

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: April 27, 2022 *amended*

Held in Unit 2A, 17020 Placer Hills Rd., Meadow Vista and by a Zoom teleconference.

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

Vice-President Harvey convened the regular meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Directors in attendance: Hills (by Zoom), McCray, Lofrano, Wright, and Harvey.

Staff in attendance: Chief Gow, Fire Marshal D'Ambrogi, District Manager Lofrano and Battalion Chiefs Nelson and Slusher.

2. Agenda approval:

The review of the Financial Feasibility Analysis prepared by Jeff Small, Capitol Public Finance Group was moved to the first item of business. Motion made and passed unanimously to accept the amended agenda. (Wright/McCray).

7ai Station 84 replacement; Review the Financial Feasibility Analysis prepared by Jeff Small, Capitol Public Finance Group:

Jeff Small presented his Financial Feasibility Analysis for the new Meadow Vista Fire Station. He discussed Certificates of Participation which require the district to have a credit rating. He predicted that the district would have a very good "A+" rating and used \$5.4 million as the project fund deposit. The District could have financing in July. Questions were raised at the Finance Committee meeting regarding some of the numbers that had been given to Mr. Small for the analysis. Staff will re-work the figures and discuss them at the Finance meeting next week. A better look at the numbers may improve the district's position. Chief Gow is working on several possibilities for temporary housing during construction. Mr. Small requires some additional background documents and the credit rating will cost about \$17,500. Director Lofrano made a motion to approve the additional cost of the background documents required by Mr. Small pending the approval of the Finance Committee at their meeting next week. Director Wright seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

3. Approval of the minutes:

Director McCray corrected the March 23 to clarify in item 7b that Newcastle Fire will receive the current Engine 86 after Placer Hills receives the new engine. Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the amended minutes of the regular meeting on March 23, 2022. (Lofrano/McCray).

4. Public Comment: Director Harvey reported that Henry Shaw, long time member of the Auburn City Fire Department, passed away. District Manager Lofrano reported that Bill Bright, a life member of the Meadow Vista/Placer Hills Fire Department also passed away. District Manager introduced Nicole Paskey, the new Administrative Assistant.

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

6. Information Items:

a. Fire Chief Gow

- Chief Gow reported that the background report for the new hire for Penryn is almost done. Still waiting for a couple of items for the Placer Hills' employee.
- Chief Slusher has ordered the new Type 1 fire engine and rescue truck.
- Placer County is not going to re-open the Applegate Library. The fire district may be able to lease this property from the Applegate Civic Center.
- Union Pacific has agreed to extend the station property in Weimar to accommodate the training center which will improve our ISO rating. The annual rent will increase to \$5,000.
- Chief Gow reported that we are experiencing longer ambulance response times. South Placer Fire District's ambulance had to respond to our district as there were no AMR ambulances available. Chief Gow will be meeting with S-SV EMS agency to discuss this issue.
- Newcastle Fire had a well-attended Ground Breaking Ceremony on April 12th. Engine 41 has some electrical issues.
- Penryn will soon be fully staffed. Penryn is negotiating with Local 3800 and will probably contract with CalPERS for the 2.7% @ 57 plan.
- South Placer Fire District is going back to the public for a Benefit Assessment.

b. Fire Marshal D'Ambrogi

- Fire Marshal D'Ambrogi approved 1 set of plans and 2 variances. He inspected 2 hydro tests and a couple of propane lines.
- Chief D'Ambrogi has applied for all 3 fire districts to participate in the SAVE (Supplying Aid to Victims of Emergency) program run by the California Fire Foundation. The Battalion Chiefs will receive \$250 gift cards to give to victims of fire and natural disasters for immediate relief.
- He has implemented a permit process for assemblies and large events within the 3 fire districts. This enables staff to know when a large gathering is happening.

c. Battalion Chief Slusher

- Chief Slusher reported that in March, Placer Hills ran 155 incidents, Newcastle 81 and Penryn 56. He will start tracking the ambulance response times.
- The apparatus committee completed the pre-construction meetings on both the new 2023 Smeal engine and the rescue truck.
- The annual wildfire refresher training RT-130 is scheduled next month in Foresthill.
- We will have almost 3 acres at the Weimar site once UP has enlarged the property. NFPA and ISO require at least 2 acres for a training center.
- We will soon have a full complement of staff at all 3 districts. The new employees will be shadowed for their first few shifts.

