

SOUTH PLACER FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2021

REGULAR BUSINESS

The South Placer Fire District Board of Directors regular meeting was called to order on Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 7:01 p.m. by President, Gary Grenfell.

Present:

Gary Grenfell, President
Chris Gibson, Vice President
Sean Mullin, Clerk
Ken Musso, Director
Terri Ryland, Director
Dan Bajtos, Director

Absent:

Mike Johnson, Director

Staff in Attendance:

Fire Chief, Mark Duerr
Fire Chief, Karl Fowler
Deputy Chief, Matt Feeley
Division Chief, Jeff Ingolia
Battalion Chief, Kelly Moretti
Captain Paramedic, Donavon Gray
Captain Paramedic, Shawn Cline
Apprentice Firefighter, Jacob Ramirez
Firefighter Paramedic, Tyler Thomas

Public Comment: Deputy Chief Feeley thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve the community in his recently promoted position as Deputy Chief.

Consent Agenda: Director Ryland made a motion to approve the items for the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Gibson.

Rollcall:

Ayes: Musso, Grenfell, Gibson, Ryland, Bajtos, Mullin Noes: None Abstain: None Absent: Johnson
Carried

Special Presentation: Sonia Ortega with SCI Consulting Group presented information related to the recent Division 2 survey. She noted that the District has contracted with SCI to research the community support and priorities of registered voters and property owners in district boundaries for a possible tax in Division 2. 8000 surveys were mailed at two different rates over four weeks with both online and mail in return for the responses. 1288 surveys were returned at a 16% return rate. Many of the survey responses questioned where the funds would go, and noted an importance to maintain local control of the fire district with priority given to rapid emergency and wildfire response. Different amounts were surveyed to get an accurate read from the community's comfort level of support for a local funding measure to provide the highest quality fire and emergency response service levels. Support for the \$140 proposed survey returned at 54.5% while the \$240 survey returned 47.5% support. Feasibility was discussed that a special tax needed a 66.67% threshold of support to pass while an assessment needed a 50% threshold. Discussion regarding special tax versus a benefit assessment, the differing ad valorem tax rates in Division 1 and Division

2, and the use of a weighted ballot in determining a future tax were questioned by members of the public. The findings were summarized that there was support for a benefit assessment at 54.5% for the \$150 rate, but not enough support for a special tax funding. Chief Duerr concluded that the presentation at this time is informational and the item will be brought forward to the Board for further discussion and possible action at the December Board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Station 18 New Truck Room Update: Staff recommends discussion on the proposed project and progress made to date. Chief Duerr began that the construction is delayed currently by PG&E but should begin in December or January as they need to pull the meter off the training house. The sinkhole repair should begin this Monday and will be completed in one week.

Employee Retention: Staff recommends discussion on current issues facing the District involving employee retention. Chief Duerr began that there are now two vacancies with one firefighter resigned to work at a Sacramento area agency. November 18 will be the hiring process for Firefighter Paramedic and then Battalion Chief recruiting is beginning December 4th. One candidate on the current Captain list is now in backgrounds.

NEW BUSINESS

Fiscal Year 2021/22 First Quarter Budget Report: Staff recommends a short presentation on the status of the Fiscal Year 2021/22 budget. Chief Duerr began that general revenues received thus far are \$547,000 until the first 55% draw in December, while \$13 million total general revenues are budgeted. Mitigation revenues are currently on track. Station 18 project expenditures now reflects the other sources to be spent out of the Loomis Facilities Reserve Account. Salaries and benefits are at \$3.5 million, 5% over budget. Service and operations are spending on track at \$360,000 and capital expenditures at \$87,000. There are no mitigations expenditures spent yet. Total expenditures spent at \$4 million, just ahead of the 25% expectations for the first quarter.

Gann Limit Report: Staff recommends discussing and adopting the resolution setting the Fiscal Year 2021/22 appropriations limit, per Article XIII B of the State Constitution (1979) and verifying compliance for 2020/21. This is standard procedure every year to compute the previous year's limit to the per capita personal income and population factors. The calculation is made each year by multiplying the District's adopted appropriations limit in the prior fiscal year by the change in the cost of living in the preceding year and the change in populations within the District for the preceding fiscal year. Current year Gann Limit is \$12 million with the District under the limit by \$3.6 million.

Director Gibson made a motion to adopt the annual appropriations limit for fiscal year 2021/22 and approve Resolution no. 2-2021/22. Director Bajtos made a second to the motion.

Rollcall:

Ayes: Musso, Grenfell, Gibson, Ryland, Bajtos, Mullin Noes: None Abstain: None Absent:
Johnson Carried

Fiscal Year 2020/21 Audit Acceptance: Staff recommends discussing and accepting the South Placer Fire District Fiscal Year 2020/21 third party audit. Each year a third party audit is conducted on the previous budget year financial statements.

Director Ryland made a motion to accept the Fiscal Year 2020/21 audit. The motion received a second from Director Mullin. Carried

Rollcall:

Ayes: Musso, Grenfell, Gibson, Ryland, Bajtos, Mullin Noes: None Abstain: None Absent:
Johnson Carried

Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG): Staff recommends discussing the upcoming AFG grant cycle. Each year the Department of Homeland Security provides funding to assist firefighting and emergency departments, non-affiliated emergency medical service organizations, and State Fire Training Academies. AFG has helped firefighters, emergency medical responders, and SFTAs obtain critically needed equipment, protective gear, emergency vehicles, training and other resources. Chief Duerr noted that November 8th the application opened and will close December 17. The project has specific requirements but it could help fund new ALS monitors, health and welfare programs for members, or a new water tender. Director Gibson made a motion to pursue funding opportunities in the AFG grant cycle. Director Mullin made a second to the motion.

Rollcall:

Ayes: Musso, Grenfell, Gibson, Ryland, Bajtos, Mullin Noes: None Abstain: None Absent:
Johnson Carried

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

Covid-19 Update: Chief recommends updating the Board on the status of the current pandemic and the District's response and preparations. Chief noted that the numbers are trending up again with a 5% increase in the 7 day positivity rate. The county has a total of 36,868 cases, 51 new cases at a .1% increase. New deaths in the county are at 0. Internally, the District has seen an increase in exposures within staff.

Correspondence: A recent PARS statement for the month of September was distributed.

Chief's Report:

- Santa on the Lake December 1-17
- Hose training last few days
- Complete 2 of 3 Chief Officers Conferences
- District inspections on track for December 1
- Department had increase in calls since February
- Run Statistics and responses: October 351 total responses

Functions: Every 15 minutes for Granite Bay High Nov. 17, Elks Lodge Public Safety Award to Capt. Doug Phillips for his service on Nov. 19

Board/Staff Comments: None

Future Agenda Items: none

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 8, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,



Recording Secretary, Kathy Medeiros