

SOUTH PLACER FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
September 08, 2021

REGULAR BUSINESS

The South Placer Fire District Board of Directors regular meeting was called to order on Wednesday, September 08, 2021 at 7:00 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
Mike Johnson, Director

Absent:

none

Staff in Attendance:

Fire Chief, Mark Duerr
Fire Chief, Karl Fowler
Division Chief, Jeff Ingolia
Battalion Chief, Kelly Moretti
Captain Paramedic, Donavon Gray
Captain, Tracey Kincheloe
Engineer Paramedic, Martin Ridgeway
Firefighter Paramedic, Kevin Cooney

Public Comment: None

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

Rollcall:

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

Special Presentation: Fire Chief Fowler introduced the new Fire Chief Mark Duerr and asked him to step forward. Supervisor Suzanne Jones gave the oath and formal swearing to Chief Duerr as the new Fire Chief of South Place Fire. Chief Duerr's son Ryan stepped forward and pinned him officially with the Fire Chief badge. The board, staff, and public extended a welcome to Chief Duerr.

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 drawing and permits are ready. The scaled back project will take 6-8 weeks to begin with PNP Construction. At prior board meetings it was approved to move forward with a scaled back project to review the demo to the training house and building a wall at the south property end. Division Chief Ingolia has reported that PNP estimated the total cost

will be between \$165-175,000 for those two items of phase one of the entire project. Construction should begin the beginning of October and completed thereafter in 4-6 weeks.

Employee Retention: Staff recommends discussion on current issues facing the District involving employee retention. Chief Duerr began that as of 9/11 the District is fully staffed. Three Paramedic Firefighter positions hired August 28th have begun a two week academy with their first shift on Saturday. He noted the importance that this would bring the District to 100% staffing. The Deputy Chief Application period closed with the testing beginning 10/19 and Battalion Chief applicant testing beginning on October 21. There is currently one Captain on the hiring list should a candidate promote to Battalion Chief. By the end of the year all positions should be staffed.

Wesleyan Church Property at 4700 East Roseville Parkway: Staff recommends discussion and possible action to either pursue purchase of property or recommend not to purchase. Chief Duerr explained that the Board has continued to explore the possibilities for the new facility. At this time, Chief Duerr recommended to the Board passing on the purchase at this time. He explained that the District has no funding plan to make the purchase work. Director Gibson agreed with Chief Duerr, while Director Musso added that the District has other priorities at this time. Director Gibson made a motion to table the purchase discussion of the property at this time. The motion received a second from Director Grenfell.

Rollcall:

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

Fiscal Year 2021/22 Final Budget Adoption: Staff recommends adoption of the final Fiscal Year 2021/22 Budget. Chief Duerr presented the final budget adding that few changes have been made since last month's meeting. He noted that the fiscal year was a very tight budget with only \$284 excess. Revenues are estimated at \$14.15 million with 88 % going to salaries and wages. \$1.5 million is budgeted to be spent from the Capital Facilities Reserve for the Station 18 project and \$135,000 expenses for Capital Expenditures. The final estimates from the County assumed a 4.5% increase in property taxes revenues. Chief Fowler added that there is significant development in the District with several projects in the start-up phase. Director Gibson made a motion to approve the Fiscal year 2021/22 Final Budget. Director Ryland made a second to the motion.

Rollcall:

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

Fiscal Year 2020/21 Draft Quarterly Budget Report: Staff recommends a short presentation on the status of the Draft 4th Quarter Fiscal Year 2020/21 unaudited final budget. Budgeted revenues were \$13.676 million with only \$13.575 received, a deficit of .70% of the total budget. There were many impacts on the final estimates including the Covid pandemic and the necessary staffing for overtime expense. Chief Duerr noted that there were missed opportunities for Covid funding that he is researching for the District as well as looking into grant writing opportunities. Director Gibson made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2020/21 Draft Quarterly budget report with a line added providing for the source of \$1.5 million Capital Facilities spending for the Station 18 project. The motion was seconded by Director Ryland.

Rollcall:

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

Dry Financing Request: Staff seeks approval to submit a dry financing application to the Placer County Treasurer's office. Chief Duerr explained that this is a standard procedure each year due to the Districts need to finance its operations prior to receiving the first County property tax draw in December. The financing will only be utilized if the District need exceeds its reserve balances. Approval is requested for up to \$2 million. Director Ryland made a motion to approve the Dry Financing application and Resolution No. 1-2021/22 for dry financing request. Director Gibson made a second to the motion.

Rollcall:

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

CalPERS 2022-23 Contributions: Staff recommends reviewing and discussing the most recent Annual Valuation Reports received from CalPERS for the District's four retirement plans. For 2021/22 the lump sum prepayment for the District's Unfunded Accrued Liability (UAL) was \$852,918 across all retirement plans. The lump sum prepayment for 2022/23 UAL has increased to \$1,037,554. Reductions in the discount rate, current and past poor performance of CalPERS investments, have led to an increase in the UAL payment next year of \$184,636. At this time, the reports are provided for informational purposes only.

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 pandemic is still ongoing. Cases are on the increase due to the Delta variant with countywide numbers as of 9/2/21 for total cases at 30,902, new cases at 157 – a .5% increase. The District continues to experience staffing issues related to the virus. Staff is working diligently to prevent the spread. A mask policy has been reinstated to reduce spread and exposure. The District is working on becoming compliant with the March 29 law for Supplemental Paid Sick Leave (SPSL) to employees for sick leave related to Covid. At this time, the mandate is unfunded by the State but the District is looking for replacement revenue sources to offset these expenses.

Correspondence: None

Chief's Report:

- Apparatus Committee met and completed the spec for the new trucks to move forward and saved \$10,000 in costs. Delivery expected in April/May
- Several deployments: Dixie Fire had OES for one rotation, Bridge Fire had type 3 and the Cal10 team had PIO McMillin at the McFarland and the Antelope incident.
- Fire season update: very active and will fill strike team requests once we have the capacity.
- Chief Brooks to retire on Sept. 28 after 33 years.
- Mitigation Fee increase to be requested for 5.2% based on CPI increase was sent to the County for approval with capacity to increase the CPI thereafter
- SCI Tax measure meeting to discuss a draft survey to review with a final product soon to 4000 constituents on 9/25. Return survey responses due in end of October to see the public response.

Functions: October 2nd Loomis Eggplant Festival – no pancake breakfast this year due to Covid

Board/Staff Comments: Director Gibson welcomed Chief Duerr to the District. Chief Duerr expressed his gratitude to Chief Fowler for his experience and support during the transition period.

Future Agenda Items: none

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 20, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathy Medeiros". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Recording Secretary, Kathy Medeiros