

SOUTH PLACER FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
May 11, 2022

REGULAR BUSINESS

The South Placer Fire District Board of Directors regular meeting was called to order on Wednesday, May 11, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. by President, Gary Grenfell.

Present:

Gary Grenfell, President
Dan Bajtos, Vice President
Ken Musso, Director
Terri Ryland, Director
Mike Johnson, Director
Chris Gibson, Director

Absent:

Sean Mullin, Clerk

Staff in Attendance:

Fire Chief, Mark Duerr
Deputy Chief, Matt Feeley
Division Chief, Jeff Ingolia
Battalion Chief, Matt Van Voltinburg
Division Chief, James Magnuson
Battalion Chief, Brian Midtlyng
Captain Paramedic, Logan Stoner
Captain, John O'Leary

Public Comment: None

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

Rollcall:

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

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Chief Duerr presented two recently promoted Captains, John O'Leary and Logan Stoner for a badge pinning. Captain Stoner was officially pinned by Battalion Chief Van Voltinburg and Captain O'Leary was officially pinned by his wife Martha.

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 wall is now complete. There is now raw land at the site of the old training house to discuss in future meetings the options on moving forward with both parcels. Chief Duerr continued that the current financial situation is tenuous and would like to revisit the entire project for discussion in the future.

Employee Retention: Staff recommends discussion on current issues facing the District involving employee retention. Chief Duerr began that the district has no vacancies for Apprentice Firefighter, three vacancies at the Firefighter Paramedic level and one vacancy for Engineer, and no vacancies for

Captain or Battalion Chief. He continued that mandatories are still high and he will be reporting out statistical information by mandatory type in July.

Update on Proposition 218 Ballot Measure: The Chief recommends a brief update on the status of the Proposition 218 ballot measure. Ballots were mailed to property owners on April 20 inspiring many calls and emails from the public. Two open houses and two town meetings have been held with good attendance. Station 17 open house will be held next on May 14th at 11 am. Ballot proceedings will close on June 8th after the public hearing at which the public has an opportunity to express their opinions and concerns and cast their final vote. June 9th at 10 am the ballots will be counted in the training room and the process will be engaged by SCI Consulting Group. Chief Duerr continued that he is attempting to have the League of Women Voters and a retired judge to oversee the count as well as members of the board and additional unbiased third-party members. He explained that the proposed 218 assessment can only be spent in Division 2 by law and without the measure passing the District will have to reduce staffing resulting in longer response times and possible higher insurance rates for fire protection within the District.

NEW BUSINESS

Surplus Vehicle (210) 2006 Polaris Ranger 6x6 OHV: Chief recommends that the Board authorize the District to surplus the Polaris Ranger OHV vehicle 210. Chief Duerr began that the vehicle has not been used in years and was only used in prior years for standby coverage at Del Oro High School. It will not work for use at the lake and has been housed in storage and is no longer relevant to today's mission. The estimated resale value is between \$2500 to \$4000. Director Bajtos made a motion to approve the surplus of vehicle 210 2006 Polaris Ranger. Director Ryland made a second to the motion.

Rollcall:

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

Election Services Request: Chief recommends approval of the Resolution requesting election services from Placer County for the November 8th, 2022, election. These election services are for three Board of Director positions whose terms are expiring. Chief Duerr explained that this is standard procedure as the District must request election services before each election. Board members Sean Mullin, Teresa Ryland, and Chris Gibson have expiring terms. Director Bajtos made a motion to approve Resolution 12-2021/22 requesting election services from Placer County Elections. Director Ryland made a second to the motion.

Rollcall:

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

Fiscal Year 2021/22 Quarterly Budget Report: Chief recommends a short presentation on the Fiscal Year 2021/22 budget status. Chief Duerr presented the profit and loss statement ending March 31, 2022, along with a third quarter budget report. He explained that the 40% tax draw will be received in the April financials. Salaries and benefits are at 75.8%, service and operations are running high at 83.3%, fixed asset and capital expenditures spending has been awaiting the tax draw, and consolidated mitigation spending is at 34.8%. Overall expenditures are at 76.7%, running over by 1.7% for the year. Service and operation expenditures are high due to escalating fuel, electricity, insurance costs. He continued that the District is continuing to find areas of overspending and holding back funds for big projects. Director Ryland made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2021/22 quarterly budget reports as presented. Director Gibson made a second to the motion.

