

PIONEER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Board of Directors Board Meeting

October 11, 2022 Minutes

Randy Rossi –Board Chair, Tony Marcaccio–Vice Chair, Judy Hobson–Secretary, Christina Holum – Director, Joe Ruder – Director

Mission Statement

To provide a professional and compassionate level of community fire protection, emergency medical and rescue services to the citizens and property owners within the Fire District, in order to prevent or minimize the loss of life, pain, suffering and property damage as a result of fire or other types of emergency.

The regularly scheduled October 11th, 2022 6:00 PM Board Meeting was conducted in person at 7061 Mt. Aukum Rd.
Somerset, CA 95684

MINUTES

- 1. CALL TO ORDER and DETERMINATION OF QUORUM 18:00 hours 6:00p.m.**
 - 1.1 Roll Call-Present: Rossi, Holum, Hobson, Director Marcaccio was present by phone but was abstaining from voting as location of call was not posted in the agenda. Absent: Ruder
Administration: Chief Whitt, Admin. Assistant Joy Vierra, Battalion Chief Earle, Captain Schwitalla, LT FF Baze and Wildland Fire Crew
 - 1.2 Pledge of Allegiance led by Director Hobson
- 2. SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT / PRESENTATIONS / GENERAL BUSINESS**
 - 2.1 None
- 3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR**
 - 3.1 Administration recommends the BOD approve: Minutes from September 13th 2022 Board Meeting Minutes
 - 3.2 Administration recommends the BOD approve: Payment of bills – green sheets
Motion to adopt agenda and accept consent calendar
(M/S) Holum/Hobson Passed 3/0
- 4. TIME SENSITIVE MATTERS**
 - 4.1 **2022 Fire Code Adoption – Public Hearing** – Directors will convene a public hearing prior to the first reading of Ordinance 2022-01 adopting the 2022 Edition of the California Fire Code with Amendments. (California Health and Safety Code Section 13689.7)
Public hearing was opened at 6:04pm, copies of the Ordinance was provided to the public.
There were no public comments and the hearing was closed at 6:06pm
- 5. PUBLIC COMMENT (Open Forum)**

Any person may address the District Board on any subject pertaining to District business, which is not listed on the agenda. This comment is provided by the Ralph M. Brown Open Meeting Act (Government Code § 54950 et. seq) and may be limited to three (3) minutes for any person addressing the Board.

 - 5.1 No Public Comment
- 6. MONTHLY/STANDING ACTIVITY REPORTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**
 - 6.1 **Administrative/Chief's Report** – Chief Whitt provided Chief's report as printed in the Board Packet.

TO: Pioneer Fire Protection District Board of Directors

FROM: David Whitt, Fire Chief

REVIEWED BY:

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PREPARED BY: David Whitt, Fire Chief
DATE: June 14, 2022
ITEM: October Board of Director's Meeting Chief's Report
RECOMMENDATION: Receive Information about the District

Calls for Service in September:

<u>Call Type</u>	<u>September</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
EMS	17	212
Fire	2	23
MVA	3	39
Hazmat	0	7
Assist	9	85
Other	9	114
TOTAL	40	480
Fire Loss Total	\$50,000	\$282,500

Apparatus

Repairing the fleet continues to progress:

E-38 (Type 1 – Frontline Structure Engine)

- Still at Cummins of West Sacramento. Parts have been ordered and we are waiting for supply chain issues
- Repairs are estimated to cost approximately \$29,000.00 (Estimate was for \$28,000.00)

E-338 (Type 3 – Frontline Wildland Engine)

- Airbags that support the cab have been repaired at Veerkamp
- Awaiting an invoice

Type 6 Engine (Purchased but never placed into service due to it breaking down on the way to Pioneer)

- Repair shop diagnosed fuel in the coolant reservoir which indicates a need for new heads (Ford Service Repair Bulletin)
- Option 1: Replace the 6.0-liter diesel engine with a remanufactured one will take approximately six to eight months due to supply chain issues. Cost estimated at over \$24,000.00.
- Option 2: Replace the heads with new ones, “bullet-proofing” the engine and all that entails was chosen. Estimated cost is \$16,000.00. The repairs would take approximately three to four weeks unless they find a crack engine block, then Option 1 comes back into play.

