

SOUTH PLACER FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2009

REGULAR BUSINESS

The South Placer Fire District Board of Directors regular meeting was called to order on Wednesday, January 21, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. by President, Mike DeLaurentis.

Present:

Mike DeLaurentis, President
Craig Powell, Vice President
Dave Giblin, Clerk
Gary Grenfell, Director
Jeff Moss, Director

Absent:

Staff in Attendance:

Chief Tony Corado
Board Secretary Debbie Frick
Deputy Chief Lawrence Bettencourt
Division Chief Bryan Ransdell
Division Chief Eric Walder
Fire Marshal Bob Richardson

Special Presentation: Chief Corado presented Kathy Matthews with a gift certificate and thanked her for her service on the board. Resolution 2008/2009 No.6 Commendation for Dedicated Service to South Placer Fire District was passed by roll call.

Roll Call: Ayes: Moss, Giblin, Grenfell, Powell, DeLaurentis Noes: None Absent: None

Consent Agenda: Director Powell made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Director Moss.

Carried

OLD BUSINESS

Gann Limit Elections and Special Tax: Chief Corado stated that the District has sought legal opinion identifying options the District has on the Appropriations Limit election every four years. Legal counsel indicated that the District's property tax would not be subject to the Gann limit. They indicated that the District would not exceed the amount limited by Gann so an election would not be needed every four years. It would only be required if it was anticipated that the District would exceed the limit set annually. After some discussion, Chief Corado asked for guidance to work with the attorney and get an opinion which would then be reviewed by the County counsel to see if they agree.

NEW BUSINESS

Minimum Staffing Policy: Chief Corado stated that the District has incurred an unintended consequence of the last 3809 contract with some plans that were already in place. It affects the acting requirements and how the District treats employees who are eligible to act. The only way employees can act is to take the promotional exam and qualify for the eligibility list. The Training Division and Deputy Chief

Lawrence Bettencourt are working on a packet to train employees for those acting positions. Division Chief Bryan Ransdell stated that a task book is being developed for individuals to expand their knowledge, skills and abilities and allow them to be checked off on those items and act up in positions. It allows them to gain experience when they go out on the job. He explained that it is part of the succession plan. The testing process just ranks people but the task books train the employees properly.

Director Moss asked if it allowed employees to forego the testing process.

Division Chief Ransdell stated that the employee would have to complete the task book and it would help prepare them for the testing process and allow them to work out of grade but they would still have to take the promotional exam.

Director Moss stated that he didn't feel the employee should get paid at Step 6 and also receive the out of grade pay simultaneously.

Chief Corado stated that it allows them to act while they get experience but that they do have to pass the exam as well and would be required to take the next promotional exam. They would not be able to stay acting indefinitely and would lose the incentive if they were not progressing.

Director Grenfell asked it was a meet and confer item.

Chief Corado stated that staff has met with 3809 regarding this several times and 3809 has no issues with it. They feel it would help prepare the employee to act in the position as well as prepare them for the promotional exam.

Director Powell made a motion to approve the minimum staffing policy changes as presented. Seconded by Director Grenfell.

Carried

Ambulance Driver's License Requirement: Deputy Chief Lawrence Bettencourt stated that the District would like to eliminate the ambulance driver license requirement for full time employees. He explained that the CHP requires that part time employees that work for ambulance providers obtain the emergency ambulance driver license and the District has that requirement in the minimum qualifications for the firefighter's job description. Since 2005, all EMT and ambulance drivers have been live scanned, are required to have EVOC training and a background check. The District does not employ part time employees and this requirement creates problems when recruiting for positions. Deputy Chief Bettencourt recommended it be taken out of the job descriptions.

Director Powell asked if the only thing that would be skipped would be the written test at the DMV.

Deputy Chief Lawrence Bettencourt stated that was correct.

Director Giblin made a motion to approve the ambulance driver's license requirement change as presented. Seconded by Director Moss. Carried

Fire Recovery USA: Chief Corado stated that this is a fairly new program. Under this program, the parties that are responsible for vehicle accidents or other incidents are billed. It allows the agency to recover costs that would otherwise not be billed. Chief Corado asked that the board review the information and suggested that the program could be presented at next board meeting.

Information and Discussion Items

Douglas Blvd Property: Chief Corado stated that it had been discussed in closed session and that several offers had been received and were under consideration.

Quarterly Budget Report: Chief Corado reported that the District has bumped over the amount it dry financed by about \$100,000. The District is on track to bump over in salaries but is doing very well in keeping costs down in Service and Operations and Fixed Assets.

Anticipated Budget Reduction Planning: It was agreed that this item would be put back on the agenda next month.

Committee and Monthly Reports: None

Correspondence: None

Chief's Report: Chief Corado reported on the following items:
The Recognition Dinner was held January 16th and was a big success. Chief Bettencourt thanked the staff for putting the event together.

Chief Corado and Fire Marshal Bob Richardson attended a meeting at the County regarding the weed abatement program. The County has budget a half a million dollars for a pilot program in one community but they indicated it will not be continued to be funded.

Functions: None

Board/Staff Comments: Director Moss stated that he is taking a position on the planning commission and would be resigning due to conflict of interest. Chief Corado requested a letter stating his official resignation.

Future Agenda Items:

Fire Recovery Service

Anticipated Budget Reduction Planning

Closed Session: The SPFAOA contract has been ratified. SPFAOA requested that 3809 agree to open bumping and retreat rights by SPFAOA members. The Douglas property was discussed. They received six offers that are under consideration.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm. The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 18, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Recording Secretary

Debbie Frick