

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: May 25, 2022

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

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

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

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

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

2. Agenda approval:

Director Lofrano requested to move item 7a(i) update by Jeff Small, Capitol Public Finance Group on the financial feasibility of the rebuild of Station 84 to the first item of business. Motion made and passed unanimously to accept the amended agenda. (Wright/Lofrano).

3. Approval of the minutes:

Director McCray corrected the heading of item 7h on the April 27 minutes. Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the amended minutes of the regular meeting of April 27, 2022. (Wright/McCray).

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

The Long Range Committee requested a current cost estimate from the architect. The revised estimate was \$12.9 million which did not include financing costs. Mr. Small had based his financing analysis on \$7 million and did not think the revised number was feasible for the district. He had incurred minimal costs to this point. Options for possible funding sources were discussed. The Long Range Committee will meet with the architect to discuss the options for moving forward with these plans in the future. Director Lofrano made a motion to table the Lionakis and the geotechnical report proposals. Director Wright seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

4. Public Comment: None.

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

6. Information Items:

a. Fire Chief Gow

- Chief Gow reported that all three districts are fully staffed.
- There are two more chapters of the Lexipol policies to be reviewed and some policies not covered in Lexipol.
- Newcastle's union is willing to sign a one year extension to the current Memorandum of Understanding. The contractor is working on the pad for the new fire station.
- Penryn's Board has signed a resolution with the intention to contract with CalPERS. Penryn's MOU is signed.

- South Placer Fire's Chief Duerr has been presenting the ballot measure for additional funding at the MAC meetings.
- Foresthill's Chief Ridley is resigning at the end of June. Deputy Fire Chief Jed Matcham has applied for the position.

b. Fire Marshal D'Ambrogi

- Fire Marshal D'Ambrogi reported that new construction is slower with the increase in interest rates.
- Chief D'Ambrogi inspected 2 sets of plans, 2 rough sprinkler systems, 2 propane gas lines and finished 2 new homes.
- All 3 fire districts are now enrolled in the SAVE (Supplying Aid to Victims of Emergency) program.

c. Battalion Chief Williamson

- Chief Williamson reported that the ladder testing is done and staff is working on the hose testing.

Battalion Chief Slusher

- Chief Slusher reported that the district had 137 calls for service last month for a total of 645 for the year.
- Chief Slusher gave a wildfire preparedness presentation for the horse and rider at the Loomis Basin Equine Medical Center. It was well attended and well received.
- Staff are clearing the site for the training center at the Weimar Station.
- All staff did well at the Continual Professional Training put on by the Battalion Chiefs.
- Engine 84's water leak issue has been resolved and it is back in service.

d. Placer Hills Firefighters Association report:

- Pioneer Day is going ahead on June 5. There will be a band, beer and BBQ.

e. Local 3800:

- Engineer Hodges, shop steward, introduced himself to the Board. Negotiations will be opened in July to discuss the incentive package.

f. Board Committee reports:

- Finance Committee: President Hills reported that the committee met and discussed the Preliminary Budget for next fiscal year. The County recommended a conservative 4% increase for the property tax revenues. Staff is looking at the Capital Replacement schedule with the cost escalation of new apparatus. The Committee will meet to finalize the preliminary budget.
- Long Range Committee: Already discussed.
- Ad hoc Committee for reorganizations: President Hills and Chief Gow met with the LAFCO CEO. She gave us the documents for the reorganization. President Hills is working on a combined preliminary budget for Placer Hills and Newcastle adding the cost impact of 6 employees.
- Administrative contracts: President Hills reported that Penryn has asked for a 2-year contract. Newcastle requested to continue the current contract for July through December as they did not want to modify their numbers they had submitted to USDA. In 2023, they will start an eighteen month contract with the new rates and a catch up clause for the fees deferred in 2022.

President Hills, Chief Gow and President Thomas, Local 3800 met with Supervisors Holmes and Gufstafson and discussed the reorganization and the funding issues. The County is not interested in funding operations. Chief Gow will meet with Supervisor Jones who now has a small part of the Newcastle in her supervisory district.

7. Discussion and Action Items:

b. Approve the hiring of Engineer Ryan Bevilacqua:

Chief Gow reported that Engineer Bevilacqua was number 1 on the hiring list. He is currently working at Foresthill. He is a strong medic and has already worked for Placer Hills through the JOA (Joint Operations Agreement). Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the hiring of Engineer Bevilacqua. (Lofrano/Wright/McCray).

c. Vote for the Special District Representative for the Placer County Local Agency Formation Commission:

Motion made and passed unanimously to vote for incumbent William Karhl. (Wright/Lofrano).

d. Budget update and approval of expenses:

Chief noted that we are over budget in fuel and overtime. Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the budget update and the monthly expenses of \$213,472.87. (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): June 22, 2022.*

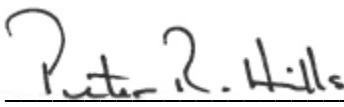
9. Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:



Gillian Lofrano, Board Secretary

Approved by: 

Peter Hills, President