

SOUTH PLACER FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
November 11, 2020

REGULAR BUSINESS

The South Placer Fire District Board of Directors regular meeting was called to order on Wednesday, November 11, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. by President, Chris Gibson via both teleconference connection and in person meeting. <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/360314197>

Present:

Chris Gibson, President
Gary Grenfell, Vice-President
Sean Mullin, Clerk
Dave Harris, Director
Russ Kelley, Director
Terri Ryland, Director
Tom Millward, Director

Absent:

None

Staff in Attendance:

Fire Chief, Eric Walder
Deputy Chief, Karl Fowler
Board Secretary, Kathy Medeiros
Battalion Chief, Matt Feeley
Captain Paramedic, Devin Fuller
Captain Paramedic, Matt VanVoldinburg

Public Comment: Chief Walder denoted the importance of the date and wanted to thank all service members for their service on this Veteran's Day.

Closed Session Report: None

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

Rollcall:

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

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

None

OLD BUSINESS

Penryn Fire District Request for Service Proposal: The Chief recommends discussion and authorization to move forward toward a negotiation process with the Penryn Fire District. Chief Walder reported that since last month's meeting he has met with the Penryn Fire board members and they have submitted additional documentation along with responses to questions regarding their needs for a service proposal. He continued that at this time South Placer is waiting for board and District approval to move forward upon conclusion of the board positions in the election. It

was noted that an additional meeting is scheduled for Friday while the Chief is still assisting to find an interim chief as well. He explained that any additional compensation to administrative staff and Battalion Chiefs for the additional workload would not be reportable compensation to PERS. In the past under the Loomis Contract for services, only the Chief's received an additional 5% in compensation for the additional work. In the case of Penryn Fire, there is more work to spread across to administrative staff and Battalion Chiefs unlike Loomis Fire who had a part-time secretary and prevention services performed by a contracted provider.

Station 18 New Truck Room Update: Chief recommends discussion on the proposed project and progress made to date. Chief Walder explained that there has been little change in the project since last month's update. The comments on the plans have been received by the town from Chief Ingolia. He noted that water service at the location is an issue with three meters currently on the site. Work is being completed to reduce the meters to one. Details are still being worked out and will be presented again to the Board for further discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

Fiscal Year 2020/21 Quarterly Budget Report: The Chief recommends a short presentation on the status of the Fiscal Year 2020/21 budget. Chief Walder began that the first quarter of the new fiscal year budget have performed as expected. The first draw of 55% of property tax revenue is expected to be received in the December reports. Salaries and wages are high due to the annual lump sum prepayment to CalPERS for the Unfunded Actuarial Liability (UAL) as well as the strike team costs that have not been separated from the overtime spending category. Service and operations spending are currently on schedule with fixed asset and capital expenditures spending to begin in the next month. He noted that the audited financial statements for fiscal year 2019/20 should be available for the next board meeting.

Director Ryland made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2020/21 Quarterly Budget Report and the September 30, 2020 Profit and Loss Statement. The motion received a second by Director Millward. Carried

Rollcall:

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

Side Letter of Agreement with L522 Sacramento Area Firefighters, South Placer Unit: Chief recommends discussion and action on the proposed side letter of agreement. At the last board meeting there was discussion in closed session on a proposed change to the wording for the accrediting agencies which would be considered for the college degree education incentive. It was agreed that with Covid and the fire services schedule it would be advantageous to adopt and expand the acceptance of online/hybrid learning environments. The Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC) became the clear choice to add to the MOU as it is recognized by the six regional accrediting bodies already approved in the MOU. Director Ryland made a motion to approve the Side Letter of Agreement with L522 Sacramento Are Firefighters, South Placer Unit. The motion received a second from Director Harris. Carried

Rollcall:

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

PSPS Resiliency Grant Acceptance: Chief recommends discussion and action on accepting the grant award. The Chief applied for the Public Safety Power Shutdown (PSPS) Resiliency Grant in

July of 2020 in order to fund projects that support the response capabilities out of stations that currently do not have emergency power. These projects were added to the District's major equipment replacement plan and funds were allocated to complete these projects this year. The grant will allow the District to reallocate funds within the facilities reserve. The grant award is for \$44,000 with an agency contribution of \$8,800.

Director Kelley made a motion to accept the PSPS Resiliency Grant. The motion received a second by Director Millward. Carried

Rollcall:

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

Fire Chief Contract Renewal: Staff recommends review and approval of the Fire Chief's contract renewal. The current contract expires on December 12th and was for an initial term of 5 years. At the October Board meeting the Board met with the Chief to discuss terms of the new contract in closed session. This contract is for a renewal term of four years.

