



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
RICHARD HERCULES
DIRECTOR
MICHAEL RIDLEY
FIRE CHIEF

Foresthill Fire Protection District
Minutes of Regular Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, January 13, 2022
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.

2. FLAG SALUTE

- Waived for Zoom meeting

3. ROLL CALL

- President Michelini, Director Simonick, Director Harkness, Director Hercules were present.
- Chief Ridley and Deputy Chief Matcham were present.
- Vice President Reams arrived at 6:10pm

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Director Simonick moved to approve the agenda with an emergency action item addition of closed session for Labor negotiations, second by Director Harkness, roll call vote, passes 4/0 with one absent.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. None

6. CONSENT ITEMS

- a. Motion made by Director Harkness to approve consent items as is; the minutes of the December 09 Regular Board meeting, December 16 Special Board meeting, FM 06 Financial Report. Second by Director Hercules, roll call vote, approved 4/0 with one absent.

7. FIRE CHIEF'S OPERATIONS REPORT

Calls for December 2021

Total: 98

Total to Date: **766** 2020: **746**

Breakdown:

See report attachments:

Medical Transports this month: **34**

Total transports for the year: **367** (2020 = **289**)

District Information

- Chief Ridley attended several Zoom and in person meetings.
- Conducted Fire Captain and Engineer Testing Processes.
- Greg Kirk was promoted to Fire Captain.
- Continues to be no movement on the MOU with Foresthill Public Utility District (PUD)
- One new Full Time Fire Fighter Paramedic – Evelina Rybin January target.
- One new Full Time Fire Fighter Paramedic – Jeff Palmer January target.
- One Firefighter/EMT to be coming online
- Placer County Community Wildfire Prevention Plan (CWPP) is still delayed.

- Winter Storm started December 26th. The aftermath of this event is still on going. It will affect this district for some time to come.
- Lincoln Fire donated to us Hurst Extrication tools: 3 power plants, 2 combo-tools, 1 cutter, 1 spreader, 1 large ram, 2 small rams, and hoses.

Staffing Report

- December
 - 0 Positions open for Mandatory OT
 - 7 Positions covered by JOA
 - 23 Days Staffing 1 Station
 - 2-0 Staffing: 1 day ALS, 2 Days BLS
 - AMR provided staffing on Mutual Aid – 1 ½ days

COVID-19

- Continues to be plaguing the Country.
- Several fire agencies in our County have been impacted.
- COVID cases in the district: 462. Case rate is 723.3/10,000
- Our zip code has a Vaccination Rate of 40-50%

Support Services/Fleet/Facilities

Fleet: Working on multiple repair issues. Engine 90 still has some leaks. Chief Ridley checked into the records for the Engine 90 to see if it's still under warranty, but it is not. Has someone working on it to see if anything can be covered. Medica 88 and 89 have new tires.

Facilities: Station 90 had a tree strike it. Damage seems to limited to the Diesel exhaust vent.

Training

- Nothing to report

Emergency Management

- AFG and SAFER Grant periods are open. Staff Reports will be presented later in the meeting.

Community Risk Management per Chief Matcham

December 2021 Activities

Administrative

- Multiple FF/PM Recruitment Testing's
 - 2 Recruits in the process
- Conducted Captains Testing
- Conducted Engineer Testing
- Attended Western Placer County Fires Chiefs Association Fire Prevention Officers meeting
- Multiple FHFPD administrative meetings
- Author AFG Apparatus Grant Application for a Type 1 fire engine
- Author AFG Hose Maintenance Micro-Grant Application
- Attend California Office of Traffic Safety Grant Training

Community Risk Reduction Division

- 2 LPG Installation Inspections
- 2 Sprinkler System Inspection
- 2 Residential plan review
- Seafood-A-Rama Occupancy Variance Review with the Lions club

EMS

- Captain Reams is on board doing the initial CQI on our calls; Stroke alerts, STEMI alerts and major traumas.

CWPP per Jodie Barram

- CWPP says the County is still working through the Fire Safe Council.
- Still waiting on the Mobile Home Guide
- Working on a draft of reducing Fire Risk on your property
- Contract may be extended to September

Emergency Alert Radio Project per Rich Hercules

- Chief Ridley says it was a hit during the past storm and shows the importance of us having this radio for the community. Utilized it for school opening notices and constant information updates.
- The radio system ran well during the winter storm period. After two short outages, PGE was lost at 02:20 AM 12/27 and began operating on battery. During the third day on battery PGE was forecasting restoration of power January 11. On 12/29 a small gas generator was placed at Porter to recharge the batteries and run the radio as designed. PGE power returned about 10 AM on the 30th to Porter garage for normal operations.
- Daily message updates were made to the system throughout the storm period without issues.
- The request for the purchase of a spare transmitter for the WRKC868 station was presented.

8. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Authorize the purchase of a spare transmitter for our emergency alert radio with a cost of \$1,795.00. To be used as a spare backup to our current system at the same output. Currently using a loaner for this function. Money will come out of donations fund. Motion made by Vice President Reams to authorize the purchase using donation money, second by Director Harkness, roll call vote, motion carries 5/0.
- b. Allow the fire chief to pursue a grant from the United States Fire Administration for Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency response (SAFER) grant. Help with staffing for hiring 3 additional firefighter/Paramedics. No cost share to us for this grant. Some administrative costs to be written into the grant. This grant would be a reimbursement of salaries, if unable to fill positions there is no reimbursement. It is a 36-month performance grant. The goal would be to hire paramedics, but it could be BLS. Motion made to approve the pursuit this SAFER grant by Director Simonick, second by Director Hercules, roll call vote, motion carries 5/0.
- c. Allow the fire chief to pursue grants from the United States Fire Administration for the Assistance to Firefighter Grant (AFG), Type 1 fire engine to replace our 20-year-old Engine 88. Cost would be \$727,343.00. Micro grant to cover hose testing/coupling machine and equipment at a cost of \$ 30,320.00. For the Type 1 engine our 5% commitment would be \$34,635.38, for the Micro grant our 5% commitment would be \$1,443.81. Grant closes February 21 and would not be awarded until September. This fiscal impact for the engine would not occur until 2023/2024. Motion made by Director Simonick to allow chief to pursue the 2 AFG grants, second by Vice President Reams, roll call vote, motion carries 5/0.
- d. Approve MOU with Placer County Auditor/Controller to provide General Accounts services for FY 2021-2022 and already in our budget for cost of \$1,413.36. Motion to approve by Director Hercules, second by Director Harkness, roll call vote, motion carries 5/0.

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Alternative staffing options per President Michelini. During the recent storm and Covid we found ourselves without ALS coverage for a short time. Would like to update our agreement with SSV and private providers to allow us to contract for services as needed for paramedic coverage. We could negotiate while we are in a better position than in crisis mode. Similar to a special event contract with contractors that are authorized to work in Placer County. Direct staff to look into alternative staffing options and bring back to a future meeting.
- b. Winter Storm Report per Chief Ridley. He went through a chronological time line of the event from 1am Dec 27. Commented on access problems, stores closed due to access. Went to EOC for Placer County and started working on plans for us. Crews went out and did windshield surveys of damage to the area. Director Simonick did some of those as well as staff. Went through calls during that week. 2 websites set up, one for storm damage and one for storm pictures. Tuesday Jan 11 the Placer County EOC closed down. Did a damage cost to the district report for Placer County OES. Director Hercules mentioned he spoke with community member Leif Lowrey from up at Bakers Ranch asking us to do an assessment of the damage there, especially to the water systems. Chief Matcham will meet with them to discuss their issues. County wide discussed how to communicate with the public when cells go out. We were able to provide our information on our AM radio station. OES may be able to possibly help us to expand our radio system. President Michelini thanked everyone for their efforts during the storm and afterwards.

10. REPORTS

- a. Finance Committee
 - i. Did not meet
- b. Labor Negotiations Committee
 - i. Did not meet
- c. Long Range Plan Committee
 - i. Did not meet
- d. Director's Reports
 - i. Director Hercules said the FFPD was referred to the Cambria Community Services District (CCSD) by ISS, our major radio equipment supplier. They suggested us as a resource for CCSD planned ALERT radio operations as part of a larger mass notification system. He made contact with several staff for introductions. They are applying for CalOES/FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grants in the 2022 cycle for the majority of their funding. He will report next month if there are further developments. He is evaluating the filing of a Notice of Interest (NOI) along with Chief Ridley to CalOES for this same period for expansion funding of our radio system(s). This filing does not obligate FFPD or cause expenditures.
 - ii. Director Hercules had a conversation with Lief Lowrey while in Auburn regarding the Baker Ranch water supply and the potential grant applications. He invited the district for a review of the facility and its improvement plans. He was emphatically grateful to Chief Ridley for sourcing a replacement generator as the water system was without power during the storm. Board discussion followed, and Deputy Chief Matcham and R. Hercules are to schedule a visit with Mr. Lowrey for a review of the facility as part of the Community Risk Reduction Division oversight.

11. NON-AFFILIATED ORGANIZATION REPORTS

- a. Foresthill Volunteer Firefighters Association
 - i. Nothing to report
- b. Foresthill/Iowa Hill FSC
 - i. Gary Kirk is releasing his Fire Safe Council chairmanship to Chase Dowling. Gary will still be handling tree mortality mitigation and Fire Wise Communities. Trying to find out what assistance the County can do for people on their properties. CWPP project list is with them currently and want to make sure our projects get on the list as well.
 - ii. Chase Dowling reported the Powerline Phase 3 fuel reduction was finished for Foresthill Rd to Powerline Road. Will be looking at Michigan Bluff and Ridgeview next. Some of the trees on the books were taken care by the snow taking them down. 20 Firewise

Communities in our area, with 14 being recognized and 5 in the process. In kind hours of work money that Placer County Firewise communities have contributed; in 2017 \$629,000.00 and in 2021 \$ 7,000,000. Chief Ridley asked of the ability to get maps of the eight areas that have been done already. As well as Fire Wise communities. Would like follow up on the AZRA Ranger district issues for the Rucky Chuck area.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. None

13. CLOSED SESSION

- a. Into closed at 7:30pm to discuss Labor Negotiations.
 - a. Report out: Board provided direction to staff for Meet and Confer.

14. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Returned from closed session and adjourned meeting at 7:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted:



Shonne Epperly-Elgin
Administrative Assistant