



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Foresthill Fire Protection District

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DISTRICT BOARD
JOHN MICHELINI
PRESIDENT
CHRIS REAMS
VICE PRESIDENT
TYLER HARKNESS
DIRECTOR
TROY SIMONICK
DIRECTOR
RAY MILLER
DIRECTOR
MICHAEL RIDLEY
FIRE CHIEF

Foresthill Fire Protection District
Minutes of Regular Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, February 11, 2021
Meeting held via Zoom Teleconference
District Administration Office
24320 Main St.
Foresthill, CA 95631

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

- President Michelini called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.
- Announced a closed session board meeting to be at the end of the regular board meeting.

2. FLAG SALUTE

- No salute due to zoom constraints

3. ROLL CALL

- President Michelini, Vice President Reams, Director Simonick, Director Miller and Director Harkness were present.
- Chief Ridley, Chief Whitt and Chief Matcham were present.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Director Harkness approve the agenda as written, second by Director Miller, roll call vote, approved 5/0.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Paula Bertocin asked if we could update on the ISO rating during this meeting or on next meeting's agenda.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

- a. Vice President Reams moved to accept consent items as listed: Minutes for January 14 Regular Board Meeting, January 25 Finance Committee Meeting, January 29 Special Meeting, February 2 Long Range Planning Committee and Approval of FM 7 Financial Reports. Second by Director Simonick, roll call vote, approved 5/0.

7. FIRE CHIEF'S OPERATIONS REPORT

Calls for January 2021

Total: 56

Total to Date: 56 2020: 53

Breakdown:

See report attachments

Medical Transports this month: 18

Total transports for the year: 18 (2020 =24)

District Information

- Chief Ridley attended numerous Zoom meetings (Townhall, COVID-19, CWPP, CWPP w/Placer OES etc.)
- The Senior Management team met to discussion District Operational issues.
- ISO hydrant testing was completed and results were sent to ISO for evaluation to re-rate us, 4 months into the one year.
- Meeting with Chief Rufenacht (2304) of CalFire on Operational issues.

- Captain Exam completed. Next step is the Chief's interview. Only 4 candidates finished the full process. Next step is the chief's interview process to happen soon.
- No OHV Grant as we were considered to not be eligible meeting the definition of a "District".
 - CA Pub Res Code § 4970.01(k) "District" means a public or quasi-public governmental entity formed according to law whose mission includes clear legal responsibility for open space, recreation, parks, and resource-related activities that are land based. The attorney has determined that Fire Protection Districts do not meet this definition.
 - CA Pub Res Code § 5090.50 (2017)
 - (a) The division shall develop and implement a grant and cooperative agreement program to support the planning, acquisition, development, maintenance, administration, operation, enforcement, restoration, and conservation of trails, trailheads, areas, and other facilities associated with the use of off-highway motor vehicles, and programs involving off-highway motor vehicle safety or education.
- COVID-19 vaccination program is in the hands of the Placer County Health Department. We are in a standby mode.
- Michael Woodbridge is leaving the American River District of the Tahoe National Forest. His new assignment is Steamboat Springs, CO. Effective at the end of the month.
- Chief Dong with the assistance of Director Michelini are working on two AFG Grants. 1) 14 sets of turnouts and 2) A Type I Engine, Model 18. Deadline is 5 pm Friday February 12th.
- UASI Grant: We are looking at 3 new Satellite Phones from a grant two years ago. Just need to have an activation plan. Email from Lt at Sac City PD who informed us that he believes they have some they may be able to give us and not go through the grant process. Per minute use.
- Captain Johnson is back in the office on Modified Duty (5 days a week/4 hours per day/20 hours/week) Working on Emergency Reporting system, maintenance schedules, etc.

COVID-19

- Cases 182
- Rate is 285.0/10,000

From Mike Romero Placer County Health Department:

I appreciate the frustration from the Foresthill community that neither COVID-19 testing nor vaccination is readily available in their neck of the woods. Placer County HHS continues to outreach to potential partners to increase geographic availability to vaccine. Current options include:

- @ the Grounds in Roseville (Phase 1A (health care), IB (emergency services, education), 65+)
- 8 Safeway pharmacies (the closest one to Foresthill being the store in Auburn)
- 1 Walgreens in Roseville
- Western Sierra Medical Clinic in Auburn (65+ patients only)
- Sutter Health (65+, former HP campus in Roseville)
- Kaiser Permanent members (75+, opening up at Sierra college on 2/13/2021)
- Chapa De Indian Health (eligible patients only)
- Auburn Medical Group (eligible patients only)
- Placer Private Physicians (eligible patients only)
- Lincoln Family Practice (eligible patients only)

Soon to be added include:

- WalMart
- WellSpace

All vaccine clinics are by appointment only and can be accessed at: <https://www.placer.ca.gov/coronavirus/vaccine>

The best way to learn when vaccine appointments are posted online is to **Text PLACERVACCINE to the number 898211** to receive text alerts from 211 Placer.

