

SOUTH PLACER FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2023

REGULAR BUSINESS

The South Placer Fire District Board of Directors regular meeting was called to order on Wednesday, January 11, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. by President, Terri Ryland.

Present:

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

Absent:

None

Staff in Attendance:

Fire Chief, Mark Duerr
Deputy Chief, Matt Feeley
Division Chief, Jeff Ingolia
Division Chief, James Magnuson
Battalion Chief, Brian Midtlyng
Captain, Justin Buathier
Captain Paramedic, Nick Paskey
Firefighter Paramedic, Josh Christian

Public Comment: None

Closed Session Report: President Ryland reported that there had been a closed session meeting prior to the regular meeting with nothing to report out at this time.

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

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

OLD BUSINESS

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. He recommended dropping the item from future agendas. Directors Ryland and Johnson asked for a standing report from labor units to be added to future meetings following the Chief's report. The Board agreed that a standing report from labor units could suffice for this standing item. Director Randall noted that he would like the item returned at some point when the District loses personnel. Chief Duerr agreed that the standing item would return at times of recruitment or difficulty maintaining personnel.

District-Wide Photovoltaic Solar Electric Project: Staff recommends an update on the District-wide solar project and discussion on securing NEM 2 status on possible future projects to include approval to enter an additional contract with DC Solar. The process has begun of installing photovoltaic solar panels at four operating stations with DC Solar. As progress has begun it was determined that an error in the calculations for Station 16 occurred due to the station being unstaffed in the recent year's utility history. Calculations had to be redone and the project is increasing by \$34,000 in costs. To accommodate the increase, Chief Duerr suggested postponing the fuel convault purchase in this fiscal year. Additionally, Station 15 and Station 19 could secure NEM 2 approval for the next three years into the future with an approved authorization form, a completed interconnecting agreement, and creating an engineered electrical line diagram that PG&E approves prior to April 13, 2023. DC Solar can provide this work at a cost of an additional \$7,900. Director Ryland agreed that the District should secure NEM 2 for the two closed stations to allow flexibility as they could be reopened in the next few years. Director Randall made a motion to approve the additional contract with DC Solar and continue the current solar project to the other four operating stations. Director Gibson made a second to the motion.

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

NEW BUSINESS

2022 Annual Fire Inspection Resolution: Staff recommends acceptance of the Resolution documenting the number of reportable annual occupancy inspections completed in 2022 as per Senate Bill 1205. Total annual inspections for 2022 were 483 throughout the District. Director Gibson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 14-2022/23 acknowledging receipt of the report made by the District regarding the annual inspection of certain occupancies. Director Bajtos made a second to the motion.

Roll Call:

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

Authorization to enter into Agreement with Specialized Legal Counsel: Staff recommends discussion and authorization to enter into a contract with legal counsel specializing in Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB). Chief Duerr began by reminding the Board of the Board adopted goal for 2022/23 maintaining fiscal responsibility and pursuing any areas of concern. He continued that the District's unfunded liability in long-term health care for retirees is currently being absorbed by general fund monies. OPEB is a specialized and regulated topic that the District needs to retain legal counsel for future options to build additional solvency for the District. The Employee Law Group was highly recommended by District's counsel. Director Gibson made a motion to authorize Chief Duerr to enter into an agreement with the Employee Benefits Law Group. Director Bajtos made a second to the motion.

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

Board Certification of the South Placer Fire Administrative Officers Association Decertification and Formal Recognition Election Results of Sacramento Area Firefighters Local 522-Battalion Chiefs Unit:

Chief recommends that the Board formally certify the Formal Recognition Election results and recognize Sacramento Area Firefighters, Local 522-Battalion Chiefs Unit as the exclusive bargaining representative for the bargaining unit consisting of Battalion Chiefs. Chief Duerr explained that the group petitioned for decertification of the South Placer Fire Administrative Officers Association and

reorganizing under the SAFF 522 Battalion Chiefs unit. He noted that the process was conducted in accordance with District rules and regulations. Director Gibson made a motion to approve the Board certification of the South Placer Fire Administrative Offices Association Decertification and formally recognize the election of Sacramento Area Firefighters Local 522-Battalion Chiefs Unit, approving Resolution No. 15-2022/23. Director Bajtos made a second to the motion.

Roll Call:

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

Request for Proposals (RFP) for a Standards of Cover (SOC) Study: Staff recommends discussion and approval of an RFP for a Standards of Cover Study. Chief Duerr began that the last SOC was created in 2008 and the community has grown along with demand, frequency, and types of calls have changed. The draft RFP will utilize historical data to quantify response times, effective response force capabilities, goals regarding population and density, labor demands, and other factors that affect service delivery. This RFP will begin the process of using a third party to provide an unbiased assessment of the data. He noted that the SOC could assist with future decision-making and strategic planning for the District. Estimates for SOC reports range between \$20-\$50,000 and are normally done every five years in agencies with lots of growth. He noted the current in-process Placer LAFCO MSR study could provide some information and savings for the SOC costs. Director Ryland made a motion to approve the RFP for a Standards of Cover Study. Director Gibson made a second to the motion.

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

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

District Operational Update: Staff recommends a discussion about District operations after recent changes. Chief Duerr began that the call volume is up from last month at 402, with December being up 80 calls from last year. 63% of incidents were rescue calls with four fires reported. Medic 16 and Engine 17 are the busiest units. Engine 17 on call at 9.98%. Average response times over 389 calls had travel times of within 7 minutes, which are good. Response times for the month are between 9 minutes.

Correspondence: One PARS financial statement for November.

Chief's Report:

- Winter storms had down trees and power lines
- Open Houses for 2023: 3/18 Station 16, 6/24 Station 18, 9/30 Station 20, 12/16 Station 17.
- Engineer testing and Apprentice Firefighter testing
- SCI Levy Contract renewing for 3 years to come next month for approval
- Fire Prevention department – Total Permits up by 3, new starts down from last year. Fees are down, square feet are down, the building is down
- Overtime generated by sick leave and vacations. Sick leave 33%, Holiday 13%, Vacation 34% Miscellaneous 20%, openings 0
- Overtime down, mandatory hours down. Overall overtime is leveling out. The cost of overtime per month peaked in September, last month was at a low of \$24,000 for a pay period

Functions: None

Board/Staff Comments: Director Gibson remarked that he was glad to see Director Grenfell back at the meeting after an illness.

Future Agenda Items: January 24 Board Training 6:30 p.m., February 8 next Regular Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 8th, 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