

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING; September 27, 2017

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

Director Hills convened the regular meeting at 6:00 p.m.

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

Directors absent: None.

Staff in attendance: Chief Kushen, District Manager Lofrano and Battalion Chief Nelson

2. Agenda approval:

Closed Session was moved to the end of the meeting. The amended agenda was approved. (Wright/Harvey)

3. Approval of the minutes:

Motion made and passed unanimously to accept the minutes of the regular meeting on August 23, 2017. (Lofrano/Harvey).

4. Public Comment: None.

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

6. Information items:

a. Chief Kirk Kushen's report:

- The water tender assisted on a Calfire incident. Brush 84 was on a 2-week strike team deployment.
- Foresthill approved the agreement for the Chief's services until June 30, 2018 for \$57,000. Foresthill added an interim trainee Battalion Chief to assist with duty coverage. Chief Kushen and Chief Higgins of Penryn Fire will cover the duty on "B shift" days. Chief Walder, South Placer Fire and Operational Area Coordinator, feels that it is a decrease in services.
- Chief Kushen met with the Tahoe National Forest leadership to amend the cooperative service agreement. Looking at billing for the Placer Hills water tender after 2 hours and a 12 hour minimum for a planned need.
- Chief Kushen met with AMR and S-SV EMS agency to discuss a MOU to assist with coverage and a new posting plan for AMR.
- Staff will now use the utility vehicles to pick up the medics from the hospital. We can also contact the on duty AMR supervisor to arrange pick up for our medics.
- Captain Lippold has all the fleet in service. Firefighter Cody Sutherland may start assisting with fleet maintenance.
- Chief Kushen negotiated a great deal for the new Tahoe command vehicle which came in at \$5,500 under budget. These savings will be used to outfit BC Nelson's command vehicle with a middle consul and a shell for the back of the utility.

- Staff will be busy with fire safety presentations during Fire Prevention Week in October.

Battalion Chief Nelson's report and Association report:

- Awards dinner at the Applegate Civic Center on October 28, 2017.
- Local 3800 is ready to meet. Their counsel will attend the first meeting.

e. Board Committee Reports:

- Director Hills and Chief Kushen met with County staff to discuss the fire service funding issues. We are at a critical juncture. There are 3 options:
 - County take over all of the fire service – Supervisors' are against this
 - County CSA's and special districts merge to make new fire agency. This would need a permanent shift in the property tax share. Parcel taxes may also be imposed through annexations (protest must be 50 +1).
 - County continue with current model and we consolidate our fire districts.

Supervisor Montgomery has retained Retired Chief Gow as a consultant to facilitate these issues and come up with a solution before Christmas. The County has budgeted \$1.5 million for fire service needs. Director Hills and Chief Kushen are meeting with a San Bernardino LAFCO Officer for guidance on the process for consolidations. Cities can also be included in mergers. Chief Kushen has been approached by Sac Metro Fire regarding consolidation discussions!

- Newcastle Fire awarded a local contractor the bid for the preparation and winterization of the new fire station site for \$550,000. Potential savings with the donation of the fill dirt.

7. Discussion and Action Items:

b. Approve Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018:

The budget worksheet also showed Placer County's estimate of property tax revenues. It was decided to keep the original revenue projections. Motion made and approved unanimously to adopt the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018. (Lofrano/Wright). Foresthill may have to close a station after Christmas.

c. Approve Fire Chief's Service Agreement with Foresthill FPD:

The annual cost for services is \$57,000 for the year, \$42,750 for the remainder of the term. All reference to the Business Manager has been removed and the agreement terminates on June 30, 2018. Foresthill's Board had already approved the contract. Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the Chief's Service contract with Foresthill FPD. (McCray/Wright).

d. Budget update and Approval of Expenses:

Legal fees are up slightly. Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the budget update and the expenses of \$206,743.28 for the period of 8/19/2017 to 9/22/2017. (Harvey/Lofrano).

a. Closed Session: Govt. Code § 54957.6(a) Labor Negotiations; Discussion of MOU:

The public meeting was adjourned and the Board went into closed session. The meeting was reconvened at 7:20 pm. The Board gave direction to the Negotiating Team.

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:*
Director Hills will miss next month's meeting. He suggested reviewing the dates of the regular meetings in November and December due to holiday conflicts.
- c. *Reminder of next Board meeting: October 25, 2017 at 6 pm.*

9. Adjournment:

The regular meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: _____


Gillian Lofrano, Board Secretary

Approved by: _____