

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PLACER HILLS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
P.O. Box 350, Meadow Vista, CA 95722  
(530) 878-0405 Fax (530) 878-0959  
[www.placerhillsfire.org](http://www.placerhillsfire.org)



Alex Harvey  
Peter Hills  
Fred Lofrano  
Russell McCray  
Mark Wright

---

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING: July 22, 2020

Held in the training room at 16999 Placer Hills Rd., Meadow Vista and also by a Zoom teleconference.

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

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

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

Directors absent: Director Harvey.

Staff in attendance: Acting Fire Chief Nelson, District Manager Lofrano, Battalion Chief Slusher.

2. Agenda approval:

Items 7h was tabled to next month's meeting. The closed session time was modified. Motion made and passed by all present to accept the amended agenda. (Wright/Lofrano).

3. Approval of the minutes: Motion made and passed by all present to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on June 24, 2020. (McCray/Wright). Motion made and passed to approve the minutes of the special meeting on June 29, 2020. (McCray/Wright). Director Hills abstained as he did not attend the meeting.

4. Public Comment: Vernell Brothers read his letter to the "Men and Women" of Placer Hills and Newcastle Fire Districts.

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

6. Information Items:

a. Acting Fire Chief Pat Nelson

- Chief Nelson appreciated his acting position. All incidents have been mitigated appropriately. Staff are keeping up with the inspections.
- We have completed the annual pump and ladder testing. The air unit has been modified and is in service. We have taken delivery of the new Type 1 engine and it should be in service in a couple of weeks. The maintenance shop has been very busy.
- The office furniture is being installed in the administrative offices at the end of the month. We will be able to use the upstairs unit for future meetings and trainings.
- The Ponderosa Bridge is closed until December 2022.
- Staff will attend the Target solutions webinar in August.

Battalion Chief Slusher

- Call Volume June 2020: 94 Calls for service, 124 Unit responses including B/C and Stations

Station 84 – 60 Calls for service of which 38 were EMS

Station 86 - 49 Calls for service of which 19 were EMS

Comparative Call Volume 2019 – 129 Calls for service

Station 84 – 66 Calls for Service of which 35 were EMS

Station 86 – 59 Calls for service of which 36 were EMS

- Fire Activity has been increasing statewide and we deployed our first strike-team late June which returned after a three-day deployment. We anticipate additional strike teams as staffing and equipment allow.
- COVID- As I'm sure many of you have been experiencing, we continue to remain on the Governor's watch list and have a reduction or modification of many businesses and available activities. In our communication and participation with Placer County Public Health we continue to track and ensure we are doing our part to reduce exposure to staff and maintain adequate PPE to ensure our emergency services delivery are uninterrupted. The County COVID statistics are available on the County's website but I will highlight a few numbers of continued interest.

1479 Cases County wide      127.8 cases per 100,000 residents

7.7% Testing Positivity Rate

54 cases in Placer County hospitals of which 26 are residents of the county making 28 out of county occupants.

d. NCPF Local 3800: Captain Wood

- Captain Wood is looking forward to negotiations.

The open meeting was adjourned and the Board went into closed session at approximately 6:22 pm. Director Hills recused himself from the first item of closed session.

7. Discussion and Action Items:

a. Closed Session

- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL; Pursuant to California Government Code § 54956.9(b): Anticipated Litigation (one case)
- PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT pursuant to California Government Code § 54957(b) Interim Fire Chief

The open meeting was reconvened at 7:05 pm. Director Wright reported that no action was taken under item (i) of closed session. Director Hills reported that the Board voted 4 – 0 to appoint the interim Fire Chief under item (ii). Director Harvey was absent.

b. Approve the appointment, contract and salary for Interim Fire Chief Ian Gow per the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee:

Motion made and passed by all present to approve the appointment, contract and salary for Interim Fire Chief Ian Gow. (Wright/Lofrano). Director Harvey was absent. Fire Chief Gow was sworn in by Director Hills. Everyone congratulated Chief Gow on his return.

d. Consider and approve an Acting Fire Chief salary adjustment as recommended by the Finance Committee for Acting Fire Chiefs Brothers and Nelson:

Motion made and passed by all present to approve the 5% salary adjustment for Acting Fire Chiefs Brothers and Nelson as recommended by the Finance Committee. (Lofrano/McCray). Director Harvey was absent.

e. Approve the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation to defer the recruitment of the Division Chief/Fire Marshal position and under fill the position at this time:

Motion made and passed by all present to approve the recommendation made by the Ad Hoc Committee. (Lofrano/Wright). Director Harvey was absent.

- f. Approve Board President's recommendation to establish an Ad Hoc Committee to coordinate the recruitment and hiring process for a permanent Fire Chief:

Motion made and passed by all present to approve the Ad Hoc Committee of Directors Hills and Lofrano to coordinate the recruitment of a permanent Fire Chief. The process will be similar to that used 3 years ago. (Wright/McCray). Director Harvey was absent.

- g. Approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 20-01 amending and adopting the 2019 edition of the California building code (title 24, California code of regulations) part 9 (2019 California fire code) and appendices:

Motion made and passed by all present to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 20-01. (Lofrano/Wright). Director Harvey was absent.

- i. Approve applying the rate stabilization funds as a credit towards the 2020/2021 premium for the district's general liability with FAIRA:

Motion made and passed by all present to approve the rate stabilization funds as a credit towards FAIRA's premium. (Lofrano/McCray). Director Harvey was absent.

- j. Approve the agreement for services with the Placer County Auditor-Controller for Fiscal Year 2020/2021 for a cost of \$1,509.11:

Motion made and passed by all present to table this item for more information from the Auditor-Controller. (Wright/Lofrano). Director Harvey was absent.

The open meeting was adjourned and the Board went into a second closed session.

- c. Closed Session

- iii. California Government Code § 54957.6(a) CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS REGARDING PROPOSED UNIT REPRESENTATION (BATTALION CHIEFS/LOCAL 3800) District Negotiators: Directors Harvey and Lofrano, and Paul R. Gant, Kingsley, Bogard
- iv. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL pursuant to California Government Code § 54957.6(a) LABOR NEGOTIATIONS; Discussion of memorandum of understanding with Local 3800, District negotiators: Directors Harvey and Lofrano.

The open meeting was reconvened at 8:30 pm. Director Hills reported that the Board gave direction to the District Negotiators and District Counsel under item (iii) and gave direction to the District Negotiators under item (iv). Director Harvey was absent.

- k. Review the district's Conflict of Interest Code and submit the completed biennial notice to Placer County Counsel:

Motion made and passed by all present to note that the conflict of policy is under review. (Wright/Lofrano). Director Harvey was absent.

- l. Approve removing the Placer County residency exemption from service claims through Fire Recovery – fire district residents to remain exempt:

Motion made and passed by all present to remove this exemption for non-district residents in Placer County. (Lofrano/McCray). Director Harvey was absent.

*m.* Budget update and approval of expenses:

Motion made and passed unanimously to accept the budget update and the expenses for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (99% of fiscal year elapsed). We still have to receive the final report from the County. (Lofrano/Wright). Director Harvey 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.*

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

Finance Committee meeting will be scheduled to review the Fire Impact Study.

*c.* *Reminder of next Board meeting(s): August 26, 2020*

9. Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_



Gillian Lofrano, Board Secretary

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

