

SOUTH PLACER FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
June 17, 2015

REGULAR BUSINESS

The South Placer Fire District Board of Directors regular meeting was called to order on Wednesday, June 17, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. by Vice-President, Dave Harris.

Present:

Dave Harris, Vice-President
Sean Mullin, Clerk
Terri Ryland, Director
Gary Grenfell, Director

Staff in Attendance:

Fire Chief, Lawrence Bettencourt
Deputy Chief, Eric Walder
Board Secretary, Kathy Medeiros
Battalion Chief, Jason Brooks
Captain, Kelly Moretti
Captain, Brian Midtlyng
Engineer Paramedic, Donavon Gray
Engineer Paramedic, Matthew VanVultinburg
Engineer Paramedic, Pat Patterson
Firefighter Paramedic, Andrew Heald
Firefighter Paramedic, Cody Forrest

Absent: Mike DeLaurentis, President

Special Presentation: Chief Bettencourt acknowledged the recent recognition for EMS week given by Kaiser Physician, Dr. Morris, to Engineer Paramedics Matthew VanVultinburg and Donavon Gray for their excellent response diagnosing a stroke victim.

Public Comment: None

Closed Session: A closed session meeting to discuss Captain Richard Kleefeld's Cal PERS Service retirement pending industrial disability retirement took place at 6:30 pm. Vice-President Harris continued that there was nothing to report at this time.

Consent Agenda: Director Mullin made a motion to approve the consent agenda; seconded by Director Ryland. Carried

Ayes: Grenfell, Harris, Ryland, Mullin Noes: None Abstain: None Absent: DeLaurentis

OLD BUSINESS

Funding of Cal PERS Pension Obligations: Staff recommends an update on the issuance of Pension Obligation Bonds to finance the Cal PERS Side Fund and a share of the Unfunded Actuarial Liability (UAL) of miscellaneous and safety employees. Chief Bettencourt thanked Directors Ryland and Mullin for their assistance on the Finance Committee in the closing of the bonds that occurred on June 15, 2015. The \$5.1 million received in bond sales has been wired to Cal PERS to finance the unfunded liabilities. The bond financing project brings savings of \$664,000 in present values and enables the District to fund the Other Post Employment Benefit (OPEB) annual required

contribution. Chief Bettencourt continued that the new payments schedule will line up with property tax revenues and he has already included the payments in the 2015/16 preliminary budget. Director Mullin congratulated the District on restructuring the debt to save funds for other obligations.

Fiscal Year 2015/16 Preliminary Budget Adoption: Staff recommends adoption of the Fiscal Year 2015/16 preliminary budget. Chief Bettencourt presented the budget and explained that both expenditure and fixed assets spending are conservative with the intention of putting additional funds into reserves. Capital debt service (COP debt service) has been added as a separate line item along with increased funding into OPEB to reflect the savings from the Cal PERS bond financing project. He noted that revenues from the recently approved ALS engine response fees will take 6 months or more to be recognized. Property tax revenues are carefully evaluated due to the makeup of 25% of District residences under Proposition 8 that can go up more than 2% per year.

Director Ryland made a motion to adopt the Fiscal Year 2015/16 Budget as presented by Chief Bettencourt. Seconded by Director Grenfell. Carried

Ayes: Grenfell, Harris, Ryland, Mullin Noes: None Abstain: None Absent: DeLaurentis

Local 3809 Salary and Benefit Increases: Staff recommends approval of the mediated agreement. Chief Bettencourt stated that the negotiations with the Local 3809 came to agreement and signed a tentative agreement in April of 2015. With the help of a mediator, all parties agreed to a 3% raise effective for Payroll #23, an upgrade to both the survivor benefit and retired death benefit, and a one-time non-pensionable bonus to Firefighters, Captains, and Engineers in a contract effective through 12/31/2015. The approximate cost of the salary increases to all employees were \$120,000 per year and have been included in the 2015/16 budget. Appreciation was given to Director Grenfell and Vice-President Harris for their work finding a conclusion for all parties involved.

Director Mullin made a motion to approve the mediated agreement with the Local 3809. Seconded by Director Grenfell. Carried

Ayes: Grenfell, Harris, Ryland, Mullin Noes: None Abstain: None Absent: DeLaurentis

NEW BUSINESS

Industrial Disability Application: Staff recommends discussion and action on the required Cal PERS Resolution for Captain Rich Kleefeld. Captain Rich Kleefeld had a medical issue in August of 2014 after 25 years of service. After a recent examination by his personal physician and a worker's compensation approved physician, both doctors agree that Capt. Kleefeld cannot perform the duties of his job based on the job description. Staff agrees with both of the medical evaluations. Staff is recommending approval of his Cal PERS Service retirement pending industrial disability retirement application and Resolution No. 7-2014/2015 to approve the determination of Captain Kleefeld's incapacitation as an industrial disability that occurred during the performance of his duties as a Fire Captain.