Lastly, for residents who do not use computer technology, they can get assistance from 211 to get vaccinated.

Facilities

- Station 90 Apparatus bay repairs are progressing. Windows, sheetrock and paint left. Final inspection relating to wiring up to the radio and siren caused a delay with Placer County approval. Bradley Construction company is trying to make a fix for that.
- Laundry room at Station 90 will need some plumbing and electrical work to accommodate the new Extractor Washer and Stackable washer/dryer unit. Contacts were made to obtain bids. Received only one bid to date, Rough Plumbing for \$1,225. Also need electrical work done.

Apparatus

- **E90:** Captain Johnson is working on the same issue. New issues with growler Siren and air horn. Out-of-Service. Repair damage from mid-Fall being done at this time.
- **B88/B90:** Service work underway, tune ups, oil changes, fuel changes.
- **B88:** Front end work being addressed. Also, a Main Seal.
- **Engine 88:** Leaking ball valve.
- **SCBA:** Received new SCBA components for our new SCBA's. Fit testing will be conducted when new adapter is received for the mask fits.
- **24' Ground Ladder:** Ordered delivery is 12-18 weeks out for delivery

Policies and Procedures

- Process is getting a reboot. Policies are being reviewed and updated. Final review process will need to occur before any are released. Director Miller asked if final review will be soon. We are actually developing policies prior to Board review. This is for the Standard Operating Guidelines each month policies will be given to the Board members to review and then put to approval.
- New breakdown of runs from the Emergency Reporting Program we are using. It will let us keep track of incidents especially if needed for Grant process. Run compliance for 2020, 97.7% for 438 runs in 2020. We are compliant.

Community Risk Reduction Division per Chief Matcham

January 2021 Activities

- RSG! monthly update meeting, helping guide Placer County to set guides for us. This covers the whole wild fire threat and not the evacuation plan. Trying to get everything together to build the structure we want to put up.
- Meeting with Sutter Auburn Faith Hospital staff and their Medical Director
- Placer County Firesafe Alliance

- ISO hydrant flow testing has been completed and sent to ISO for review.
- Multiple meetings at District headquarters

Community Risk Reduction

- 2 CWPP meetings
- 3 LPG inspection
- 1 Fire Sprinkler final inspection
- 1 WUI Final inspection
- 2 Hazardous vegetation reinspections
 - Both resulted in extensions for compliance
- Thanks to going with Emergency Reporting Systems, the county is now considering using different software for their reporting as well. We seemed to spur the need for a County wide system.

EMS

- Review of 100% of PCR's and incident reports

Operations/Training per Chief Whitt

- Circ saw is still in the shop, looking for filters for it. Covid shipping is causing delays
- Cheat sheet for Engineer's desk, they did hose and nozzle testing with straight lays to figure the operating pressures with different nozzles.
- RT-130 to complete interagency drills, and waiting for training agreement with Roseville facilities.
- Thanks to Penryn Fire retired people and Cal Fire for supplying proctors for our Captain's testing. Just a few minor computer hitches. Now completed.
- Focusing on standpipe operations for our District, SBCA drills and Engine truck operation this month
- Return to duty for FF Sett. He did absolutely wonderful.

Emergency Management

- The 2 grants listed in the grant's updates per Chief Ridley

CWPP per Jodie Barram

- Making good progress on our CWPP this week. 16 members from Placer County, Emergency Management, Sherriff's office, Cal Fire, Bureau of Reclamation, Public Utility, Auburn State Recreation District, Fire Safe Council, Supervisor Gustafson. They were able to get to a place where they better understand the Foresthill portion of the County plan and how it will be enhanced. Our benefit is that with the grant we received they can add more layers to our assessment plan, getting down to the neighborhood level and work on evacuations, etc. President Micheline thanked her for all the hard work they are doing for us.

Emergency Alert Radio Project

- Per President Michelini: Rich is re-evaluating the power requirements of the emergency alert radio and has determined we can get 72 hours of backup power by battery. So instead of buying a large generator we would have an un interrupted power supply system with the battery backup. Could save approx. \$ 5000.00 for the project. We would then have the ability to attach a portable generator. Vice President Reams mentioned it could take longer than 3 days. President Michelini says we could use the portable generator from the trailer to use after the 3 days. Hope would be if money left over, we could repair the old generator from the Admin office. Waiting for longer break in the weather to get the antenna mounted. Still hoping to do Beta testing in March.
- Chief Matcham mentioned we did receive a large donation of radios, batteries and chargers from the Benecia Fire Department. If we had purchased these brand new it would be around \$40,000.00 value. Portable Motorola radios in great working order. Captain Reams is working on the inventory for this now.

8. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Approve refund of \$4,365.50 to Kaiser Permanente because of an ambulance fee over payment. Vice President Reams moves to approve the refund to Kaiser, second by Director Simonick. Roll call vote, passes 5/0.
- b. Board to approve the Fire Chief to pursue disposal of timed out Turnouts and Helmets as surplus to the Bomberos program. Director Simonick has found someone that could transport these to Mexico for no cost to us. Chief Gow from Placer Hills will have us send them their excess as well. Director Harkness moves to approve the Chief to handle disposal, second by Director Simonick. Roll call vote, passes 5/0.
- c. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and the Bureau of Reclamation to allow the Fire Chief to be the signatory to the MOU. This allows us to do work on BLM land adjacent to our District in the defense of our community. Director Miller makes motion to allow chief as signatory, second by Director Harkness. Roll call vote, passes 5/0.
- d. Asking the Board to allow the Fire Chief to pursue grants from the United States Fire Administration in the form of an Assistance to Firefighter Grant (AFG). This is about the different levels of grants we have requested. After research we are trying to go for a Type 1 since they do not fund for anything under a type 1 engine. This type 1 engine is brand new to replace our current E-88. It will not be awarded until October or November so would be in next year's budget. Potential cost to us would be approx. \$ 33,757.00. Motion made by Director Reams to pursue the grants, second by Director Harkness. Public Comment: by Paula Bertoncin asking about the success rate of winning the grant and would we still have to worry about E-88 if we don't get the grant. Our current E-88 is 20 years old which is close to the limit of aging out. ISO will not recognize it over 20 years. We will have to come up with a solution for the next year ISO. ISO does not recognize a type 3 engine. If we get the Engine through the Grant, we would have to get rid of our current engine, could not sell it or keep it as a reserve. Roll call vote, passes 5/0.

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Mid-Year Budget Review- President Michelini. Finance committee met recently and talked about issues of reserves and how to track them. Looks good, we had some cost over-runs due to employees being out. Salaries look under but the overtime is way up. Showed the budget pages and expenses online. 2% over the year at mid-year which is not a bad spot. Some costs were full payments and not per month. With all adjustments at mid-year, we are 4% over, but if we continue to spend as expected we should be

positive at the end of the year. Question from Paula Bertoncin asking if we had received an invoice from the County for the Measure B election, which was yes. Fire Tax Property tax collection with housing turn over do we hope for a positive effect to the budget.

- b. OES Type VI Engine. Discussion about the pros and cons of getting one of these in our District. Chief Ridley explained about these engines. Our region to get 14, we are currently 46 on the list. He went over the specs. It can get into places our Type iii may not be able to go, built for wildland and brush fires. We meet the criteria for this, but would need to adapt 4 x 4 driver training program. We do have an open bay at station 88, normal maintenance done by us. We can use the equipment, but it's in the master-aid list for the State of California, so if they call to use it we staff it. Pros and cons and financial costs presented by Chief Ridley and President Michelini. Left to board to discuss, should be discussed with Labor and then be prepared to decide if we get an agreement.
- c. CA Labor Code 4850- Section of Labor code that provides for fire fighters, police officers and other public safety officials to receive full benefits including pay when injured on the job. We are currently paying 4850 benefits but don't have to do it legally. We need to have a Resolution to make it correct and legal, adopting Labor Code 4850. To bring as action item for March meeting.

10. REPORTS

- a. Finance Committee
 - i. Discussed earlier in the meeting
- b. Labor Negotiations Committee
 - i. Couple issues and working on staffing document.
- c. Long Range Plan Committee
 - i. Met with Rich Hercules for the update summarized previously in the meeting. Director Miller currently drafting a policy to present to the Chief.
- d. Director's Reports
 - i. None

11. NON-AFFILIATED ORGANIZATION REPORTS

- a. Foresthill Volunteer Firefighters Association
 - i. Making decision soon if the annual garage sale will be cancelled this year
 - ii. \$1600.00 donation received from the Foresthill Friendship Club from their See's candy sales drive during the past holidays.
- b. Foresthill/Iowa Hill FSC
 - i. Per an email from Gary Kirk- Working with the Firewise Communities, planning for the Firewise Day in May, working on the Foresthill CWPP. Planning on using the Ready Set Go brochures for distribution.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Letter dated 2/2/2021 from LAFCO re: nomination for a Special District Representative. We have until March 16 to nominate someone from our Board if they are interested.

13. OLD BUSINESS

- a. None

14. CLOSED SESSION Moved to closed session at 8:37pm. Report out per President Michelini as follows:

- a. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release (gov. Code section 54957(b).)

- i. Board will consult with legal counsel for further direction.
- b. Conference with Labor Negotiators (54957.6) Agency designation
 - i. Labor Committee to establish regularly scheduled labor/committee/chief meetings to improve organizational communication.
- c. Hearings: Grievance Hearing
 - i. Board voted 4-0 with 1 abstention to adopt District legal counsel position dismissing the employee grievance due to procedural deficiencies - failure to file according to timelines established in labor agreement.

15. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Meeting adjourned at 10:45pm after return from closed session.

Respectfully Submitted:



Shonne Epperly-Elgin
Administrative Assistant