



## Foresthill Fire Protection District

P.O. Box 1099 Foresthill, CA 95631

Office: (530) 367-2465 Fax: (530) 367-3498

[www.foresthillfire.org](http://www.foresthillfire.org)

### DISTRICT BOARD

CHRIS REAMS

PRESIDENT

KEVIN GREENE

VICE PRESIDENT

WALTER REED

DIRECTOR

RICHARD ARTHUR

DIRECTOR

TYLER HARKNESS

DIRECTOR

KIRK KUSHEN

FIRE CHIEF

Minutes of Regular Board of Directors Meeting  
Thursday, October 11, 2018  
Foresthill Fire Protection District Administration Office  
24320 Main St.  
Foresthill, CA 95631  
Video: <https://vimeo.com/294999987>

President Chris Reams called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**Directors in Attendance:** Reams, Arthur, Greene and Harkness.

**Directors Absent:** Reed

**Staff in Attendance:** Chief Kushen and Secretary Metz.

**Approval of Agenda:** Director Harkness made a motion to approve the agenda flip flopping action items 5 and 6. Director Arthur seconds the motion. Motion carries.

**Approval of previous Meeting Minutes:**

- VP Greene made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 13<sup>th</sup> regular meeting as presented. Director Arthur seconds the motion. Motion carries.

**Approval of Financial Report:**

- Financial Report still not available. Placer County is having issues with their new reporting system.
  - Financial Report still not available. Placer County is still having issues with their new reporting system. We haven't received financial reports for Month 1, 2 or 3 yet. County is no longer providing an estimated date for providing information.
    - We are at roughly 25.9% spent on expenses so far this FY with 25% of the year elapsed.
  - PERS contacted Patrice for an update on our application. She notified them that the tax measure failed. They are closing out the current application. If we decide to pursue PERS in the future, we will have to complete a new application.
  - Upcoming expenses from mitigation funds (Balance on 6/30/18: \$212,966.67):

○ FS 88 roof replacement	\$17k	Budgeted
○ New cardiac monitor	\$30k	Budgeted
○ SCBA Grant Match	\$25k	Not budgeted (will require Board approval)
  - Billed \$90,303 for ambulance service fees in September. We will probably realize \$30,000 in revenue.

## Fire Chief Operations Report:

### Significant calls:

- Simultaneous Calls. Initial call was for a subject who was run over by the car he was working under. As FHF units were responding to this call, a second call was received for a semi-truck roll over. The medic unit had to pass the roll over and continue to the original call. B90 w/1 FF stopped at the rollover accident. The semi driver was able to self-extricate and suffered a significant leg injury but refused treatment. The individual run over by the car was transported to SRMC Trauma center.
- Six-week old infant was brought to Sta. 90 for extremely rapid heart rate of 290. Fortunately, the ambulance crew was available. The Pt was treated by paramedics and life flighted to UC Davis Children's Hospital.
- Two vehicle accidents on Foresthill Rd. First one was a car traveling too fast in the rain and hit the embankment in the S turns below Spring Garden Rd. The second was a motorcycle who took evasive action when he was about to be rear ended in the same location. Both were non-injury.
- Garbage truck fire in Todd Valley. Likely cause was smoldering materials in a trash can emptied into truck.

### Strike Team:

- There have been no strike team deployments due to insufficient staffing to maintain service to Foresthill. Our new shared staffing agreement will help with staffing.

### Staffing:

- Capt. Keith Hernandez, 16 years with FHF, was hired by South Placer Fire District. His last day is Oct 10th. FHF only has 2 full-time paramedics and two active part-time medics who also have full-time employment elsewhere and only available to work a couple days a month at FHF.
- PHF staff had to cover FHF due to lack of staffing half of 10/6, 10/7 and 10/8.

