

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PLACER HILLS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
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www.placerhillsfire.org



Alex Harvey
Peter Hills
Fred Lofrano
Russell McCray
Mark Wright

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING; September 2, 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, McCray and Wright.

Directors absent: Director Lofrano.

Staff in attendance: Chief Gow and District Manager Lofrano.

2. Agenda approval:

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

3. Approval of the minutes:

The minutes for the regular meeting on August 5, 2015 were approved. (Harvey/Wright).

Director Hills abstained.

4. Public Comment: None.

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

None.

6. Information items:

a. Fire Chief Ian Gow's report:

- Brush 86 was part of a strike team that was assigned to the Cuesta fire near San Luis Obispo and then moved to the Rough fire near Fresno. The Rough fire was a US Forest Service incident running exhausting 12 hour shifts.
- Foresthill is negotiating with Placer County to fund 2 firefighters from the PILT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) monies. The County is confirming Foresthill's Reserve balances. The County is funding the Ophir fire station over fire season. The County Study should be completed by the end of the year. The County would be willing to support the fire districts after they go back to the public for additional funding. Higgins current measure for additional revenue from their constituents is failing. The Chiefs have been working with the Union leaders. The Union is setting up a meeting with Senator Gaines. Director Hills suggested the need for a workshop if the district is to go back to the public next fall.
- The discussions of a consolidation between South Placer and Loomis have been put on hold until after the pending studies.
- Newcastle and Penryn have sent requests for proposals to contract, consolidate or merge with fire districts, but there has been no interest so far.
- Fire Chiefs met with Chief Morris, Cal Fire. Chief Morris wants to maintain and protect his employees. The County's contract with Cal Fire is expensive.
- The parking lot at Station 84 will be sealed.
- Responded to a small arson fire started by kids. Many drug overdose calls last month. Several auto-aid calls to Cal Fire.

e. Board Committee Reports:

- Directors Harvey and McCray would like to meet with Chief Gow to review the fire prevention program.
- Director Hills reported that Howard Jarvis now has a class action lawsuit against the State Fire Fee – still need to protest the fee every year.

7 Discussion and Action Items:

a. Approval of Roofing Contract for the Engine Bays at Station 84:

Staff received 3 bids to re-roof the engine bays at Station 84. Staff recommended the proposal from Ed Smith Roofing which, with all components was the lowest bid. Motion made and passed by all present to accept the proposal from Ed Smith Roofing. (Harvey/Wright). Director Lofrano was absent.

b. Consideration and Adoption of Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016:

The Finance Committee held a lengthy meeting. The County projects a 10+% increase in property tax revenues. Additional revenues are anticipated from the sale of a surplus fire engine and a small grant. Staff has updated the depreciation schedules for apparatus and equipment and recommend the purchase of a Type 3 fire engine. Staff recommended filling one of the unfunded full-time positions with a Captain which will assist with command and control and add flexibility for summer deployments. Long term goal is to staff with 6 captains, 6 engineers and a third person on each shift. The annual cost for equipment replacement was reduced to \$45,000. The proposed final budget includes all the recommendations with a short fall of \$58,000 coming from the General Fund Balance. Currently the General Fund Balance is at 23% of the annual operating costs. The Finance Committee will review this in January 2016 after receiving the December revenues. There may be additional expenses from the meet and confer process. Director McCray noted that another position will create opportunities for staff. Motion made and passed by all present to accept the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016. (McCray/Harvey). Director Lofrano was absent.

c. Resolution No. 2015-005 Approving Agreement #7FG15093 with Cal Fire for purchases under the Volunteer Fire Assistance Program in the amount of \$7,910:

Motion made and passed by all present to adopt Resolution No. 2015-005 approving a grant from Cal Fire to purchase wildland firefighting equipment in the amount of \$7,910. (Wright/Harvey). Director Lofrano was absent. This is a 50/50 grant, the district matches the Cal Fire funding.

d. Consideration and Approval of the Mandated Sick Leave Policy:

Motion made and passed by all present to approve the Paid Sick Leave policy as presented. (Harvey/Wright). Director Lofrano was absent.

e. Discussion on the District's Underfunded Liability Obligation with Cal PERS:

The consultant would like to meet after Cal PERS publishes their reports in October.

f. Discussion on PILT and Proposition 172 monies as potential funding sources:

Covered under Chief Gow's report.

g. Budget update and approval of expenses in August 2015:

Motion made and approved by all present to accept the budget update and the expenses for August. (McCray/Harvey). Director Lofrano was absent.

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 Harvey requested a Fire Prevention Committee meeting.

b. *Request items for inclusion in subsequent meetings, or request a special meeting:*

Director Harvey requested a closed session to discuss labor negotiations at the October meeting.

c. *Reminder of next Board meeting:*

October 7, 2015 at 7 p.m. at the Meadow Vista Fire Station.

9. Adjournment:

Motion made and approved by all to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:


Gillian Lofrano, Board Secretary

Approved by:

Alex Harvey _____

Peter Hills _____

Fred Lofrano _____

Russell McCray _____

Mark Wright