

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PLACER HILLS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
P.O. Box 350, Meadow Vista, CA 95722
(530) 878-0405 Fax (530) 878-0959
www.placerhillsfire.org



Alex Harvey
Peter Hills
Fred Lofrano
Russell McCray
Mark Wright

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING: March 28, 2024

17020 Placer Hills Rd. Suite 2A, Meadow Vista

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 McCray

Directors absent: Wright

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

2. Agenda approval:

President Hills reported that item 7a. has been postponed until next month and proposed that item 7e. be moved up to after item 5. Correspondence

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

3. Approval of the minutes:

Director Harvey shared that an edit needed to be made to attendees as Fire Marshal D'Ambrogi was not in attendance.

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

4. Public Comment: N/A

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

6. Information Items:

a. Fire Chief Gow's Report

- i. Penryn's surplus brush and command vehicle have been prepared to be sold and they are working on hiring volunteers
- ii. Newcastle's SCBA's were delivered earlier than expected, staff is working on putting them in service
- iii. All agencies up staffed for the storm last month
- iv. City of Auburn has inquired about contracting with Placer Hills for Fire Marshal services while their personnel is on leave. Anticipate an agreement being presented at a future board meeting.
- v. Evaluating the mechanic position and seasonal staffing for the upcoming budget
- vi. Board presidents met with Local 3800 to discuss their efforts on future funding for fire districts
- vii. Local chiefs has been discussing the AMR contract that is up for renewal
- viii. Received a request from AP Triton, consultant creating the Municipal Services Review, for a summary demonstrating a merger of Placer Hills, Penryn, Newcastle and Foresthill Fire Protection Districts. The consultant also indicated he would be asking for a similar document from South Placer Fire that included Newcastle and

Penryn and asking CalFire to provide one taking over all districts excluding South Placer Fire. Met with the board presidents to get their input on how to respond. President Hills reported that the Chief will be working to put together an executive summary.

b. Fire Marshal D'Ambrogi's Report

- i. Completed 3 single family dwelling plan reviews, 2 single family dwelling hydro rough inspections, 1 single family dwelling final inspection, and 3 propane line inspections
- ii. Coyote Hill has submitted a FIREWISE application and anticipate Naturewood submitting one as well
- iii. Clampitt subdivision project application expired and they are resubmitting
- iv. The Mitigation / Capital Improvement Plan has not gone before the board of supervisors for approval, told that county council is still reviewing

c. Battalion Chief Nelson

- i. Engine 84 currently out of service, at Cummins for maintenance, Engine 41 has a broken clutch fan and Engine 38 is out of service due to an oil leak
- ii. Fire Marshal's Tahoe blew a transmission and has been fixed and put back in service
- iii. Flow tests and upgrades have been completed on the SCBA's

Battalion Chief Slusher

- i. Ran 122 service calls in February, including 4 fires
- ii. Down on year to date calls by about 50, due to last year's storms

d. Placer Hills Firefighters Association report: Anthony Froggatt reported that the next association meeting will be held on Tuesday

e. Local 3800: N/A

f. Board Committee reports:

- i. **Finance Committee:** Director Hills reported that they have met with Penryn and Newcastle Fire Protection Districts to start discussions about the Admin contracts. He also reported that a finance committee meeting will be scheduled in April to start planning for the FY 24/25 budget
- ii. **Long Range Committee:** N/A
- iii. **Ad hoc Committee for reorganizations:** Director Hills reported that we are waiting on the MSR report and waiting for the finalized audits for Placer Hills and Newcastle.

7. Discussion and Action Items:

a. Oath of office and badge pinning for Engineer/Paramedic Wesley Morris

Postponed until next month's meeting

b. Board to review LAFCO letter regarding Joint Operations Agreement and Agreement for Administrative Services

Chief Gow reported that a letter was received from LAFCO's executive director, Michelle McIntyre, suggesting that the JOA agreement and Administrative Contracts fall under

government code 56134 that requires LAFCO's approval. After receiving the letter a meeting was scheduled with our attorney and our board presidents to review the letter and discuss a response. Our attorney feels that the government code doesn't apply to the two agreements and will be drafting a response letter to reflect her legal opinion. This issue has tentatively been put on the LAFCO agenda scheduled for April 10, 2024.

c. Approve the budget update and monthly expense

Chief Gow reported that the cost for the Mechanic position is up, as we have continued to have a need for the position. Director McCray motions to approve the budget. Director Lofrano seconded the motion, which passed 4-0

d. Consider and vote for the Special District Representative for Placer County Local Agency Formation Commission

The board discussed the potential candidates.

Director Lofrano made a motion to vote for William Kahrl as the Regular Voting Member, William Kahrl as the first choice alternate and Josh Alpine as the second choice alternate. Director Harvey seconded the motion, which passed 4-0

e. Consider and approve Resolution No. 2024-02 A resolution of the governing board of the placer hills protection district authorizing the issuance and sale of the placer hills protection district note, 2024, to finance the purchase of one smel type one fire engine and approving related documents and authorizing official actions

Chief Ian Gow introduced Tristan Butcher, Placer County Treasurer-Tax Collector, to share details on the resolution and engine loan. Tristan Butcher reported that the 5 year Treasury note interest rate is a competitive rate at approximately 4.17%.

Battalion Chief Slusher reported that a committee just returned from inspecting the new engine and found it to be in great condition. It is anticipated to ship out within the week. He also reported that if this engine was ordered today it would take 2 years to be completed and cost over \$1 million.

Director Lofrano made a motion to approve the resolution authorizing the issuance of the district note. Director Harvey seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.

f. Consider and approve the Audit for Fiscal Year 2022/2023 prepared by CPA's

President Hills reported that the cash carryover was only for approximately \$16,000 which is significantly less than previous years.

Director Lofrano made a motion to approve the 2022/2023 audit and the corrective measures. Director Harvey seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.

The open meeting was adjourned and the Board went into Closed Session at 7:17pm.

g. 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 8:00 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): April 24th, 2024.*

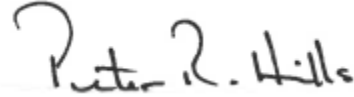
9. Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:



Michelle Armstrong, District Manager



Approved by: _____
Peter Hills, President