

SOUTH PLACER FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2024

REGULAR BUSINESS

The South Placer Fire District Board of Directors regular meeting was called to order on Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 6:02 p.m. by President, Tracy Randall.

Board Present:

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

Absent:

None

Staff in Attendance:

Fire Chief, Mark Duerr
Deputy Chief, Matt Feeley
Division Chief, Jeff Ingolia
Battalion Chief Paramedic, Kelly Moretti
Engineer Paramedic, Pat Patterson
Battalion Chief, Brian Midtlyng

Division Chief, James Magnuson
Captain, Joe Stephens
Captain, Joshua Green
Captain Paramedic, Shawn Cline
Firefighter Paramedic, Bryan Doepel
Captain Paramedic, Nick Paskey

Public Comment: None

Consent Agenda: Director Gibson made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Director Musso made a second to the motion.

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

Carried

Special Presentation: None

OLD BUSINESS

South Placer Fire District Policy Updates: Staff recommends a second reading and adopting the proposed policy updates. Deputy Chief Feeley began by saying that this would be the second reading for just one policy: #1049 Discipline. Chief Duerr noted that a few grammatical errors had been corrected. Director Gibson made a motion to approve the policy presented for approval. Director Grenfell made a second to the motion.

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

Carried

Community Facilities District (CFD) Goals and Policy: Staff recommends a second reading and adoption of the Community Facilities District (CFD) policies and goals. To secure long-term recurring funding for the District, staff has recommended the Board implement CFDs discussed during the workshop in January. It was noted that the rate and method of apportionment will occur at the next regular board meeting in April. Director Ryland added that the new fees will apply to new building only to mitigate the cost of new services. Director Gibson made a motion to approve the CFD goals and policies. Director Ryland made a second to the motion.

Roll Call:

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

NEW BUSINESS

District Master Plan: Staff recommends discussion and approval of the Master Plan. The staff of AP Triton gave a formal presentation regarding the Master Plan. Kurt Latipow of AP Triton said that the department did an excellent job presenting the information needed for the report. He continued that the District is already progressing with the draft plan's recommendations. He continued that the master plan combines a community risk assessment and Standards of Cover as a neutral third party to anticipate growth and recommendations for SPFD to address that growth. Discussions regarding service delivery, operations, community risk assessment, EMS, and support programs were reviewed. Findings for the master plan included short-term, mid-term, and long-term strategies. Short-term strategy recommendations: complete a 3-to-5-year strategic plan, review incident data annually, petition the EMS agency for ambulance coverage in the Town of Loomis, hire additional inspector in the Fire Prevention Division, seek voter approval for tax measure in Division 2 with a COLA, and increase staffing by two additional firefighters per shift. Mid-term recommendations: implement Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) on all vehicles, adopt performance objectives, add RN/Nurse educator to CQI program, develop a Community Risk Reduction Plan and establish goals, update the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) to include all areas in SPFD response area. Long-term strategies: Develop an RFP to remodel and update the training center to include a classroom office space and training facility, assess the need for additional prevention staff to enhance community safety, and construct and staff one additional new Station 21. Battalion Chief Moretti inquired how the District would accomplish the many recommendations. Mr. Latipow responded that the strategic plan would determine the priority given to the strategies, while the taxpayer commitment would determine the desire to increase the service level. Chief Duerr recommended that the Board take additional time to review the plan documents and have the master plan return to the April meeting for adoption. The Board agreed to research the report further and return the item at the next meeting.

2024/25 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Fee Adjustment: Staff recommends reviewing and discussing the current ambulance rate schedule and area rates. Chief Duerr noted that the costs and fees for the ambulance transporting service are reviewed each year. This year, the CPI tied to the EMS fees dropped by .3%. Chief Duerr recommended that the Board adopt the recent adjustment to EMS fees, which will begin on July 1, 2024. He continued that there is no current floor on the EMS fee CPI, but the Board could discuss that for a future agenda item. President Randall noted that there should be a future discussion on the terms of the EMS adjustment at the next board meeting. Director Gibson motioned to approve the 2024/25 EMS fee adjustment of -.3%. Director Musso made a second to the motion.

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

LAFCO Election Process: The Chief recommends the Board members cast their ballots for the LAFCO Board Special District Representative and Alternate. Chief Duerr explained that the LAFCO representative is a voting position while the Alternate is not a voting position. Director Johnson made a motion for the District to vote for Teresa Ryland for the Special Representative position and as the first selection for the alternate. William Karhl of Newcastle Fire received the second vote in the alternate position. Director Gibson made a second to the motion.

