

SOUTH PLACER FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
June 10, 2020

REGULAR BUSINESS

The South Placer Fire District Board of Directors regular meeting was called to order on Wednesday, June 10, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. by President, Chris Gibson via teleconference connection <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/143923829>

Present:

Chris Gibson, President
Gary Grenfell, Vice-President (arrived 7:12)
Sean Mullin, Clerk
Dave Harris, Director
Russ Kelley, Director
Terri Ryland, Director
Tom Millward, Director

Absent:

Staff in Attendance:

Fire Chief, Eric Walder
Deputy Chief, Karl Fowler
Board Secretary, Kathy Medeiros
Battalion Chief, Matt Feeley

Public Comment: None

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

Ayes: Harris, Gibson, Millward, Ryland, Kelley, Mullin Noes: None Abstain: None Absent: Grenfell

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

None

OLD BUSINESS

Final Approval for Continued Benefit Assessment: Staff recommends public hearing and action on Resolution No 15-2019/20. Chief Walder explained that the Benefit Assessment Oversight Committee met on May 28th and went over the allocation of Benefit Assessment funds with the committee members. The committee expressed their approval of the administration of the District and approved a motion recommending approval to the Board of Directors for the allocation of the Benefit Assessment funds and along with a CPI adjustment of 2.45% with a carryover from the prior year of .49%. The maximum authorized increase to be levied for 2020/21 is 2.94%, equating to an increase of \$6.74 per single family equivalent benefit unit. The proposed assessment rate for 2020/21 is \$236.12 per single family equivalent unit, generating \$1,024,381 in revenue to the District. The assessment accounts for 50% of the Loomis Fire Station's annual and ongoing costs. Chief Walder asked the Board to approve the Engineer's report and the new CPI increase by

approving Resolution No. 15-2019/20. Director Ryland made a motion to approve the Continued Benefit Assessment and approve Resolution No. 15-2019/20. The motion received a second from Director Harris. Carried

Rollcall:

Ayes: Harris, Gibson, Millward, Kelley, Mullin, Ryland Noes: None Abstain: None Absent: Grenfell

NEW BUSINESS

Adoption of Cost of Living Adjustment for Parcel Fees: Staff recommends public hearing and action on Resolution No. 16-2019/20 to approve and adopt the cost of living adjustments for parcel fees in the former Loomis Fire District. Each year the fee is adjusted by the changing CPI for the San Francisco region. This year's CPI adjustment is 1.11% for an increase of \$1.25 per single family equivalent unit. The proposed assessment rate for fiscal year 2019/20 is \$114.10 per single family unit generating approximately \$474,700. Chief Walder noted that the assessment is over 20% of the Loomis Fire stations ongoing costs to operate and was properly noticed in the papers.

Director Kelley made a motion to approve the Resolution No. 16-2019/20 adopting a cost of living adjustment for parcel fees approved by voters of the former Loomis Fire Protection District. The motion was seconded by Director Grenfell. Carried.

Rollcall:

Ayes: Harris, Gibson, Mullin, Ryland, Kelley, Grenfell, Millward Noes: None Abstain: None Absent: None

Adoption of Cost of living Adjustment for Special Zones of Benefit: Public hearing and action on Resolution No. 17-2019/20. Special benefit zones have been established for certain commercial properties within the former Loomis Fire Protection District. These benefit zones have been approved by the owners of the properties. Each year the assessment levied on the benefit zones are adjusted by the change in the CPI - U.S. City Average. Arcelia Herrera from SCI Consultants explained that the proposed assessment rates are built from complex equation's to determine the tax allocation for commercial properties in the area and are therefore based on a different CPI rate that other CPI rates used by the District.

Director Kelley made a motion to approve Resolution No. 17-2019/20 to adopt the cost of living adjustment for zones of benefit fees approved by owners of these zones in this District. The motion received a second by Director Millward. Carried

Rollcall:

Ayes: Harris, Gibson, Mullin, Kelley, Grenfell, Ryland, Millward Noes: None Abstain: None Absent: None

Authorization providing for the Levy and Collection of Special Tax Measure A for Fiscal Year 2020/21: Staff recommends approval of the Resolution No. 18-2019/20 to authorize the levy and collection of the Districts Special Tax, Measure A by Placer County. The special tax was passed with 69.2% of the ballots in 1980. The special tax is \$70 per residents, \$.05 per square foot of commercial property, and \$2.00 per acre for vacant land. There is no Consumer Price Index or Cost of Living adjustment to the original tax passed in 1980. Estimated tax revenue for the Special tax is \$702,900.

Director Grenfell made a motion to approve Resolution No 18-2019/20 providing for the levy and collection of Special Tax Measure A for Fiscal Year 2020/21. The motion received a second from Director Ryland. Carried

Rollcall:

Ayes: Harris, Gibson, Grenfell, Kelley, Mullin, Ryland, Millward Noes: None Abstain: None
Absent: None

Request for Placer County Collection of Special Assessments: Staff recommends adoption of Resolution No. 19-2019/20 requesting collection services by the county. Special assessments levied by the South Placer Fire District within the boundaries of the Loomis Fire Protection District are included on Placer County property tax bills and are collected by the county on behalf of the South Placer Fire District. As a condition of collection, the county requests that the District warrant the legality of the charges and defend and indemnify the County from any challenge to the legality of the charges. Resolution No. 19-2019/20 requests collection services by the County, with the aforementioned requirements.

