

SOUTH PLACER FIRE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
October 12, 2022

REGULAR BUSINESS

The South Placer Fire District Board of Directors regular meeting was called to order on Wednesday, October 12, 2022, at 7:08 p.m. by President, Gary Grenfell.

Present:

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

Absent:

None

Staff in Attendance:

Fire Chief, Mark Duerr  
Deputy Chief, Matt Feeley  
Division Chief, Jeff Ingolia  
Division Chief, James Magnuson  
Battalion Chief, Kelly Moretti  
Captain, Edgar Olineka  
Firefighter Paramedic, Dustin Ogden  
Engineer, Joseph Vincent

Public Comment: A member of the public inquired about the recent station closures and Chief Duerr responded that the agenda item will be discussed later in the meeting.

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

Rollcall:

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

Closed Session: President Grenfell reported that there was a closed session prior to the regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. to discuss a tort claim against the District. The Board unanimously voted to reject the tort claim and passed unanimously Resolution No. 9-2022/23 Rejection of GC §910 Tort Claim against South Placer Fire District (filed by the Estate of Trenton T. Jennings).

Special Presentation: Chief Duerr presented the newly promoted Captain Edgar Olineka. He was then officially pinned by his son Joseph.

OLD BUSINESS

Station 18 New Truck Room Update: Staff recommends discussion on the proposed project and progress made to date. Chief Duerr noted that the project has not had any forward progress due to more pressing matters in the District. The Board noted that this agenda item would be better presented

on a quarterly basis or as needed moving forward. Chief Duerr agreed that the item would return quarterly for future meetings.

Employee Retention: Staff recommends discussion on current issues facing the District involving employee retention. Chief Duerr reported that the District has no vacancies at any rank at this time.

2022 Fire Code Adoption 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Staff recommends discussion for the second reading and adoption of the South Placer Fire District 2022 Fire Code Adoption and local amendments. This will be the second reading that will be in effect on 1/1/2023. A reference guide was included to show the areas of importance in the new code for the District. Once adopted, the fire code will then go to the Placer County Board of Supervisors and the Town of Loomis for approval after two readings. Director Bajtos made a motion to approve Resolution No. 7-2022/23 and Ordinance 1-2022/23. Director Gibson made a second to the motion.

Resolution No. 7-2022/23

Rollcall:

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

Ordinance 1-2022/23

Rollcall:

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

Cell Tower Lease Negotiations Contract: Chief recommends discussion and Board action on a contract with Steel in the Air. The District has been contacted by multiple vendors to discuss cell tower lease agreements and renegotiations. At the August Board meeting, the Board directed Staff to research companies specializing in cell tower contract negotiations. Steel in the Air is a specialist in cell tower negotiations working with both private companies and government agencies. Currently, Station 17, Station 18 and Station 19 have cell tower contracts. Steel in the Air will review and advise the District for each negotiating contract, as needed. Chief Duerr explained that the District wants to maximize our revenues from our current cell tower contracts. At this time, he recommends starting with one contract to be reviewed by Steel in the Air and bringing more forward if it is successful. Director Ryland made a motion to approve Chief Duerr to enter into a contract with Steel in the Air. Director Gibson made a second to the motion.

Rollcall:

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

Discussion on District-Wide Photovoltaic Solar Electric Proposal: Staff recommends discussion and action on the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for District-wide solar. Municipal Energy Advisors, Inc. (MEA) has completed a draft RFQ for the proposed Solar Project to further review and make any necessary changes. If the RFQ is appropriate the process will begin. Director Ryland inquired about the future timeline. Chief Duerr noted that there is a 30-day window for responses. MEA will then review them and make recommendations. The item will return at the December or January board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

GASB 75 OPEB Draft Actuarial: Staff recommends discussion and comments on the GASB 75 draft actuarial. GASB 75 actuarial computations fulfill the employer accounting requirements for reporting for governmental employers to record expenses for other post-employment benefits (OPEB). As of

June 2021, The Actuarial Present Value of Projected Benefit Payment (APVPBP) for current and former employees is \$5,922,014. The net OPEB liability is \$3,663,661. With the number of retirees expected to grow over the next few years and with retirees' lifespans increasing, the District will need to address the financial discrepancy or the benefit will become unsustainable. Director Ryland made a motion to approve the GASB 75 OPEB Draft Actuarial. Director Gibson made a second to the motion.

Rollcall:

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

District Operational Update: Staff recommends a discussion about District operations after recent changes. At a Special Board meeting on August 17<sup>th</sup>, the Board voted to alter the District's response model to align emergency response and services to District budgeting goals and revenues. Originally the closure of Station 15 and Station 19 were set to take place on October 8<sup>th</sup> but the timeline was moved to Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup> to conserve District finances. A media announcement was released a few days before the changes. Chief Duerr explained that the transition has gone well. Data on response times will be reported monthly as a standing board agenda item. Director Ryland requested that updates include actual overtime costs as well. Members of the public expressed concern regarding station closures to the Board and inquired whether other revenue options were pursued. Director Ryland responded that the District has been successful with many grants for staffing, apparatus, and equipment in the past and would continue to actively seek out those grants.

