

SOUTH PLACER FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
August 11, 2021

REGULAR BUSINESS

The South Placer Fire District Board of Directors regular meeting was called to order on Wednesday, August 11, 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, Karl Fowler
Division Chief, Jeff Ingolia
Battalion Chief, Matt Feeley
Battalion Chief, Kelly Moretti
Captain Paramedic, Matt VanVoltinburg
Captain, Shawn Cline
Engineer Paramedic, Mike Long
Engineer, Edgar Olineka

Public Comment: None

Closed Session Report: President Grenfell reported that there was a closed session at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the proposed contract of employment for a successor Fire Chief. A roll call vote was unanimously voted to approve the contract by all seven board of directors. Director Ryland added that there will be a swearing in at the next meeting for Chief Mark Duerr. The board extended a welcome to Chief Duerr seated in the audience.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Station 18 New Truck Room Update: Staff recommends discussion on the proposed project and progress made to date. Chief Fowler began that at the last board meeting the board approved moving 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 and the Town of Loomis has approved the permits. PNP

Construction is noting that work cannot begin for 4-6 weeks and should begin the beginning of October and completed thereafter in 4-6 weeks. Chief Fowler noted that the neighbors were happy with the design.

Fire Chief Recruitment Update: Staff recommends discussion and update for the Board of Directors on the progress of recruitment for the Fire Chief position. Chief Fowler explained that this has been a standing item for five months and would like to welcome the new Fire Chief, Mark Duerr, to the District. He continued that he will begin on August 16 and will work alongside Chief Fowler until his retirement on December 30.

Employee Retention: Staff recommends discussion on current issues facing the District involving employee retention. Chief Fowler began that the District recently hired three Engineer positions, one Apprentice Firefighter, and three Paramedic Firefighter positions that will begin on August 28th for a two week academy. He noted the importance of being fully staffed during the significant fire season. Next will be the Battalion Chief Assessment center to be scheduled in mid-September. He continued that the Deputy Chief Recruitment flyer has been circulated with a deadline of September 3rd.

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 Fowler explained that the Board has continued to meet and discuss the possibilities for the new facility. The District has been looking for administrative space for 20 years and noted that it was in the Capital Facilities plan. The Placer County Treasurer met with Chief Fowler to discuss the options to finance the project and reported that there was issue to financing for the district due to the outside operating account the District holds with Wells Fargo. He continued that at this time he was assured the issue would not end the District's ability to utilize dry financing as has been done for over 20 years in the past with no issue. Chief Fowler continued that at this time he needs to fully brief the new Chief on the issue so it may be resolved. Although mitigation revenues could be used for the purchase, this would drastically impact the feasibility of other future projects. The Board noted that a Division 2 tax measure could be part of the financing discussion for the purchase although the purchase could have a negative impact on public perception. The Board suggested Div. Chief Ingolia discuss the timing with the property owners either asking for additional time or the possibility of contingency offers.

Fiscal Year 2021/22 Preliminary Budget Adoption: Staff recommends adoption of the preliminary Fiscal Year 2021/22 Budget. The Chief presented the preliminary budget adding that few changes have been made since last month's meeting. He noted that the Finance Committee had met and made some realignments to the sources for the Station 18 project. It was noted that the contracted increase to salaries of 3% effective January 1 is included as well as the increase in medical contributions to the employees. Significant cuts had to be made to service and operations. The current budget still staffs at a 3-0 level for all stations for the full fiscal year bringing salaries and wages to 88%. The current board adopted budgeted guidelines calls for 80.25%. The final budget will be presented in September.

NEW BUSINESS

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 Fowler noted that the current positivity rate in Placer County is 8% with 17.3 cases per 100,000. The District is still closely following the Cal OSHA requirements for workplace safety as changes are expected to come rapidly. Crews have been very vigilant with the increase in covid response calls as there have been no employee exposures on

response calls. It was noted that Battalion Chief Moretti will be taking over the EMS Division upon Chief Brooks retirement next month.

Correspondence: A monthly PARS statement both for the month of June and the fiscal year ending with \$284,000 in earnings reported. Engagement letter from the financial auditors to begin the audit in September. A letter from FASIS the workers compensation carrier noted a Safety/Control Risks audit will be completed.

Chief's Report:

- Station 18 cost estimates for cinder block wall and demolition of the old training house in progress
- Eagle Scout project at Station 18 is complete – a dedication ceremony was held on Sat. 6/19
- Three new Engineers hired and are doing well
- Apprentice Firefighter position online and doing well
- Paramedic Firefighters begin August 28th for two week then go on the line
- Battalion Chief written exam completed July 9th with tentative dates for assessment center TBD
- August 3 National Night Out with District participation went well
- July 29th meeting with Placer County regarding funding options attended by Chief Ingolia and Fowler
- SCI tax feasibility process moving forward with kick off meeting held on 8/10.
- River Fire response was excellent
- OES 4106 deployed to the Dixie Fire
- Pre-Construction meeting for the two new engines held with Golden State-March or April next year completion date
- CISM training conducted in July for District Personnel
- Overhead Assignment return and deployment for BC McMillin (Twin Rivers WA and McFarland CA)
- Multi Company training continues to be held throughout the month
- Engine Boss Training occurred for new Captains needing the training
- Fire extinguishers all serviced annually
- Pre-audit scheduled for 8/19
- New Fire Chief – Mark Duerr is set to begin 8/16

Functions: none

Board/Staff Comments: The Board welcomed Chief Duerr to the District.

Future Agenda Items: none

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 08, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,



Recording Secretary, Kathy Medeiros