

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

REGULAR BUSINESS

The South Placer Fire District Board of Directors regular meeting was called to order on Wednesday, October 11, 2023, at 6:02 p.m. by President, Teresa Ryland.

Board Present:

Teresa Ryland, President  
Chris Gibson, Vice President  
Tracy Randall, Director  
Gary Grenfell, Director  
Mike Johnson, Director  
Dan Bajtos, Director

Absent:

Ken Musso, Clerk

Staff in Attendance:

Fire Chief, Mark Duerr  
Deputy Chief, Matt Feeley  
Division Chief, Jeff Ingolia  
Battalion Chief, Kelly Moretti  
Battalion Chief, Matt Van Voltinburg  
Division Chief, James Magnuson  
Engineer Paramedic, Pat Patterson

Firefighter Paramedic, Calvin Cajias  
Apprentice Firefighter, Mark Jansen

Public Comment: None

Consent Agenda: President Ryland asked to move the closed session to the end of the meeting and amend the current agenda. Director Grenfell made a motion to approve the requested change to the agenda item closed session. The motion was seconded by Director Randall.

Director Gibson made a motion to approve the amended consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Grenfell.

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

Carried

Special Presentation: Dane Wadle of the California Special Districts Association made a presentation to the Board regarding the active work of the membership in current and upcoming legislation being discussed and proposed that will greatly affect fire districts in California.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

South Placer Fire District Policy Updates: Staff recommends review and approval of the proposed policy updates. Chief Duerr reported the policies from Chapters 9-Safety are presented for review with exception to policy 905 being pulled at this time as a better policy is currently being written for this update. Director Johnson inquired about policy 908 SCBA relevancy as Chief Duerr noted that

the policy needs to be in place should something go wrong. Director Johnson also inquired on policies 909, 911, 913 and 914, referring to typos and additional clarifications needed. Chief Duerr noted the corrections to be made and will bring back the corrected policies at the next meeting.

Adoption of the Consolidated South Placer Fire District Report for the Fire Impact Fee Program: Staff recommends approval of the resolution adopting the Fire Impact Fee Program annual report for fiscal year 2022/23. Chief Duerr began that the District is required by Govt. Code §66006(b) (1) and (2) to prepare an annual report regarding its Fire Impact Fee Program and has determined that the report is true and correct. Chief Duerr continued that there have been no requests made to the District for notification of the preparation. Director Gibson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 3-2023/24 adopting the Consolidated South Placer Fire District Fire Impact Fee Program Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2022/ 23. Director Bajtos made a second to the motion.

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

Rescission of the Appointment of the Fire Chief as Treasurer: Staff recommends the Board adopt a resolution rescinding the appointment of the Fire Chief as Treasurer to conform to Health and Safety Code 13854(b) and make the District eligible for dry period financing. Chief Duerr began by saying that this is a correction requested by the Placer County Treasurer to be in compliance with the California Constitution despite previous guidance given by the Placer County Auditor-Controller in 2021. In addition, it was noted that the District would need to discontinue utilizing the District's outside bank account for operational needs as all funds needed to be solely within the Placer County Treasury. Chief Duerr concluded that the District needed to rescind prior approved Resolution 8-2022/23, meet with the Placer County Treasurer to close outside bank accounts and work closely with the Auditor-Controller to establish access to make timely payment of all bills. Director Gibson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 4-2023/24 Rescinding Appointment of District Treasurer. Director Johnson made a second to the motion.

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

Reduction of the South Placer Fire District Board from Seven Members to Five: Staff recommends discussion on reducing the number of Board members from seven to five. The recent inquiry and report from the Grand Jury, along with community inquiry, has raised the question regarding the District Board composition. In the 2017 consolidation with Loomis Fire, the initial board recommendation was 7 members: 4 current members from South Placer and 3 current members from Loomis Fire. The newly formed board met within 60 days of the consolidated organization to determine the future composition of the Board of Directors. The board agreed in August 2017 that a seven-member board was appropriate for the newly consolidated district at that time. As times have progressed, a review and discussion on the composition of the board was requested. Director Ryland added that the Grand Jury report discussed the need for future consolidations in the County, and for that to be accomplished, she noted that the board should return to five members. She continued that the 2020 election was the first opportunity for attrition of the board. Director Randall noted that there was no discussion of board composition in the report and that the board should only review that under LAFCO's recommendation. Member of the public, Diane Will, added that the original LAFCO paperwork noted the board members should represent the population, which would be overwhelmingly higher representation in Division 2, noting that the composition should be 3 and 2, or 4 and 1 from Loomis. Director Johnson suggested the board look at the boundaries and census in future months. Director Ryland inquired with board members if there was any support to move forward with exploring the issue with the Placer County Elections Division. Board members each responded that they did not support moving forward with the issue.

## INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

District Operational Update: Staff recommends a discussion about District operations after recent changes. Chief Duerr began by saying that call volume for September was 346 calls, down from last year. Call volume is up for the District year over year, with 72% for rescues/medical. Medic 16, Engine 17, and Engine 18 are the busiest units. Station 18 had the most call volume by station, followed by Station 17. There were 6 fire responses, 4 mutual aids, and 1 electrical. Improved turn-out times with 1.27 average, down 20 seconds year over year. Travel times and response times were down and meeting the SSV goal response times of 98%.

Correspondence: Two PARS financial statements for the month of August due to the transition between the combo trust and original PARS account, one card of gratitude for the Station 16 crew, CSDA Take Action Brief, a letter from community member Diane Will in response to the Grand Jury report.

### Chief's Report:

- One new Firefighter Paramedic
- Station 20 held an Open House
- Apprentice Firefighter testing
- Car seat installation certification class
- SCBA flow testing
- Worked with outside agencies for testing.
- 21-day deployment one Engineer
- Eggplant Festival Sat. Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>
- Stop the Bleed at GBHS
- Fire Prevention department: Total permits up, square footage down, fee revenue down, new starts up.
- Overtime: 2500 hours for September: 36% due to open positions, 12% sick leave, OES 15%, 12% Misc.
- Volunteer vs. mandatory overtime hours up but down from last year. Multiple people on Disability, deployments, and Academy Training. Leave usage is down from last year this time.
- Overtime totals averaging \$60,000 per pay period.

Labor Report: Battalion Chief Moretti reported that the SAFF 522 Battalion Chief Unit noted morale was down due to the recent separations and poor culture brought about a toxic environment. He continued that he'd like to have goals that are attainable and measurable and reiterated the need for SOC while noting a wave of retirements are coming. Engineer Pat Patterson reported for the SAFF 522 Firefighter's unit that the last two recently pinned firefighters have both separated from the District. He continued that the District is losing 4.7 years of service per year. Morale is a problem for the district, and there is a need to give the unit a plan for the future. Director Gibson inquired as to what was the recommended solution. Engineer Patterson responded that the newly formed committee recently formed to review hiring alternatives could speak to that issue, and he would like to revisit the uniform policy. Director Bajtos requested a list of the next five years of upcoming retirements.

Functions: 10/23 Master Plan Consultant on-site, Santa Pancake Breakfast at Station 17 on 12/16

Board/Staff Comments: Vice President Gibson thanked the volunteers for the recent pancake breakfast at Station 18 for the Eggplant Festival. Director Johnson thanked community member Diane Will for the information provided in her response to the Grand Jury report. President Ryland discussed the need for future labor reports to be submitted in writing within the packet and noted that

board meetings were not the time to discuss grievances. She continued that board meetings are not a meeting of the public and distributed the SPFD Board of Directors Charter to board members.

7:28 p.m. Adjourn to Closed Session: The Board of Directors adjourned to a closed session meeting for the following purposes:

(A) Real Property Transactions Govt. Code § 54956.8- 6900 Eureka Road Granite Bay; 8650 Horseshoe Bar Rd.; 5840 Horseshoe Bar Rd.

(B) Conference with Legal Counsel-Pending Litigation (Pursuant to Govt. Code § 54956.9(a)) – Jennings v. South Placer Fire Protection District, et al., S-CV-0050292

7:49 p.m. Return from Closed Session

Closed Session Report: President Ryland reported that the Board had met in closed session and unanimously approved the contracts for two real property transactions from Item (A) at 6900 Eureka Road and 5840 Horseshoe Bar Road, authorizing Chief Duerr to move forward with the contracts. No action has been taken at this time on the real property transaction for 8650 Horseshoe Bar Road. No action at this time for item (B) conference with legal counsel- pending litigation.

Future Agenda Items: Director Johnson asked to review policy 200 again for revisit and clean up. Director Randall asked to review the prior approved uniform policy.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 08, 2023.

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