

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: November 22, 2023

17020 Placer Hills Rd. Suite 2A, Meadow Vista and by a Zoom teleconference.

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

President Hills convened the regular meeting at 6:07 p.m.

Directors in attendance: Harvey, Hills, McCray and Wright. Director Lofrano joined by Zoom.

Directors absent: None.

Staff in attendance: Fire Chief Ian Gow, Fire Marshal D'Ambrogi, Administrative Assistant Rhiannon Fairchild and Battalion Chiefs Nelson, Slusher, and Williamson.

2. Agenda approval:

Director Wright moved to approve the agenda. Director McCray seconded the motion which passed 4 to 0.

3. Approval of the minutes:

Director Wright moved to approve the minutes. Director McCray seconded the motion which passed 4 to 0.

4. Public Comment: None.

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

6. Information Items:

a. Fire Chief Gow's Report

- i. Newcastle received approval at the last board meeting to replace breathing apparatus for \$80,000. Newcastle is the only member of the JOA with different breathing apparatus, which is a safety issue. Working on selling the old ones, which are halfway through their lifespan, and Chief Nelson will work on procuring the new ones. Fuel Vault purchase is on hold, but should run about \$40,000.
- ii. Penryn radio has been having issues. Penryn "surplussed" their old brush rig. The apparatus committee will start specking out a new type 3.
- iii. Placer Hills Station 86 has had ongoing work/repairs.
- iv. District Manager Michelle Armstrong completed her background check and she was given a firm job offer. We should be receiving her start date shortly.
- v. Placer Hills Medic position has been filled internally, so Placer Hills is fully staffed.
- vi. Directors Harvey and Hills, as well as Chief Gow met with Assemblyman Kiley. Assemblyman Kiley seems to be cognizant of ongoing issues.
- vii. Chief Gow met with Supervisor Gustafson, as well as Mr. Butler who is running for the Newcastle seat. There's also a scheduled upcoming meeting with Assemblyman Patterson.
- viii. Working on the MSR and hoping to be done by December or January so we can begin working on the LAFCO application.

- ix. Working on a long-term retention plan for Paramedics, which will be brought to the board upon completion.
- x. There was a robbery next door at the Tin Lantern. Someone broke into their secured storage shed and stole a handful of valuable items, which brings up our concern for security at Station 85 and the Admin office. ADT has been scheduled to install security at Station 85, as well as augment the existing security at the Admin office. There's already money in the budget for these items, therefore board approval not needed.
- xi. Supervisor Gustafson was at the Newcastle MAC meeting, and mentioned that the Insurance Commissioner was going to be making a large presentation to the Board of Supervisors. Chief Gow's daughter attended the presentation, and there were no significant changes in the insurance industry to report on. Concerns here are that the only option our constituents have are wrap-around policies including the FAIR plan.

b. Fire Marshal D'Ambrogi's report

- i. Inspections conducted: 1 single family dwelling, 3 hydro single-family dwellings, 2 final single-family dwellings
- ii. Planning: one 5-acre lot split into two 2.5-acre parcels
- iii. County has rejected our request to increase mitigation fees. They would like us to generate a new CIP document, which Fire Marshal D'Ambrogi has completed and received approval from the county, which will be brought to the board for approval at the next meeting. County did not dispute the fee structure, but would like us to include more supporting documentation to justify the increase.

c. Battalion Chief Nelson

- i. Station 86 driveway project is underway, repairing half at a time for access purposes.
- ii. Peardale/Chicago Park is our first client and is having us evaluate their type 1 engine. Chief Lippold will work on it between current projects, and won't interrupt services to our fleet. It will at a minimum be cost neutral.

Battalion Chief Williamson

- i. All mandatory inspections are complete for the year
- ii. All business inspections are complete for the year

Battalion Chief Slusher

- i. 118 calls for service, 224 across JOA. We continue to give more aid than we receive.
- ii. 3 Building fires, 1 commercial vehicle fire totaling \$800,000 in losses. YTD 80 working fires, 28 of which were building fires. Just over \$3.6 million in losses but \$7.5 million in losses prevented.
- iii. Received word that we will receive the type 1 engine in April 2024. Typically takes approximately 60 days to upfit.
- iv. Station 85 has an extractor that will be moved down to Station 41, due to space issues.

- v. We have reorganized our EMS division for efficiency purposes, per Captain Craig's recommendation.
 - d. Placer Hills Firefighters Association report: Evite went out for the annual Christmas Event.
 - e. Local 3800: Captain Hodges reported that the proposal had been sent to Director Hills. Next meeting will be the 28th. Director Lofrano entered a comment that a meeting on the 28th was not feasible timing-wise, and proposed a reschedule. Meeting time was kept.
 - f. Board Committee reports:
 - i. Finance Committee: None.
 - ii. Long Range Committee: Director Hills spoke about the recommendations he received from Assemblyman Kiley in an effort to gain federal funding.
 - iii. Ad hoc Committee for reorganizations: None.
7. Discussion and Action Items:
- a. Consider and approve a Grant of Non-Exclusive Easement and Agreement with the Applegate Civic Center Club for vehicular and pedestrian ingress and egress (action):
Director Hills excused himself from the room due to conflict of interest. The Applegate Civic Center easement was discussed. Director Wright motioned to approve signing the agreement. Director McCray seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.
 - b. Consider and Approve the first reading of the Capitalization Policy (action):
Director Wright motioned to approve the policy, Director McCray seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.
 - c. Approve the Budget update and monthly expenses (action):
Per Chief Gow, nothing significant to report. Director McCray motioned to approve the Budget, Director Harvey seconded, which passed 4-0.
The open meeting was adjourned at 6:43 pm and the Board went into Closed Session.
 - d. Closed Sessions
 - i. Pursuant to California Government Code § 54956.8 **CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS:** Directors Lofrano and McCray regarding the Applegate Civic Center properties
 - ii. Pursuant to California Govt. Code § 54957.6(a) **LABOR NEGOTIATIONS;** Discussion of the Memorandum of Understanding with Local 3800, District negotiators: Harvey and Lofrano.The open meeting was reconvened at 7:20 pm.

The Applegate Civic Center negotiations have been completed with the Civic Center representative on closed session item #1
No action was taken by the board on closed session item #2
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. *Reminder of next Board meeting(s): December 27, 2023.*

9. Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

RHIANNON FAIRCHILD

Rhiannon Fairchild, Admin Asst

Approved by: *Peter R. Hills*

Peter Hills, President