Director Ryland made a motion to approve Resolution No. 7 – 2014/2015. Seconded by Director Grenfell. Carried

Roll Call:

Ayes: Grenfell, Ryland, Harris, Mullin Noes: None Abstain: None Absent: DeLaurentis

Functional Consolidation or Merger with Loomis Fire Protection District: Staff recommends a presentation and discussion from LAFCO Executive Officer Kris Berry on the requirements and estimated timelines for a consolidation or merger of Loomis and South Placer Fire Districts'. Ms. Berry discussed the primary functions of LAFCO to regulate boundaries and boundary changes to public agencies/special districts. She continued that a consolidation of fire agencies would require an application to LAFCO approved by Board Resolution for intent to merge of the two fire agencies involved. The submitted application would need to address the service plan for both districts, salaries, funding, staffing, and mapping requirements. One application would be submitted along with a filing fee of \$5,000- \$10,000, which may be waived by request to the Commission. The application would have to be added to the LAFCO agenda which may take 30 days. The application would then be reviewed for a 30 day review period by all the different agencies for comments. All mapping would be reviewed by the surveyor. There will be an additional fee of \$5,000 - \$10,000 required from the State Board of Equalization based on the square miles of the combined agency that would need to be submitted by December for approval before the new year. Then the application would proceed to environmental review, unless an exemption is approved. The application would also necessitate additional property tax negotiations with the County along with an additional Board approved Resolution. Since both Districts were formed prior to the formation of LAFCO in 1961, it may be necessary to update the official mapping of both Districts and legal descriptions. Final merge date will be determined once the conditions required by LAFCO for the merge are complete. LAFCO has final determination and cannot be vetoed by the county although the county can delay the merger. The entire process can take 4-6 months to complete. The new merged Board governance size is flexible and can be as large as 11 members. She noted that she would encourage many community workshops to keep the public support of the merger. Should 25% of residents object by letter or petition it would necessitate a protest hearing. She highly recommended that both Districts get the communities and county involved and assign Board sub-committees. Director Mullin and Director Grenfell agreed to form a sub-committee to meet with Loomis Fire regarding the merger. Engineer Gray also volunteered to be involved in merger discussions on the behalf of the Local 3809. Director Mullin asked Ms. Berry if the merger made sense in her professional opinion. She replied that the merger seemed logical without knowing the circumstances.

Chief Bettencourt asked the Board for direction to move forward on pursuing the merger with Loomis Fire District. The Board authorized Chief Bettencourt to proceed with discussions with the Loomis Fire District Board.

Ayes: Grenfell, Harris, Ryland, Mullin Noes: None Abstain: None Absent: DeLaurentis

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

None

Correspondence: Information was disbursed to Board members regarding the recent FAIRA board election. Additional information on the upcoming 2015 CSDA Annual conference in Monterey and FDAC training opportunities was distributed to interested Board members. A letter of gratitude from Folsom Fire Department for the assistance of Engineer VanVotenburg in their Engineer testing assessment. The agenda for the June 10, 2015 Placer LAFCO special meeting.

Chief's Report:

- Paramedic Firefighter testing has been completed. 9 Firefighters have been placed into backgrounds with the intention of hiring 3 in the next month.
- Chief Bettencourt spoke at the Sierra College Fire Academy graduation in May.
- Simulation training and auto extrication training will occur tonight at 9 p.m.
- Deputy Chief testing is scheduled for July 10th with 2 internal candidates.
- June 27th is the Hidden Lakes fireworks display. District officials can cancel the event at any time should weather conditions change. Placer County sheriffs and an additional engine will be on hand.
- The 2015 Other Post Employment (OPEB) actuary is in progress.
- The Rocklin Fire Chief will retire in December.
- Lincoln will have an announcement for their Fire Chief replacement soon.
- Placer County OES has distributed a request for proposal for consolidation of all Placer fire agencies before the LAFCO Municipal Services Review Study has been completed. The Placer County Chief's meeting will further discuss this issue.
- Placer County OES met with several agencies to discuss PILT funding. They are currently doing a survey of all fire agency responses to federal lands.
- Cal Fire has posted signs locally regarding wild fire warnings to residents.
- The District is considering a contract with SCI to process the 10,340 parcels in the District for the county tax rolls for a fee of \$6,900 the first year, and \$5,300 the second year. They will also handle all tax requests and inquiries.

Functions: None

Board/Staff Comments: None

Future Agenda Items: 2015/16 Goal Setting/Date for Workshop, SCI Contract

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 15, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,



Recording Secretary, Kathy Medeiros