### Prevention:

- Two new subdivisions which have been on hold for 12 years still moving forward. Working with planners to update project plans to address new fire and wildland interface requirements. Phased 80 home Nellie Jo subdivision on Spring Garden / 15 home Wilson subdivision in Trailhead Estates. The Nellie Jo project has already started clearing lots and shaded fuel breaks.
- New construction site inspections and flow tests have slowed down. Working on annual business inspections.

### Grants:

- Regional prevention grant - PHF hired a DFM to assist FHF and other agencies with modernizing prevention programs and making them compatible.
- Regional SCBA \$200,000 grant to replace outdated SCBA's was awarded. Expect to order within the month. Approx. \$20,000 matching funds required and available in mitigation account.

- We submitted a successful SAFER grant to add 3 firefighter positions for three years. Unfortunately, due to the failure of the tax measure FHF is unable to fund its cost share of \$214,000 required to receive the \$345,000 FEMA matching funds.

Future:

- We will be looking at numerous innovative opportunities to develop new sources of funding to assist us in maintaining our current level of staffing.
- We are also looking for additional areas and opportunities for further cuts to non-essential services and facilities.
- Chief Kushen introduced the new Fire Marshal, Vernell Brothers.

**Action Items:**

1. Adopt Resolution #2018-07, Establish the Foresthill Fire Protection District's Appropriation (Gann) Limit for Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

- a. VP Greene made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2018-07 as presented. Director Arthur seconds the motion.

- i. Reams            AYE
- ii. Greene           AYE
- iii. Harkness       AYE
- iv. Arthur           AYE
- v. Reed              ABSENT

Resolution is adopted.

2. Approve implementation of updated ambulance billing charges.

- a. Captain Reams reviewed his staff report regarding the proposed increase of the fees charged for ambulance service.
- b. VP Greene made a motion to approve the proposed price changes as presented. Director Arthur seconds the motion.
- c. Resident, John Michelini stated that he is in support of raising the ambulance fees, however it should be done in conjunction with a public hearing and be done by ordinance. VP Greene withdrew his motion and the item was tabled.

3. Approve Revision(s) to job descriptions:

- 4-005            Captain
- 4-007            Engineer
- 4-008            Firefighter

- a. VP Greene made a motion to table this item until the special meeting on 10/18/18.

4. Decline SAFER grant in the amount of \$559,098.00. Federal share, \$344,779. FFPD matching share, \$214,319.00.

- a. Chief Kushen reported that with the failure of Measure F the district cannot afford the match money to accept this grant.
- b. VP Greene made a motion to decline the SAFER grant. Director Arthur seconds the motion. Motion carries.

5. Accept Air Pollution Control grant in the amount of \$160k for the retirement of two FFPD Type I engines.
  - a. Chief Kushen reported that this is a onetime special grant for Foresthill Fire.
  - b. There was much general discussion between the board and the audience pertaining to this topic.
  - c. Director Arthur made a motion to accept the APCD Grant as presented. Director Harkness seconds the motion. Motion carries.
6. Approve purchase of Type I Engine. Total cost: \$587,010.35. (4/5 approval required).
  - a. The Board, Chief Kushen and the audience discussed this item in depth. The general consensus of the conversation was to table this item until the new board is seated at the December meeting.
  - b. Director Arthur made a motion to approve the purchase of the new fire engine as presented. The motion died to lack of a second.
  - c. VP Greene made a motion to table this item for the new board to consider at a later date. Director Harkness seconds the motion. Motion carries.
7. Eliminate Acting Battalion Chief and Administrative Captain Positions.
  - a. Chief Kushen reported that with the departure of another Captain it's necessary to put Captain Johnson back on the engine instead of acting as the Battalion Chief. According to the contract with Placer Hills they will provide a duty office for Foresthill if we cannot.
  - b. Director Arthur made a motion to eliminate the Acting Battalion Chief and Administrative Captain positions. VP Greene seconds the motion. Motion carries.
8. Approve contract modification with Placer Hills Fire to provide Duty Officer coverage to FFPD effective November 1. Contract cost increase for FY 18/19 \$50k. (4/5 approval required).
  - a. President Reams and VP Greene stated that the contract modification and action item #3 will be discussed at a Special Meeting to be held on Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup>. An agenda will be posted.
9. Approve first reading of Ordinance No. 18-02, ***An Ordinance Establishing Fire Inspection Fees for Foresthill Fire Protection District of Foresthill, California.***
  - a. Secretary Metz read the proposed ordinance aloud.
  - b. Chief Kushen and Fire Marshal Brothers answered questions from the audience and gave clarification that this proposed fee was strictly to recover actual costs of providing the inspections, not to generate additional revenue.
  - c. VP Greene made a motion to approve the first reading of the proposed ordinance. Director Arthur seconds the motion. Motion carries.
10. Will the Board of Directors of Foresthill Fire Protection District support the collaborative efforts of the fire districts of Placer Hills, Foresthill, Newcastle and Penryn in the development of an application to submit to Placer County LAFCO to reorganize into one fire district?
  - a. President Reams made the following statements-
    - i. FFPD has never voted for consolidation.
    - ii. FFPD has voted to study the pros and cons of consolidation to determine if it is in the best interest of the taxpayers and the district.