Director Ryland made a motion to approve the Fire Chief's contract renewal. The motion received a second by Director Millward. Carried

Rollcall:

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

Employee Retention: The Chief recommends discussion on employee retention and possible District action that may improve the District's ability to retain and recruit employees. Chief Walder began that he would like to have the issue as a standing agenda item to discuss at each month's meeting. This month the District had one separation. He noted that not all employees make it through probation. He continued that next month he would like to discuss and review the current District tattoo policy that has limited the recruiting ability for the District. It was noted that it is now more socially accepted than when the current policy was initiated. He continued that most agencies have policies that gives the Fire Chief approval and that the tattoo must not be derogatory or inflammatory. The Local 522 Unit Representative Captain Matt VanVotenburg, offered the Board some statistics for the surrounding departments on employee retention. Director Kelley remarked that the District needs to pay higher wages requiring additional revenue. Chief Walder continued that the hiring that has come from the 3-year Safer Grant were for temporary positions which inevitably led to employee's pursuing permanent positions with other agencies.

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. He noted that the County has moved to the red tier risk. He stated the Directives for the District have again been updated. He continued that there was an exposure in a station from a positive family member visiting with firefighters in the station but no employees have contracted the virus. Due to the current risk, no family members or public are to be allowed in the station to protect our first responders. Stations are still on lockdown with Station 16 currently being used as a quarantine location for any exposed employees. He added that the Directives will now cover illness with flu like symptoms as we all work through this to keep everyone safe.

Correspondence: A monthly PARS statement for the month of September and a letter of thanks from the Folsom Fire Department for the assistance from Battalion Chief Feeley.

Chief's Report:

- Executive Staff Meeting today to discuss issues throughout the District and met with 522 leadership for the standing labor management meeting
- Volunteer Fire Captain Doug Phillips celebrated 35 years of service to the District on Sunday
- Sutter Occupational Health is closing their services effective 12/31/2020. We are searching for a new provider.
- Training van was delivered last week and is being put in service by the shop. Van was purchased with 100% mitigation funds that were spent from last year's budget although the correct vehicle was just delivered.
- Three minor non injury accidents involving low speed apparatus movement. One involved a citizens vehicle, another a truck room door and the third a retaining wall at one of the stations.
- Christmas Toy Drive - Paul Martin's Event to be held on Sunday, December 13th although Covid may hamper the Districts involvement in the event this year
- Apprentice Firefighter flyer out yesterday to establish a list.
- Paramedic practical test scheduled for Nov. 20th with Dr. Royer our medical director to be present at the testing rating the candidates
- Captains testing announcement coming early December
- Command 2A taught in house last week and Command 2D will be offered in beginning of December
- Engineer academy starts next Monday with three internal candidates in the academy. Promotion date is Nov. 20th for Matt Hodges, Mark Robertson, and Kenny Kaiser
- EMS training is consisting of the required infrequently used skills training
- Fire training in December consists of drivers training open road course, Engine Company Training WYED line attach, Multi Company training aerial ladder master stream, 2 hours of daily training required even if Training Division does not have training assigned.
- Landscape at Station 17 is complete due to the Carnelian subdivision. Anxious to see how the truck ramp and the drainage to the south end of the property draining after first heavy rain.
- Lastly, would like to acknowledge this Board for their accomplishments since 2015. Highlights include: Consolidation of Loomis and South Placer Fire District, accepted the Safer Grant and staff the District last 2-0 companies to the 3-0 level, successfully negotiated with all employee groups over the last 5 years three times to come to labor agreements with the current agreements having two years remaining, remodeled Station 15 without going into debt utilizing 50% mitigation funds, have been excellent fiscal stewards of the District's finances, active in the adoption and the ongoing stewardship of the strategic plan and Goal Steward teams, restructured our two mitigation fees into a new Consolidated District wide Nexus Study, led the District through the Corona Virus pandemic. No matter the outcome of the election I would like to thank you all for your service governing the District.

Functions: None

Board/Staff Comments: Director Kelly thanked the Board and remarked that he has enjoyed working with the District. Director Millward noted that he has enjoyed being a Director for both Loomis and South Placer and would like to thank all the staff and the Board. Director Harris

remarked that he has enjoyed serving within the District since 1985 and was a volunteer for 25 years and a Director for 8 years. Director Ryland added that it has been a pleasure to work with this Board. President Gibson added that he is going to miss the outgoing Board members whom he considers friends and thanked them for their dedication to the District.

Future Agenda Items: None

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 9, 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