

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PLACER HILLS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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www.placerhillsfire.org



Alex Harvey
Fred Lofrano
Russell McCray
Nicole Paskey
Mark Wright

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING: March 12, 2026

17020 Placer Hills Rd. Suite 2A, Meadow Vista

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

Director Harvey convened the regular meeting at 6:00 p.m.

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

Directors absent: Paskey

Staff in attendance: Chief Gow, Assistant Chief Slusher, Fire Marshal D'Ambrogi, Division Chief Williamson, and District Manager Armstrong.

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

4. Public Comment: N/A

5. Correspondence (not covered in Agenda items below): N/A

6. Information Items:

a. Fire Chief Report – Chief Gow

- i. Started cooperation with the City of Auburn, the only challenge we've come across so far is coordinating the two dispatch centers
- ii. Been establishing relationships with other Fire Departments and Chiefs, interested in cooperations and come to agreement on ways to improve communications and tie all of our dispatch centers together
- iii. Fire Chiefs evaluating options for ambulance services and working with AMR and SSV to review the areas of concern
- iv. Director Group Ad hoc committee, working to schedule a meeting later this month
- v. Testing for vacant Engineer positions completed yesterday
- vi. A list of items will be reviewed from Lexipol at next month's meeting, new policies and a few rewrites

b. Operations Report – Chief Slusher

- i. Not currently able to pull the data from the new fire reporting system, new reports are being built
- ii. JOA is working well, Battalion Chief response times meeting standards. On an occasion utilized the Duty Chief, in particular during the winter storm. Working through some challenges with dispatch.
- iii. Down a few positions, completed a joint test with the City of Auburn yesterday and moving forward with interviews.
- iv. Structure fire yesterday; Closest 2 Battalion Chiefs responded and our 2 engines. Personnel saved a few animals during the incident.

- v. Today E41 responded to a mutual aid call where they were exposed to thermal runaway of a lithium-ion battery. All exposed items had to be shipped for proper chemical cleaning.
- c. Prevention Report – Chief Williamson
 - i. Completed 2 hydro, 2 finals and 2 propane lines.
 - ii. Will serve letter for Canyon Way, for a commercial building. Multipurpose room being built at Foothill Fellowship, Hum in Peace extension for property split, addition of storage containers at Meadow Vista storage.
- d. Placer Hills Firefighters Association report: N/A
- e. Local 3800: N/A
- f. Board Committee reports:
 - i. Finance Committee: N/A
 - ii. Ad hoc Committee for reorganizations: N/A

7. Discussion and Action Items:

- a. Board to review and discuss upcoming LAFCO Meetings

Chief Gow reported that the reorg had a successful hearing with a 7-0 vote, command staff put in a lot of work to get this result. In the protest period now, which ends at the hearing on the 25th at station 41. Continue to provide information to the community through news articles and meetings.
- b. Status on Placer County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan update for 2026

Fire Marshal D’Ambrogi reported that the annex drafts have come out for staff review. Public meetings will be coming up soon, once available they will be shared with the board and posted on the website. Working on the CWPP, community survey being developed and consultant will start meeting with the agencies for input on recommended projects.
- c. Approve the budget update and monthly expenses (action)

Director McCray motions to approve the budget update and monthly expenses. Director Lofrano seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.
- d. Consider and approve submitting a nomination for the Special District Representative on the Placer County Local Agency Formation Commission

Chief Gow reported that the commissioner that is currently up for re-election is Judy Friedman and recommend nominating her for the position. Director Wright motions to nominate Judy Friedman for the Special District representative on Placer County LAFCO. Director McCray seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.

The meeting was closed at 6:33pm.

- e. Closed session
 - 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.
 - ii. Pursuant to California Govt. Code § 54957(b)(1) **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION**; Title: Fire Chief

The open meeting reconvened at 7:00pm.

Director Harvey reported that the board approved the MOU with Local 3800 and discussed the Fire Chief’s performance evaluation.

f. Consider and approve the MOU with Local 3800 for the term of January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026 (action)

Director McCray motions to approve the MOU with Local 3800 for the term of January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026. Director Wright seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.

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 item(s) for inclusion on subsequent meetings, or request a Special Meeting.*

Director Harvey reported that the board will need to select the members that will be part of the newly reorganized district and that the selection process will need to be put on next month's agenda.

c. *Reminder of next Board meeting(s): Regular Meeting on April 9, 2026.*

9. Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm.

Respectfully submitted by:



Michelle Armstrong, District Manager