Rollcall:

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

Discussion on District-wide Photovoltaic Solar Project: Chief recommends discussion on options to mitigate rising utility costs by acquiring photovoltaic solar panels District-wide. Chief Duerr explained that the District operates six stations and a maintenance shop that operate on electricity supplied by PG&E. PG&E increased rates 8-9% in January and project a 22% rate hike from 2023 to 2026. Fixing costs through an acquisition of solar would benefit the District by stabilizing the budgeting process and reducing expenses. Several vendors have been approved to provide rough proposals and a need to move forward is pressing due to the current net energy metering (NEM) program changing from the 2.0 program to the NEM 3.0 program possibly in the new year. NEM 2.0 credits retail rates per unit of production up to 100% of use and then wholesale thereafter with rollover up to one year, while NEM 3.0 pays at a reduced rate for all production and the credit balance resets at the end of the month along with a monthly participation cost. The current budget has identified \$80,000 for PG&E with a projected budget over \$110,000 in the next fiscal year to keep pace with rate increases. A rough proposal has been received at \$450,000 that will offset \$60,000 year in electric costs and a 7.1 year payback return that could be expended by mitigation revenues to alleviate the general fund. The project is expected to be around 90-95% cost neutral with the rate and costs today. Director Ryland asked Chief Duerr to further evaluate the cost/benefit payback ratio information for the board at a future meeting. Chief Duerr noted that he recommends moving forward with an RFP for a solar installation at all facilities quickly to further the likelihood of bringing the project under NEM 2.0. Director Johnson made a motion to approve Chief Duerr to move forward with an RFP for solar installations at all facilities. Director Bajtos made a second to the motion.

Rollcall:

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

Resolution of Intention to Continue Assessments for Fiscal Year 2022/23: Staff recommends discussion and adoption of Resolution No. 13-2021/22 Preliminarily Approving Engineer's Report and Providing the Notice of Hearing for the South Placer Fire Protection District, Fire protection and Emergency Response Services Assessment. The former Loomis Fire District Benefit Assessment was approved in 2008 and each year an Engineer's report is prepared, and the assessment is adjusted by the Cost Price Index (CPI). This year's adjustment is 4.24%, while the maximum authorized increase levied in the fiscal year 2022/23 is 4%. This equates to \$9.62 increase per single family equivalent benefit unit increasing the single-family equivalent rate to \$250.48. Resolution No. 13-2021/22 preliminary approved the Engineer's report and the CPI adjustment and sets a public hearing date for final approval at the June Board meeting.

Director Ryland made a motion to approve Resolution No. 13-2021/22 Preliminarily approving Engineer's Report and Providing the Notice of Hearing for the South Placer Fire Protection District, Fire Protection and Emergency Response Services Assessment. Director Musso made a second to the motion.

Rollcall:

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

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

Correspondence: A recent PARS statement for the month of March along with current fund information and a thank you card from the Rotary Club of Granite Bay for participation in the annual Easter Egg Hunt.

Chief's Report:

- Regional multi company training in Rocklin
- Traveling to Pierce to view two new Pierce apparatus
- 329 calls in April vs. 307 last year in April-up 7% from last year
- 2021 had 220 calls last year at this time – volume up 11%
- SSV response times- arrived within 100% of the SSV response times
- 2022 Fire Prevention department – large increase in new starts, mitigation fees paid \$46000 up from last year at \$32000

Functions: Open House- Station 19 on May 21, Station 20 on June 4th, Station 18 on June 11th

Board/Staff Comments: none

Future Agenda Items: First responder fees in Loomis, Prop. 218 Ballot Measure

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 8th, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,



Recording Secretary, Kathy Medeiros