



## *Foresthill Fire Protection District*

*P.O. Box 1099 Foresthill, CA 95631*

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*[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*

### Minutes of **Regular** Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, September 1, 2016

Foresthill Fire Protection District Administration Office

24320 Main St.

Foresthill, CA 95631

Video Available at: <https://vimeo.com/181423594>

President Chris Reams called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Directors in Attendance:** Chris Reams, Richard Arthur, Kevin Greene, and Tyler Harkness.

**Directors Absent:** Walt Reed

**Staff in Attendance:** Chief Gow, and Secretary Metz.

**Approval of Agenda:** Director Arthur made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. VP Greene seconds the motion.

Motion carries.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Approval of previous Meeting Minutes:**

VP Greene made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 4th regular meeting as presented. Director Harkness seconds the motion.

Motion carries.

**Approval of Expenses:**

There was general discussion regarding the status of B88 pertaining to its mechanical issues while out on a strike team. Chief Gow reported that it is the transfer case. Ronk went down to San Luis Obispo and towed the rig back to Auburn. VP Greene stated that maybe the rig should have been towed to the nearest International dealer for repair. It would have saved the cost of the tow.

VP Greene made a motion to accept the August financial report as presented. Director Arthur seconds the motion.

Motion carries.

**Fire Chief Operations Report:**

Chief Gow reported the following items:

- The MOU with Local 3800 has been signed.

- FFPD was not awarded the grant to purchase new breathing apparatus. The Officers are working on “plan B”.
  - Staff evaluations are ongoing.
  - Mask fit tests are in process.
  - Officers are currently looking at the new map tools.
  - Apparatus is currently 16+ years old, Officers are discussing possible solutions.
- VP Greene asked Chief Gow what the plan is if we are toned to go out of county on a strike team while brush 88 is out for repairs.
- Chief Gow stated that we would not be able to go. FFPD needs to protect its home community first.

**Action Items:**

1. Board Discussion and Action on moving forward with and allotting funds for a tax increase election in March 2017.
  - a. President Reams stated that the board needs to do this. Our budget is in dire straits and we will continue to lose staff because of low wages.
  - b. Chief Gow stated that Placer County has decided to scrap the Citygate study.
  - c. Chief Gow also reported that he thinks a County wide department, including Placer County Fire (Cal Fire) can be run for less money than Placer County currently pays for Cal Fire.
  - d. Director Harkness stated that any tax measure will be run by a new board.
    - i. VP Greene thinks we should move forward preparing for an election.
    - ii. Director Arthur suggested appointing an ad-hoc committee to look at a possible election in the spring and report back at the next board meeting.
    - iii. President Reams and Director Arthur will be the ad-hoc committee.
      - ◆ Director Harkness objects to this because he believes the President of the Board cannot serve on an ad-hoc committee.

e. Director Arthur made a motion to appoint President Reams and himself to an ad-hoc committee. The task of the committee will be to explore the specifics of having a tax measure election next year. This will include working with Placer County to find out what level of participation they are going to provide to this project. VP Greene seconds the motion.

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

Motion carries.

2. Approval of Final 2016/2017 Operating Budget.

- a. The Board reviewed the proposed final budget. There was general discussion regarding the financial state of the fire district.
- b. Director Arthur made a motion to accept the Final 2016/2017 Operating Budget as presented. VP Greene seconds the motion.

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

Budget is adopted.

3. Approve Waiver of Parameters in Resolution #2007-02, Ralph Hoyer Paramedic Scholarship Program, Section II, Item B. Allow LTE Kenny Kaiser to be reimbursed \$8,000.00 for Paramedic School which he is Currently Attending and Paid for In Full at the time of Enrollment.

- a. Secretary Metz explained to the Board that LTE Kaiser was the only applicant for the paramedic scholarship. He wrote an excellent essay and was interviewed by President Reams, Captain Drone and community member Denise Dermenjian. Their recommendation was to award LTE Kaiser the full \$8,000.00 which is available. Currently the District holds \$3,877.01 in their Hoyer account. So the request is to have approval to transfer the \$3,877.01 to the FVFA who will then cut a check to LTE Kaiser for \$8,000.00.
- b. Director Arthur made a motion to allow the fire District to cut a check to the FVFA for \$3,877.01 and to allow the payment of this Hoyer

Scholarship in the amount of \$8,000.00 to be made directly to LTE Kaiser.  
VP Greene seconds the motion.

Motion carries.

4. Adopt Section III of the Policies and Procedures Manual, "*Personnel*".
  - a. VP Greene made a motion to adopt Section III of the Policies and Procedures as presented. Director Arthur seconds the motion.

Motion carries.

5. Adopt Section V of the Policies and Procedures Manual, "*Employee Policy Manual*".
  - a. Director Arthur made a motion to adopt Section V of the Policies and Procedures Manual as presented. Director Harkness seconds the motion.

Motion carries.

6. Adopt the Foresthill Fire "*Safety Manual*".
  - a. VP Greene made a motion to adopt the "*Safety Manual*" as presented. Director Arthur seconds the motion.

Motion carries.

#### **Discussion Items:**

1. Placer County Consolidation Study
  - a. Proposition 172
    - i. No report.
  - b. Middle Fork
    - i. Director Harkness reported to the Board that he has confirmed with Placer County that the entirety of the Foresthill Fire Protection District resided in Placer County. There was a question as to whether or not a small slice of it was in El Dorado County.

#### **Reports:**

1. Finance Committee (Reams/Greene)
  - a. President Reams reported that a meeting was held to finalize recommendations for the final budget. Because we are in such dire financial straits the committee will meet quarterly to review and make necessary recommendations regarding budget adjustments. Secretary Metz schedule a meeting for mid-October.
2. Firefighter's Association:

- a. The Garage Sale Volunteer Appreciation Dinner will be held on October 27<sup>th</sup> at the Memorial Hall. We have asked Mega's Café to provide a quote for catering the meal.
- b. The Association voted to spend up to \$1,000.00 for new ice chests, radio decks, LED lighting, and hose rollers for B88 and B90.
3. EMS Operations Report/Deputy Fire Marshal Duties
  - a. No report.
4. Foresthill & Iowa Hill Fire Safe Council Report:
  - a. Chief Gow reported that the FSC is working on the "tree kill" issue.
5. **Director's Reports**
  - a. Reams
    - I. President Reams reported that Newcastle Fire has approached Placer Hills Fire requesting Chief and Administrative services.
    - II. Chief Gow stated that PH is planning to sit down and talk with Newcastle. Chief believes we should do what we can to help our brothers and sisters in Newcastle.
    - III. President Reams is concerned about spreading the Chief too thin, but he is open to discussions about it.
  - b. Greene
    - I. VP Greene asked the Chief to look into whether the unemployment insurance being paid to the District as part of strike team reimbursement is part of the hourly wage we are paying to our employees. If it is, we need to deduct it from the increased hourly rate being paid because the District bears the expense for comp. insurance.
      - Chief Gow stated that we would report on this issue next month.
  - c. Arthur
    - I. Director Arthur reported that there are 3 cedar trees growing next to the foundation of the small building behind the Porter Garage. They are going to cause damage if not taken care of.
  - d. Harkness
    - I. No report.

**Correspondence:**

None

**Old Business:**

None

Meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2016**  
**6:00 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted:



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Patrice Metz, Board Secretary