Policy Updates: Staff recommends reviewing and discussion of the proposed policy updates. With the changes to operations and updating and consolidating the District Policy Manual, staff asked for the following three policies to be reviewed and discussed. Policy 200 Organizational Structure, Policy 207 Minimum Staffing Levels, and Policy 335 Apparatus Inventories and Accountability. Chief Duerr noted that the policies are presented for review only and there was no action required at this time.

Ad-hoc Funding Committee Formation: Staff recommends review and discussion of the formation of an Ad hoc Funding Committee. At the August board meeting, the Board requested establishing a committee with the expressed intent of researching and exploring additional funding opportunities from local, regional, county, state, and federal sources. The board recommended the committee consist of 1-2 members of the Board, community members, staff, labor, and the public. Director Johnson volunteered to immediately begin working on a Political Action Committee for the Ad hoc committee. Chief Duerr noted that he will move forward with gathering interest in the group as the board continues to brainstorm additional users and their time constraints.

Fee for Non-Emergency Lift Assistance at Licensed Care Facilities: Staff recommends discussion and 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the South Placer Fire District Ordinance implementing a fee for non-emergency lift assistance at licensed care facilities. Despite outreach efforts by the District, some licensed care facilities continue to utilize the District and 911 system for non-emergency lift assist requests. The District is proposing a fee be implemented via Ordinance whenever a lift assist is performed in a licensed care facility for a non-injured resident. The fee will only apply to non-injury lift assists in licensed care facilities, registered family homes, skilled nursing facilities, as identified by the California Code of Regulations Title 2, Division 6, Chapter 8. The proposed fee for non-emergency lift assistance at licensed care facilities is \$303.67. Chief Musso inquired whether other fire districts are utilizing this fee. Chief Duerr explained that the City of Rocklin is assessing the fee and the District's fee is low but in alignment with the community. Chief Duerr stated that the fee will be up and running in February and then there will be data to report out on its impact.

Appointment of District Treasurer: Staff recommends discussion and adoption of a Resolution appointing the District Treasurer. Chief Duerr explained that the Placer County Auditor has approached the District requiring the District to make the appointment to comply with Health and Safety Code §13854. Without the appointment, the District would no longer be eligible for dry financing with the Treasury. The District currently holds one operating account outside the Placer County Treasury for timely processing and payment of its obligations. When a District holds money outside of the County Treasury, that agency is typically not eligible for dry financing without appointing the position of Treasurer. This Resolution appoints Fire Chief Duerr as the District Treasurer and requires an appropriate bond to be purchased to meet the Health and Safety Code requirements. Director Johnson made a motion to appoint Chief Mark Duerr as the District Treasurer and approve Resolution No. 8-2022/23. Director Gibson made a second to the motion.

Rollcall:

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

## INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

2021 Grant Update: Staff to provide an update on AFG grants. Chief Duerr began the District was recently successful in pursuing grants for replacing cardiac monitors and the 1985 Water Tender. The EKG monitors total award of \$360,000 with the District supplying a 10% match to purchase 8 new monitors costing the District just \$36,000. The purchase includes a prepaid maintenance contract of seven years. The water tender award amounted to \$420,000 with the District supplying a 10% match. Staff is working with vendors to determine the best replacement with the plan to finalize the vendor contract by the end of October. This will allow the District to enter a contract and begin the building process to meet the 2-year grant performance timeline. The Board congratulated Chief Duerr on his successful grant writing and persistence finding additional funding sources.

Correspondence: One PARS financial statement for August, a thank you letter from the City of Yreka for the response during the McKinney Fire, a thank you card from an emergency call, and a Proclamation from the Town of Loomis for Firefighter Appreciation Month.

### Chief's Report:

- Del Oro Homecoming Parade
- Pancake Breakfast at St. 18 was a success
- Reimbursement for generator coming soon
- Financial Audit completed Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>
- Loomis Harvest Festival at Loomis Grammar School
- Granite Bay View ran a story on the 9/11 climb with several line staff participating
- One new engine in service this week- then a social media announcement to be issued. The second new engine to be repaired soon
- 346 calls in September vs. 365 last year. 5% down. Call volume is still up 8-9% from year to year.
- Mandatory overtime August 26% September is down to 19%
- SSV Performance – arrived with 98% of the SSV response times, great September
- 2022 Fire Prevention department – 32 permits pulled this month, total square feet down, 3 new starts vs. 14 last year

Functions: Friday, November 18 Firefighters Recognition Dinner

Board/Staff Comments: none

Future Agenda Items: Gann Limit, District Operational Update

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 9th, 2022.

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