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Type 6 Engine (engine blew up during Caldor Fire and was repaired at cost of \$27,000.00)

- This Engine runs but has a “Check Engine” light due to it being a “Salvage Title” apparatus where the chassis and the cab are two different model years and the electrical components due not match up. Ford could not find a work-around.
- The plan for this is to take the Engine into the shop after the above Type 6 is completed to find a possible work-around with an electrical specialist.
- Costs should be minimal if repairable.
- If the “Check Engine” light cannot be resolved, then a process with DMV will be undertaken to have the apparatus “adjudicated” and approved for use in the State of California.

WT-38 (Frontline Water Tender)

- Contact has been made with the builder with a list of items that need to be repaired.
- Some items should be covered by the builder, some items will be covered by White Freightliner (the builder of the chassis, cab, and running gear).
- Plan is being developed currently as to where the apparatus needs to go (as compared to just shipping it back to Quebec, Canada).

Facilities

Station 38 including the living quarters:

- Bathroom repair has gone out to bid (no estimated costs yet).
- Electrical supply drop and associated repairs should be going out to bid week ending October 15, 2022.
- Roof prop is beginning to be in place on top of the Conex box
- Plan is being developed for re-arranging the apparatus bay and interior of Administration including possibly removing the kitchen area.
- When purchased, air compressor will be placed to Station 32.
- Oxygen filling tanks are being talked about with the JPA.

Personnel

- Captain Ramsey’s last shift was October 1, 2022, as he left for the Rescue Fire Protection District.
- Firefighters Walsh and Carlson were both injured on duty (separately) leaving the District with no available line Firefighters.
 - Firefighter Carlson should return Monday, October 10, 2022.
 - Firefighter Walsh may be out for an additional two plus weeks.
- Coverage has been maintained the best we can with fill in Firefighters from Staff, Captains working down, and Firefighters from Tribal Fire being hired as Limited Term.
- Additional interested personnel have been interviewed:
 - One additional Firefighter who currently is a Seasonal Firefighter for Nevada County Consolidated Fire Protection District.
 - One Firefighter, who was with the District, may return to assist.

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OPTIONS: The Chief's Report is for informational purposes. The Board of Directors may take one or more of the following actions:

- 1) Provide Staff with comment.
- 2) Provide Staff with additional direction.

FISCAL IMPACT: As noted in the report

ACTION PLAN: None.

RELATED ACTION(S): None.

6.2 Local #4586 – No report

6.3 PVFA – November 12, 2022 will be the Out of the Ashes event at Element 79 from 4-7pm \$65.00 per person. Willow School is complete. The Tool Shed lending program is up and running. The siding on Station 31 will be the next project. PVFA donation letters will go out next week.

6.4 Financial – Chief gave verbal report and provided the Board with information related to the upcoming district insurance renewal quote. The current insurance quote is almost \$200,000.00 per year. The district is currently in the process of shopping around for a better quote with other agencies. Chief shared with the board that all the special districts in California are having difficulty with renewals, and that all have seen a 50% or more increase in premium costs for this year's renewals. Chief Whitt asked the board to reach out to other insurance contacts to see about getting a better quote. George Turnboo said he would reach out to Richard Laurel and report back to Director Rossi.

6.5 Apparatus – Chief provided update on each piece of apparatus when giving his Chief's report. Board asked questions related to the apparatus report. Chief answered all questions and talked about auto getting chains for the rig that services Grizzly Flats

7. OLD BUSINESS

7.1 Open Board Position

Item 8.2 was heard before item 7.1. Candance Flaming provided a verbal resume to the board for the open board position. She shared her family history of 6 generations in South County, her current position as 4H leader in Somerset, she sits on the South County Alliance and also has a focus on rebuilding the community as a whole. She has an interest in being involved in the Fire District and support the community as a whole as a member of the Board of Directors. She lives in the district part time while rebuilding after the Caldor Fire.

Motion to appoint Candance Flaming to the open Board of Directors seat.

(M/S)

Passed 3/0

7.2 Finance Ad Hoc Committee Formation

Chief Whitt suggested 2 board members be appointed to the finance committee. Director Marcaccio and Director Holum volunteered to be a part of this committee. The board agreed to appoint them to the Finance Ad Hoc Committee.

