

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

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## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING: August 24, 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, McCray, Lofrano and Wright.

Directors absent: None.

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

2. Agenda approval:

Item 8 Directors comments was moved to before item 7d Closed Session. Motion made and passed unanimously to accept the amended agenda. (Wright/McCray).

3. Approval of the minutes:

Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the minutes for the regular meeting on July 27, 2022. (Lofrano/McCray).

4. Public Comment: None.

5. Correspondence (not covered in Agenda items below): President Hills received the ballot for Placer County Local Agency Formation Commission's alternate special District representative. He will select William Kahrl and return it to LAFCO.

6. Information Items:

a. Fire Chief Gow

- There is an issue with St 86's septic system. Temporary bathroom facilities have been donated by Pottyshack, a local business.
- Engine 84's tank has been repaired.
- Chief Gow attended the funerals of Robert Griffith, Placer Hills' volunteer/CalStar flight nurse and Tyler Harkness, Director Foresthill Fire District.
- Chief Gow is getting the group together who spearheaded Measure A. Chief Gow is meeting with Treasurer/Tax Collector Windeshausen and Sheriff Woo.
- The construction of Newcastle's station is going well.
- The repairs to Penryn fire station have been done.
- Chief Matcham has been appointed the Fire Chief for Foresthill.
- South Placer is closing a station and possibly not staffing one of their engines.
- President Hills noted that CalPERS investment gains have been wiped away from last year. It is difficult to project what will happen in the future.

b. Fire Marshal D'Ambrogi

- Chief D'Ambrogi approved 3 sets of plans, 3 rough sprinkler inspections, and 4 propane gas lines for backup generators. Moving forward with a vegetation complaint in the Sleepy Hollow area.
- Chiefs Gow, D'Ambrogi and Slusher attended an evacuation presentation at Winchester put on by the Sheriff's Office.
- Received a proposal from the Catholic Diocese of Sacramento for 25 homes across from Naturewood. He is reviewing potential evacuation routes.
- Director Lofrano brought up the proposed affordable housing project in Penryn which may be exempt from property taxes. Special Assessments may still apply. Chief D'Ambrogi added that the County is behind its allocation of affordable housing assigned by the State.

c. Battalion Chief Nelson

- The septic tank at Station 86 is full of roots. The company will come out to assess the damage. More to follow.
- The leak in Station 84's bathroom is being repaired. The request for proposals for the repair of the roof at Station 84 has been published. We will move forward with a roof bid if it is within budget.
- Some of the seasonal firefighters are assisting with fleet maintenance.

Battalion Chief Slusher

- 135 calls for the month. 25% of the calls were mutual aid to other agencies. The OES engine was assigned to the McKinney fire.
- Working on the specifications for the Side by Side utility vehicle and the Drone.
- All staff did a great job on the Oak fire which started just outside Placer Hills' jurisdiction in Weimar. CalFire used a drone to see the hot spots.

d. Placer Hills Firefighters Association report: No report.

e. Local 3800: No report.

f. Board Committee reports:

- Finance Committee: The Committee will meet in the next couple of weeks.
- Long Range Committee: A meeting will be scheduled to discuss the closing of the Applegate Library. Placer County Supervisors will be taking action on the library in November.
- Ad hoc Committee for reorganizations: The Committee met and reviewed another draft of the application and the budget projections. Another meeting has been scheduled. President Hills will give formal presentations of the LAFCO application to the Placer Hills and Newcastle Boards next month.

7. Discussion and Action Items:

a. Approve adding 3 seasonal Firefighters to our current staffing due to lack of Intern Firefighters:

Chief Gow reported that adding the firefighters would enhance the district's ability to respond to incidents and staff strike team engines. Motion made by Director Lofrano and seconded by Director McCray to add the additional positions for this fiscal year. Newcastle

may not need a seasonal firefighter in the future as they have less equipment than the Placer Hills' stations. Motion passed unanimously.

b. Approve a \$5 increase in hourly pay rate for the part-time administrative personnel:

Chief Gow reported that both Fire Marshal D'Ambrogi and Administrative Assistant Paskey are instrumental to the administration of the fire district. Motion made by Director Harvey and seconded by Director Wright to approve the \$5 hourly increase in pay for the Fire Marshal and Administrative Assistant. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Approve the Budget update and monthly expenses:

Motion made by Director McCray and seconded by Director Wright to approve the budget update and the expenses of \$469,590.36 for the period 7/1/22 to 8/19/202. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board went into closed session after the Directors' comments (below) at 7:19 pm.

d. Closed Session

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 8:13 pm. President Hills reported that no action was taken in Closed Session and the Negotiating Team was given direction.

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.*

President Hills reported that he and Director Harvey will be meeting with Supervisor Gustafson to discuss the LAFCO reorganization application, additional funding and mutual aid.

Chief Slusher reported that Local 522 has requested to meet with Local 3800. Sac Metro Fire Department's Chief is retiring.

No Board election for both Newcastle and Placer Hills Fire Districts as only the incumbents filed. Penryn also does not have a Board election as 2 incumbents and a third person filed for the 3 open position. Foresthill will have a Board election as 2 incumbents and a third person filed for the 2 open 4-year terms. Foresthill will be appointing a replacement for Mr. Harkness' position.

Director Harvey will miss next month's meeting.

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

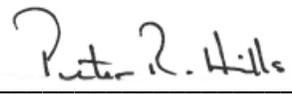
c. *Reminder of next Board meeting(s): September 28, 2022.*

9. Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
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Gillian Lofrano, Board Secretary

Approved by:   
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Peter Hills, President