

# 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: March 22, 2023

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.

Directors absent: None.

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

2. Agenda approval:

Motion made and passed unanimously to accept the agenda. (Harvey/Wright).

3. Approval of the minutes:

Director Harvey amended the minutes of February 22, 2023 under Fire Chief Gow's report to include Director Harvey in the meeting with Supervisor Landon. Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the amended minutes for the regular meeting on February 22, 2023. (Lofrano/Wright).

4. Public Comment: None.

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

6. Information Items:

a. Fire Chief's Report

- The Utility Task Vehicle (UTV) made several rescues in Placer Hills and Foresthill during the storms.
- Many staff hours went into the completion of the data requested for LAFCO's Municipal Services Review.
- The new Captain will hopefully start in 2 weeks.
- Staff is working on a white paper for long range planning:
  - Construction of the training tower at Station 86
  - Succession planning for Chief Gow and District Manager Lofrano.
- The Board of Supervisors transferred the Library back to the Applegate Civic Center. The County is switching off the utilities on 3/31/2023.
- Penryn's Engine 38 is out of service for major repairs.
- Both Newcastle and Penryn received Lucas chest compression devices. Penryn has already used it on an incident.
- Newcastle's old station appraised at \$550,000. There are a number of interested parties looking at purchasing the building.

b. Fire Marshal report by Chief Gow

- Fire Code inspections/plan review: 4 single family dwelling finals, 2 sprinkler inspections, 3 propane line inspections and 3 sprinkler plan reviews.
- Planning projects:
  - 1 lot split of a 6 acre parcel into two 3-acre parcels at 1489 Meadow Vista Rd.
  - Variance setback at Pleasant Ridge Rd.
  - Garage variance setback on Volley Circle.
- Spent many hours on the fire investigation of the double fatality fire on Ponderosa Lane. The forensic team from Chico State participated in the investigation.
- Director Lofrano suggested that the money from the sale of Newcastle's old fire station should be put towards the USDA loan. President Hills recommended that it should go into a depreciation account.

c. Battalion Chief Nelson

- Captain Lippold is working full-time in the shop and staffed the UTV during the storms. Captain Lippold has installed the lights etc. on the UTV.
- Battalion Chief Slusher's command vehicle blew a motor. It was replaced in 8 days under warranty.
- Penryn is using the reserve engine while Engine 38 is being repaired.
- The big oak tree at Station 86 is scheduled to be taken down on April 6.

Battalion Chief Slusher

- 91 calls for service last month. Gave mutual aid 25 times and received aid 8 times. 17 technical rescue responses.
- Lots of agencies were involved in the double fatality structure fire on Ponderosa Lane. Crews found one of the victims and extricated him from the building. The second body was found by the forensic team.
- Chief Slusher has submitted a SAFER grant application for 3 full-time firefighters. There will be no cost to the district for 3 years.
- Breaking ground on the training site when the weather gets better. Staff will be doing a lot of the work and will also repair the driveway.
- The UTV will be able to respond on strike teams as part of the Federal Rapid Extraction Module which provides a safe and effective method of egress off the fireline for firefighters in the event of injury or illness. This would keep the pumpers in the district.

d. Placer Hills Firefighters Association report: None.

e. Local 3800: No report.

f. Board Committee reports:

- Finance Committee: The Committee will meet soon to work on the preliminary budget. President Hills was concerned that the housing growth may be down due to the increase in interest rates.
- Long Range Committee: No report.
- Ad hoc Committee for reorganizations: President Hills will be working on the fiscal analysis for the reorganization.

7. Discussion and Action Items:

a. Approve Resolution No. 2023-02 to update the Fire Recovery costs for fire services:

Chief Gow reported that there is a standard guideline in place on when to send incidents for billing. Motion made and passed unanimously to approve Resolution No. 2023-02 updating the fire recovery costs. (Harvey/McCray).

b. Approve the Budget update and monthly expenses:

Chief Gow reported that there was nothing significant in the report. Motion made and passed unanimously to approve the budget update and the expenses of \$253,077.58. (McCray/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.*

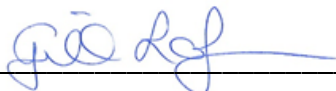
b. *Request items for inclusion in subsequent meetings or request a special meeting:*

c. *Reminder of next Board meeting(s): April 26, 2023.*

9. Adjournment:

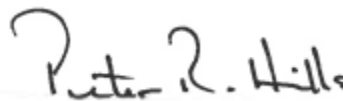
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:



Gillian Lofrano, Board Secretary

Approved by:



Peter Hills, President