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8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Review of Resumes Received for Open Board Position

This item was addressed in Item 7.1

8.2 Grizzly Flats Permitting Fees

Item 8.2 was heard out of order after item 6.5. El Dorado County District 2 Supervisor George Turnboo thanked the West Slope foundation for the Tool Shed and for the assistance that is being provided to residents affected by the fire to rebuild and return to their homes in Grizzly Flats. Director Turnboo came with the specific request to the district that all direct district building and permitting fees be waived by Pioneer Fire Protection District in their entirety. Chief Whitt shared that the District approved modification to the Pioneer Fire Protection District Prevention Fee schedule to include discount for uninsured or underinsured Caldor Fire residents applying for building permits at the June 14, 2022 board meeting. The current policy in place is as follows: Pioneer Fire Protection District will wave 50% of the permit fees relative to the rebuilding process when the citizen can provide proof that their property (structures) were under-insured or not insured and the citizen must pay out-of-pocket for the District permit fees. Additionally, the District will allow the remainder of the fees due to be repaid over a 24-month period. If the fees are not paid in full at the end of the contracted period, a lien, and all costs associated with such, may be placed on the property in order for the District to recover the remaining 50% of the permit fees.

Also, the District will provide an additional 5% reduction of the total permit fees if the citizen pays them in full at time of taking out the permit.

Director Rossi opened up the floor to the public for comment. Grizzly Flat resident Candance Flaming shared her concerns for the residents and her own family's experience with the rebuilding fees with both Pioneer Fire and the County. Dan Dwyer shared his thoughts related to the district's current financial needs and concerns and the day to day operations of the district.

Director Rossi Entertained a motion:

Motion was made for the district to research all permits filed with the county, and the cost of permits already paid to PFPD to date for people who lost their homes in the Caldor Fire for same owner/occupant home owners. Also research and an estimate of Ken Earls' time to do the reviews and inspections, and identify who is insured and who is uninsured with the data form the West Slope Foundation that has been gathered.

M/S Holum/Rossi

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Holum, Rossi, Hobson

Abstain: 1 Marcaccio

Absent: 1 Ruder

Passed 3/0

8.3 Resolution 2022-03 – Findings of Fact - Discussion/Information/Action – Review and approve Resolution setting forth findings in connection with the amendments enacted by Section 2 and 3 relating to the California Fire Code and its appendix, 2022 edition, the PIONEER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT (PFPD) makes the following findings pursuant to Health and Safety

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Code Section 17958.5, 17958.7, and 18941.5. The changes are reasonably necessary because of local climatic, topographical, or geological conditions.

Item 8.3 and 8.4 were heard together. Chief Earle provided information for Fire Code Ordinance and resolution 2022-03 Findings of facts.

Motion to approve Resolution 2022-03

(M/S) Holum/Hobson

Passed 3/0

- 8.4 Fire Code Ordinance 2022-01** - First Reading of Fire Code Ordinance 2022-01 adopting the 2022 Edition of the California Fire Code, incorporating the 2021 Edition of the International Fire Code, regulating and governing the safeguarding of life and property from fire and explosion hazards arising from the storage, handling and use of hazardous substances, materials, and devices, and from conditions hazardous to life or property in the occupancy of buildings and premises in the PFPD; providing for the issuance of permits and collection of fees therefor; Repealing Ordinance No. 2019-01 of the PFPD and all other ordinances and parts of the ordinances in conflict therewith. Discussion/Information/Action - Staff to present the 2022 Fire Code Ordinance to the Board for review.

Item 8.4 was heard with item 8.3

9. CLOSED SESSION

- 9.1 Public Employee Performance Evaluation Fire Chief (Gov. Code section § 54957**

Open session was closed at 7:39pm and Closed session started

10. REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

- 10.1** Closed session ended at 7:56 and open session resumed.

Report out from closed session: Fire Chief David Whitt was evaluated on his 6 month performance review and at this time the board feels he is doing a good job.

11. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING –

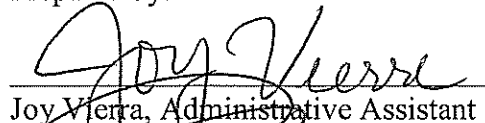
- 11.1** Ad Hoc finance Committee, Dip Site Permits, Grizzly Flats Permit fees, Fire Code Ordinance, Public hearing of second reading


ADJOURNMENT– Motion to Adjourn

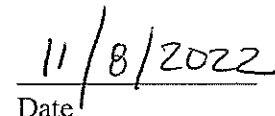
(M/S) Hobson/ Holum Passed 3/0 Meeting adjourned at 8:00p.m.

NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING SCHEDULED FOR Tuesday November 8, 2022 at 6pm

Prepared by:


Joy Viera, Administrative Assistant


Randy Rossi, Chair BOD


Date