- iii. The committee to which the board assigned me to participate recognizes that at this time it is not financially feasible for us to consolidate.
  - iv. The committee would like to move forward with preparations should consolidation become financially feasible in the future.
  - v. Placer County has made it clear that they will not give money to individual fire districts.
  - vi. The consolidation committee is at a crossroads. It's time to create a plan that will pass LAFCO except for the funding part.
  - vii. The committee would like to do a "trial" LAFCO application. This by in no way commits the district to consolidation.
  - viii. LAFCO has agreed to review the document so it could be moved on quickly if all of the district boards approve.
- b. Retired Chief Gow stated-
- i. This project has been worked on by the Board President's and the Fire Chief's for the past 5 years.
  - ii. Every step of the application process has to come back to the FFPD board for approval along the way.
  - iii. Chief Gow recommends that FFPD place a second board member on the consolidation committee as the other districts each have two.
- c. VP Greene clarified that it must come back to the Foresthill board before anything is final. He wants to make sure this can't be taken out of our hands and we lose local control of the district.
- d. Resident, John Michelini stated-
- i. What has districts legal counsel said about embarking on a LAFCO application process?
  - ii. Sending an application to LAFCO is a huge undertaking. If the committee wants to move forward with preparing the information that will be required for an official application, they can do so without action from this board.
- e. VP Greene made a motion to table this item. Director Arthur seconds the motion.  
Motion carries.

**Discussion Items:**

1. Volunteer Recruitment Status.
  - a. We have received 0 Volunteer applications.
2. State Parks Expansion Project
  - a. President Reams reported that the project is still in the works.
3. Facilities Cost Reduction.
  - a. Chief Kushen will move forward on this item with staff.
4. Discuss Options to Shore Up the finances of the District.
  - a. Director Arthur stated that the board will continue to work with the Chief on this.
5. First Responder Fees.

- a. Chief Kushen explained what First Responder fees are stated that he will continue looking into the program with staff.

**Reports:**

1. Finance Committee (Reams/Greene)
  - a. None
2. MOU Negotiations (Arthur/Harkness)
  - a. None.
3. Long Range Plan Committee
  - a. None
4. Firefighter's Association
  - a. Association President, Mondo Hernandez reported that the next event is Halloween.
5. Iowa Hill and Foresthill Fire Safe Council
  - a. None
6. Director's Reports
  - a. None

**Correspondence:**

- None

**Old Business:**

- None

**Public Comment:**

- Stephen Elgin
  - Had the district considered selling fire station 88 or leasing it out to someone else?
- Paula Bertoncin
  - Cannot wait for the new board to be seated.

Meeting adjourned by President Reams at 8:15 p.m.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2018 6:00 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted:

  
Patrice Metz, Board Secretary