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

Individual Board Member Discussion on Future Consolidation: Staff recommends a moderated discussion on the Board's position on future consolidation. President Randall explained that at the prior meeting, community members had inquired about the views of the Board regarding consolidations. He continued that there may be confusion as the current firefighters of South Placer are represented by the Sacramento Area Firefighters (SAFF) Local 522. SAFF 522 also represents Folsom, West Sacramento, Lincoln, and Sac Metro firefighters. He continued that the current PAC Committee has been lobbying efforts for the District and SAFF 522. Community member Gary Flanagan added that there was an appearance to the community of an attempt for a hostile takeover of SAFF 522 in Placer County politics. He wished to remind the Board of their commitment to the citizens of Granite Bay and Loomis with continued transparency. The inequities from the Loomis/South Placer consolidation were discussed. Michelle McIntyre, Executive Officer of Placer LAFCO, added that the Municipal Services Review draft would be received soon and could respond to those inequities. President Randall noted that the current PAC committee was also considering future consolidations.

Appointment of New Member of the Loomis Citizens' Oversight Committee: Staff recommends the appointment of a new member to the Loomis Citizens' Oversight Committee as required under the Proposition 218 Benefit Assessment. Due to the passing of Roger Carroll, there is an opening on the mandated committee. On February 24, Director Musso, Director Johnson, and Chief Duerr interviewed four candidates for the opening. Chief Duerr expressed his appreciation to all four of the highly qualified candidates for their time and commitment to the community. Director Gibson motioned to appoint Jenny Knisley to the open seat on the Loomis Citizens' Oversight Committee. Director Ryland made a second to the motion.

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

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

District Operational Update: Staff recommends a discussion about District operations after recent changes. Deputy Chief Feeley began by saying that the call volume was 320 calls, up from 270 in February last year. Station 18 had the most call volume by station, followed by Station 17 and Station 16. Calls by apparatus: Engine 17, Engine 18, Medic 16, and Medic 20. The District had four total fires: 1 vehicle, 1 dryer, 1 trash, 1 mutual aid with Rocklin. Turnout times were higher from last month, but year over year, dropped to 1.45 with 50 more incidents, while travel times were 8.13 in February.

Correspondence: One PARS financial statement for January, a High-Mark Portfolio quarterly performance report, and a letter of appreciation for the Prevention Department.

Chief's Report:

- The hiring process has started next two weeks: Firefighter Paramedic & Firefighter Trainee
- Municipal Service Review with County
- ISO Survey on Friday 3/15
- AFG Grant for portable radios
- Tablet Command is still moving forward.
- Open House at St. 16 successful event
- Newsletter Volume 1, Issue 1
- New EAP training this week.
- Officer Training – 2 in/2 out and RIC. Mayday scenarios
- SCBA Upgrades
- Lakeside Little League Opening Day Parade last Saturday
- Personnel Committee Meeting met with good dialogue.

- Fire Prevention department: Total permits up over last year, square footage up, fee revenue up, new starts up. Inspections are completed; plan reviews are completed.
- Overtime in January: 37% due to open positions, 11% miscellaneous, OES 3%, Vacation 18%, sick leave 31%
- Volunteer vs. mandatory overtime hours: 64% mandatory, 36% volunteer.
- Overtime hours up, overtime dollars down
- Leave usage year over year: vacation is up, and sick leave is the same as last year.

Labor Report: Engineer Patterson presented the labor report and noted that the SAFF 522 unit represents the local South Placer Firefighters. He continued that the President of SAFF 522 had confided that Sac Metro is not interested in consolidation with South Placer. The 522 unit has procured free cancer screenings for 522 members as part of the Fire Strong Cancer program. IAFF MERP was rolling out in multiple states, and he attended a presentation on the benefits that can be an alternative to providing healthcare in retirement to firefighters. The benefit takes the burden away from employees, and interested board members are also welcome to hear the presentation. The Personnel Committee met recently, and it did not positively affect morale.

Functions: FDAC Conference in Monterey April 24-26

Board/Staff Comments: Director Musso reported attending the recent FAIRA board meeting and wanted to clarify that they will be self-funded in deductibles in two years. He continued that they offered harassment attorney legal counsel through FAIRA at no cost to the District.

Future Agenda Items: EMS Fee CPI, CFD Rate Apportionment

8:25 p.m. Adjourn to Closed Session: The Board of Directors adjourned to a closed session meeting for the following purposes:

- (A) Real Property Transactions Pending Litigation Gov. Code § 54956.8
6900 Eureka Road

8:39 p.m. Return from Closed Session

Closed Session Report: President Randall reported that the Board had met in closed session with no action to report at this time.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 10, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,



Recording Secretary, Kathy Medeiros