

# 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: January 24, 2024

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 6:00 p.m.

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

Directors absent: McCray.

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

2. Agenda approval:

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

3. Approval of the minutes:

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

4. Public Comment:

Dane Wadle, with the California Special Districts Association, reported that the association advocates for special districts on the state and national level. Their current focus is to get special districts defined in federal law. He also reported that they provide a robust training program to staff and board members.

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

6. Information Items:

a. Fire Chief Gow's Report

- i. Newcastle received a \$10,000 donation
- ii. Working to surplus brush and command car in Penryn
- iii. New California laws started this year that have a slight impact on the district; Increase in minimum sick leave requirements to 40 hours or 5 days, whichever is greater and no punitive action can be taken against an employee that uses marijuana while not at work
- iv. We have a new lawyer, Lindsey Moore, Paul Gant is now working for Department of Education.
- v. Received rough draft MSR for Penryn, spent some time reviewing and provided input. Hoping that Newcastle and Placer Hills will be done in March.

b. Fire Marshal D'Ambrogi's report

- i. Inspections conducted: Reviewed 3 single family dwelling plans, 1 rough hydro, 3 single family dwelling final inspections, 1 commercial final inspection.
- ii. Reviewed a lot split off Sundance

- iii. Capital Improvement Plan has been accepted by the county, waiting to be scheduled on the Board of Supervisors agenda.

Director Hills reported on the supervisors comments from the MAC meeting regarding rezoning and the low income housing. Fire Marshal D'Ambrogi discussed the planned numbers for low income housing and anticipates them being reduced.

*c. Battalion Chief Nelson*

- i. Focus has been on getting the rescue in service and to get some warranty issues addressed with sales staff.
- ii. Work on Chicago Park/Peardale engine has been completed, invoice has been generated and sent out.

*Battalion Chief Slusher*

- i. Battalion Chief Nelson has purchased new breathing apparatus for Newcastle, anticipating an arrival in 4-8 weeks.
- ii. Met with Assemblyman Patterson, along with Chief Gow and Board Members. Assemblyman recommended the CSDA.
- iii. Call volume down 8-10% across our three districts due to a decrease in vegetation fires. 2023 Fires; 92 fires, \$2.25 million in property loss, \$1.15 million content loss
- iv. There are infrastructure issues with dispatch that will require replacement in the future. We are paying close attention to them, advocating for funding and discussing solutions with the sheriff's department.

*d. Placer Hills Firefighters Association report: None.*

*e. Local 3800: Battalion Chief Slusher reported that they have been meeting with supervisor candidates, covering Placer and Nevada County.*

*f. Board Committee reports:*

- i. Finance Committee: Director Hills reported that a mid-year review will be scheduled and any changes will be presented for approval at the February meeting.*
- ii. Long Range Committee: None.*
- iii. Ad hoc Committee for reorganizations: Director Hills reported that we are waiting on the MSR report and they will start working on a formal transition plan.*

**7. Discussion and Action Items:**

*a. Consider and approve Resolution No. 2024-01 Review and Accept the State Mandated Annual Fire Inspection Report (action):*

Battalion Chief Williamson reported that this is a required annual report but has been delayed the last few years due to COVID. This report includes inspections for large daycares, schools, and hotels/motels.

Director Lofrano motions to approve the resolution. Director Wright seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.

*b. Election of Board officers and appointment of Board Committees (action):*

Motion made to maintain the same board officers and committee appointments from 2023. Director Lofrano motioned to approve the policy. Director Wright seconded the motion,

which passed 4-0.

c. Consider submitting nominations for upcoming vacancies on Placer LAFCO commission (action):

Chief Gow reported that Josh Alpine is currently is the regular voting member and William Kahrl is the alternate. Both term out this year and William Kahrl has indicated he is interested in the regular voting position.

Director Harvey made a motion to nominate William Kahrl to the regular voting member and Josh Alpine as the alternate voting member. Director Wright seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.

d. Approve the Budget update and monthly expenses (action):

Director Harvey had a question on what is included in the miscellaneous expense category, answers will be provided at a later date and discussed at the finance committee meeting. Director Harvey motioned to approve the Budget, Director Hills seconded, which passed 4-0.

The open meeting was adjourned and the Board went into Closed Session at 6:45pm.

e. Closed Sessions

- i. 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 7:23 pm.

The board provided direction to the labor committee on negotiations with the Local 3800

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): March 27th, 2024.*

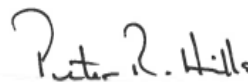
9. Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:



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Michelle Armstrong, District Manager



Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

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Peter Hills, President