦ L. N. Curtis has removed the foam cache from St. 86. Several pails went missing. Another agency may have taken them but it was not recorded. Foam can be delivered next day.
 - ♦ Chief Gow has been invited to California City as a consultant to discuss dispatch services. Chief Armstrong is a former part-time employee of the district.
- e. Long Range Committee:
- ♦ Report under item 7d.

7. Discussion and Action Items:

a. *Board position vacated by Gary Johnson:*

Motion made and passed to declare the Board position open and directing staff to fulfill the posting requirements of the position, and for the Board to appoint a new member at the regular meeting in September with applicant interviews starting at 6 pm. (Harvey/Stuart) Director Tresidder was absent.

b. *Board's consideration of receiving an OES engine from the State:*

The State is getting fifteen new Type 3 engines. Staff is still discussing the possibility of getting one of these engines. It cannot be used for first out, must be staffed when it is called for and may stay out for a long time. The district would not be reimbursed for the engine hours on strike teams. The district would be responsible for routine maintenance and the State would cover large issues.

c. *Contract with Sutter Medical Foundation for clinical education of the EMT students:*

These programs are a potential revenue source for the district. Motion made and passed to approve the contract with Sutter Medical Foundation. (Stuart/Harvey). Director Tresidder was absent. The contract will be sent to district counsel for review.

d. *Discussion of a future ballot measure for additional funding:*

The Long Range Committee met and discussed the issue of getting the word out. The State Fire Fee is a major stumbling block in getting a measure to pass. Staff will work on a current salary survey. The district has been aggressively seeking additional funding through grants. Discussed starting a grass roots political action committee. The Board will meet with members of the union and association to get everyone on the same page. The Long Range Committee will continue to meet and discuss this item.

e. *Budget update and approval of expenditures for July 2013:*

The Preliminary Budget is built on a 1% increase for property tax revenues. The County is advising an increase of 3% and it may even be as much as 5%. We may be turning the corner. The Finance Committee will meet to discuss the final budget and the final figures from last year. Motion made and passed by all present to approve the budget update and the expenses of \$121,131.03 for July 2013. (Harvey/Stuart).

f. *Adjourn to Closed Session; Govt. Code 54957.6(a) Labor Negotiations; Board to discuss Memorandum of Understanding:*

The Board went into closed session at 7:53 p.m. The regular meeting was re-convened at 8:20 p.m. Director Hills related that there were no action items to report and that the negotiating team was given direction on the MOU.

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 Hills noted that many of the families of the deceased Arizona Hot shot firefighters are not eligible for Federal death benefits as they were temporary employees. One of the wives is appealing this decision.

Director Stuart is concerned about the district's legal fees. Staff will determine the legal support offered to members through California Special District's Association.

b. *Request items for inclusion in subsequent meetings, or request a special meeting:* Board vacancy will be addressed next month. Committee assignments will also be reviewed.

The Finance Committee will meet. Final numbers for Fiscal Year 2012-13 for review.

c. *Reminder of next Board meeting:*

Wednesday, September 4, 2013 at 6 pm at Station 84. Interviews for the Board vacancy will commence at 6 pm.

c. Adjournment:

Motion made and approved by all to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. (Harvey/Stuart).

Respectfully submitted by: _____

Gillian Lofrano, District Manager

Approved by:

Alex Harvey _____

Peter Hills _____

Stephanie Stuart _____

Bret Tresidder _____