Director Millward made a motion to approve Resolution No. 19-2019/20 requesting collection of charges on tax roll for tax year 2020/21. The motion received a second from Director Harris. Carried

Rollcall:

Ayes: Harris, Gibson, Grenfell, Kelley, Mullin, Ryland, Millward Noes: None Abstain: None
Absent: None

Fiscal Year 2020/21 Preliminary Budget Adoption: Staff recommends adoption of the Preliminary fiscal year 2020/21 budget. The Chief presented the preliminary budget adding that the estimates are assuming that the District stays at full staffing throughout the fiscal year. This budget includes the Station 18 truck room remodel and the addition of a Type 1 Engine. Both of these expenditures will be evaluated and approved by the Board before moving forward. Estimated expenditures in this budget include a spending plan of \$15,363,215 and estimated revenues of \$13,750,649. Chief Walder explained that he has been given guidance from the Placer County Assessor for an estimated 3.5% property tax increase in property tax revenues due to the Covid pandemic. More precise estimates will be given in August. General revenues are estimated at \$12.967 million while CFAA revenue is significantly dropped at an estimated \$355,000 for next fiscal year. Annual lump sum payment to CalPERS for 2020/21 is up \$155,000 from the prior year. Salaries and benefits are at 83.59% of revenues with the new contract. Other spending categories have been significantly reduced in order to balance the budget. Mitigation expenditures from the old South Placer and Loomis Fire account will be utilized for the year and spent down. Adopting the preliminary budget will give the District time to adjust for the final approval in September.

Director Grenfell made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2020/21 Preliminary Budget as presented in the board packet. The motion received a second from Director Harris. Carried

Ayes: Harris, Gibson, Grenfell, Kelley, Mullin, Ryland, Millward Noes: None Abstain: None
Absent: None

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 Walder began that he is monitoring the

pandemic on a daily basis. Security in the front office has been upgraded with a glass barrier constructed today. Placer County is still under the thresholds to make any changes but Chief Walder is still evaluating the directives to keep employees safe and cautiously moving forward on reopening. He continued that at this time he would like to continue to meet via teleconference rather than in person for the next board meeting and re-evaluate after the July meeting.

Placer County Fire Service Issues: Chief Walder recommends discussion on the latest developments in Placer County Fire Service delivery system and consolidation efforts countywide. He noted that the County is preparing for wildland season reviewing mutual aid agreements. He continued that locally all fire agencies are supporting each other within the County. The recent civil unrest has brought many agencies together.

Correspondence: A monthly statement for the month of April from PARS Trust reflecting the recent activity to the OPEB account.

Chief's Report:

- May 21 a barn fire occurred at Horseshoe Bar Road that then started a wildland fire.
- May 24 fire off Ridge Park was a grass fire started by a mower
- May 25 a brush fire off Auburn Folsom that turned into a large fire that received assistance from multiple agencies and utilized the Sac Metro dozer
- May 27 mutual aid call to Cal Fire to Ridge and Taylor Road
- June 2nd grass fire started by mower on Barton Road
- June 10th grass fire off of Risley Place started by mower.
- Calls down 9% for May 2020, 30% down for calls for service compared to the same time frame last year. Uptick in calls to the State Park as restrictions there are being reduced.
- In Person Executive staff meeting today with 6 present and maintained social distancing
- Peaceful protests occurred on Douglas Boulevard for civil unrest
- Working to schedule Goal Steward Team meetings as Covid restrictions are being lifted. Hope to reboot the strategic planning goal steward teams that have been halted.
- Budget 102 class coming soon – a fiscal responsibility goal steward goal
- Auditor conducting the audit soon as close of fiscal year approaches
- Testing Engineer soon with 13 applicants, 4 internal and 9 external
- Battalion Chief exam to continue shortly – written portion completed until process was delayed due to Covid
- Testing for Captain again in the Fall
- Training restrictions lifted and will begin to schedule more training
- Facilities- Station 18 cell tower contract negotiations will come back to board next month
- June 23 Station 18 remodel is on the Loomis Planning Commission Agenda for approval
- June 25 comments due for the Station 18 project
- Station 15 bay doors cable snapped incurring damage to three to four garage door panels and breaking a glass pane
- Station toning project is moving forward with PCSO installing equipment and starting to test the system
- Glass panel installed in the front office
- June 15 new schedule of fees go into effect
- June 26 County of Placer has our Fire Code Amendments on their agenda

Functions: None

Board/Staff Comments: Director Harris and Chief Walder acknowledged the passing of long-time District volunteer Don Hermance recently.

Future Agenda Items: None

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 08, 2020.

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