Battalion Chief Nelson

- Chief Nelson thanked everyone for their support during his time off.
- All the annual maintenance and testing have been done.

d. Placer Hills Firefighters Association report: Pioneer Day is going ahead this year.

e. Local 3800: No report.

f. Board Committee reports:

- i. Finance Committee: Director McCray reported that there is a Finance meeting on Wednesday, May 4 at 3 pm.
- ii. Long Range Committee: Report is on the agenda.
- iii. Ad hoc Committee for reorganizations: President Hills reported that the Ad hoc committees will meet if the concurrent Resolutions are passed by both Boards.
Administrative contracts: Director McCray reported that meetings are scheduled for next week.

7. Discussion and Action Items:

a. Station 84 replacement:

a. Approve the Easement Agreement with Faith Lutheran Church:

The church made some very minor changes to the agreement. Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the Agreement with Faith Lutheran Church. (Lofrano/Wright). Director Lofrano and District Manager Lofrano presented a check for the first 100 years of the lease.

b. Approve the Fee Proposal from Lionakis for the continuing Design Development through Construction Administration:

This fee proposal was included in the Financial Feasibility Analysis. Motion made and passed unanimously to accept this proposal from Lionakis pending the approval of the Finance Committee at their meeting next week. (Lofrano/Wright).

b. Approve the 2nd reading of Lexipol Policies Chapter 9 – Safety:

Chief Gow reported that part of the Uniform Policy was deleted and there were some minor changes to the Safety Policy. Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the 2nd reading of Lexipol Policies Chapter 9 Safety. (Wright/McCray).

Chapter 9 - Safety

- 900- Illness and Injury Prevention Program
- 901- Cal/OSHA Inspections
- 902- Cal/OSHA Notification of Injury, Illness or Death
- 903- High-Visibility Safety Vests
- 904- Soft Body Armor
- 905- Apparatus / Vehicle Backing
- 906- Heat Illness Prevention Program
- 907- Respiratory Protection Program
- 908- Personal Alarm Devices
- 909- Safety and Health Officer
- 910- Vehicle Safety Belts
- 911- Fire Station Safety
- 912- Ground Ladder Testing
- 913- District Issued PPE Selection, Care & Maintenance
- 914- Uniform & Personal Protective Equipment
- 915- Hazardous Energy Control
- 916- Hazard Communication
- 917- Personal Firearms
- 918- Roadway Incident Safety

c. Adopt Resolution No. 2022-01 requesting that the Placer Local Agency Formation Commission initiate proceedings for the reorganization of the Placer Hills Fire Protection District and the Newcastle Fire Protection District:

Director Hills reported that the Newcastle Committee requested that after the first two Board election cycles, the Reorganized Board will conduct districtwide elections as provided by law. The LAFCO CEO has reviewed the resolution. This Resolution starts the process with LAFCO. Motion made and passed unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 2022-01 initiating proceedings for the reorganization of Placer Hills and Newcastle Fire Districts. (McCray/Lofrano).

d. Approve adding a small tracked vehicle in place of a new command car to the Capital Replacement Schedule:

Staff recommended adding a small tracked vehicle to the Capital Replacement plan due to the difficulties experienced when rescuing victims during the devastating storm in December last year. Staff is looking at a Polaris Northstar Ranger 1000. This will replace one of the command cars. The cost of the vehicle will be approximately \$40,000. Motion made and passed unanimously to add the vehicle to the schedule. (McCray/Lofrano).

e. Request for Nominations for the Special District Representative to Placer Local Agency Formation Commission:

Chair Kahrl, Newcastle Fire Board is the incumbent for this position and is running again. Motion made and passed unanimously to not nominate anyone. (Wright/Lofrano).

f. Approve Resolution No. 2022-02 declaring an election in November for Board members whose terms are expiring and requesting Election Services by the County Clerk:

Motion made and passed unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 2022-02 declaring an election and requesting election services. (Wright/McCray).

g. Update on the Department's COVID-19 response:

Chief Gow reported that all the COVID directives have been rescinded. Staff will continue to fumigate the stations and equipment on a regular basis. Chief Gow removed this item from future agendas.

h. Budget update and approval of expenses:

Chief Gow reported that 79% of the fiscal year has elapsed. We are over in fuel and overtime. Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the budget update and the monthly expenses of \$346,568.94. (Wright/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(s): May 25, 2022.*

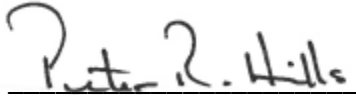
9. Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:



Gillian Lofrano, Board Secretary

Approved by: 

Peter Hills, President