

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
LAKE VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
OF EL DORADO COUNTY
JUNE 18, 2015**

The Board of Directors of the Lake Valley Fire Protection District of El Dorado County met in regular session on June 18, 2015 at the Meyers Firehouse, South Lake Tahoe, California.

ROLL CALL

Director Huber called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. There were present the following directors: Huber, Rice, and Bettencourt. Also present were Chief Harris and Lake Valley Personnel.

AGENDA

The Chief asked the Board to move Section 9, Item C – A Proclamation Honoring Benjamin Brimer to after Section 7. A motion was made by Director Bettencourt and seconded by Director Rice to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Director Bettencourt and seconded by Director Rice to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 14, 2015. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

There was a letter of appreciation from the Lake Tahoe Community College thanking Lake Valley for their continued support of the Lake Tahoe Basin Fire Academy. There were several customer satisfaction surveys returned and the Board thanked the Lake Valley staff for a job well done.

LTCC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF APPRECIATION

Dr. Kindred Murillo and Dr. Virginia Berry of the Lake Tahoe Community College offered their sincere appreciation to the LVFPD. There have been 270 graduates from the program and the LTCC recently recognized the Department at their Board meeting but also wanted to express their deepest appreciation to the Board for providing the facility, equipment, and instructors to make the Lake Tahoe Basin Fire Academy a success. Director Huber thanked the College as well for their partnership.

PROCLAMATION HONORING BENJAMIN BRIMER

Director Huber thanked Fire Mechanic Benny Brimer for his dedication and years of service. A proclamation was read and presented to Benny, and a few anecdotes were shared. Chief Harris took this opportunity to introduce Andrew Sessions, our new Fire Mechanic and Fleet Manager. Mr. Session gave a brief introduction and the meeting went into recess at 7:14.

The meeting was called back to order at 7:31pm

OLD BUSINESS

A. Update of FEMA Hazardous Wood Roof Replacement Program

The Roof Grant Program is winding up again with 96 roof replacements in process. There are 27 homeowners that we are still waiting to respond. Teri Tucker has been diligently trying to contact them. Once all the roofs have been completed there will still be money left in the program. Lieutenant Martin Goldberg is working with FEMA to see if there is a possibility of reopening the grant after we have completed the roofs in process.

B. Capital Improvement Plan

Chief Poell informed the Board that the Nexus study is almost complete and we should have a draft in a week or two. He will give an update once the study is complete

NEW BUSINESS

A. Firefighter's Association

Engineer Quinn gave the Board an update on the Lake Valley BBQ and retirement party held on June 7th. We had a great turn out and a lot of fun. He also thanked Benny Brimer for his service and welcomed Andrew Sessions.

B. JPA Update

Director Huber would like to earmark a spot moving forward for the JPA under old business.

C. Proclamation Honoring Benjamin Brimer

Item C was moved

D. BOD Policies – Review Committee

Chief Hekhuis is in the process of converting the Policies and Procedures to Lexipol. The Board of Directors Policies and Procedures have had many changes over the years and need to be reviewed cover to cover. Chief Harris asked if two Board members could be appointed, along with the chief officers to review and address any policy changes. Director Huber appointed Directors Rice and Rossi for the committee.

E. FAIRA Renewal of Liability Insurance

A motion was made by Director Rice and seconded by Director Bettencourt to renew FAIRA Liability Insurance for the 2015-16 fiscal year. The motion passed unanimously.

F. NCS DIA Renewal of Workers Comp Insurance

A motion was made by Director Rice and seconded by Director Bettencourt to renew NCS DIA Workers Comp Insurance for the 2015-16 fiscal year. The motion passed unanimously.

G. Resolution 2015-5 A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Lake Valley Fire Protection District Confirming Existing Salary Schedules of District Employees

A motion was made by Director Rice and seconded by Director Bettencourt approving Resolution 2015-5, A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Lake Valley Fire Protection District Confirming Existing Salary Schedules of District Employees. The motion passed unanimously.

H. Preliminary Budget 2015-2016

The 2015-2016 Preliminary Budget has been completed. We have completed a balanced budget and will present the Final Budget at the September Board meeting once the final numbers are received from the County. A motion was made by Director Rice and seconded by Director Bettencourt. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

A. California Tahoe Emergency Services Operations Authority

The JPA held a meeting on April 13, 2015. The City Manager attended the meeting and expressed the City's interest in exploring an exit strategy. It has been determined that the City can exit the service portion of the JPA contract, and still maintain ALS engines and a seat on the Board by subcontracting to an outside source. As negotiations proceed it has also been determined that Lake Valley would like to subcontract that service for the City. Let it be known that neither the Board nor the Chief will make a decision blindly. There are a lot of components to this, and we will not step into anything we cannot handle or afford.

Chief Poell questioned what the City has done to prepare for an exit strategy. Director Bettencourt informed the Board that the City has had Council meeting and has formed a subcommittee to discuss the best plan of action. He also mentioned that playing hardball with the City is not advisable as we will need things from them such as dispatch services and housing engines.

Another avenue that is being explored is the merger between CSA 3 and CSA 7. This plan is the most favorable option currently on the table. This option would consist of a flat rate encompassing everything needed to fully fund both the East and West slope contracts. Although this plan appears to me the most advantageous, there are still some concerns. Director Huber is concerned that Lake Valley paramedics will be used as backup fire fighters for the City and not justly compensated. He expressed worry over being abused by the City. There was also concern, if the plan were approved, as to how the new governing board would be structured. Since it is a governing board of fire chief's we would now have a minority vote in the whole system. Director Rice questioned whether or not we would maintain our South Lake Tahoe dispatch service since we do not have the infrastructure to Camino. This could potentially be the biggest change that department has ever seen and the Board reiterated the fact that the decision will not be taken lightly.

Engineer Quinn updated the Board on the Firefighter's Association meeting. He stated that it was the consensus of the Association that they wanted to preserve a fire based EMS system but have concerns with the financial and operation components of Lake Valley taking over the JPA. Engineer Quinn also pointed out that the Association meeting took place before they learned about the option of CSA 3 and CSA 7 merging.

The Board stated that the bottom line is the City is reviewing an exit strategy and we are exploring all avenues in order to maintain a fire based EMS system. The Association stated that they have the same goal and have formed a subcommittee of 6 members to ensure that everyone is on same page.

B. Lake Valley Fire Protection District Reports

We are busier than the same time last year. The chipping program will start up again at the end of June. June 20th will be the Wildfire Safety Expo. Senator Gaines paid for a mailer promoting the Expo to the community. He also wants to recognize the anniversary of the Angora Fire on June 24th.

CalFire is closing open burning on June 22, 2015. There was discussion on burning restrictions, backyard burns, fire pits, and burn ordinances. There was additional discussion on enforcement issues with burn pits.

Director Huber mentioned that we should do more public service announcements and try and get more PR in the newspaper.

CLOSED SESSION

A. Closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6

The Board went into closed session at 9:16 pm. The Board resumed open session at 9:56 pm with no reportable action.

REVIEW AND APPROVE DISTRICT YEAR TO DATE INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT

A motion was made by Director Rice and seconded by Director Bettencourt to approve the District year-to-date income and expense report (July 1, 2014 to April 30, 2015). The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVE DISTRICT PAYROLL

A motion was made by Director Bettencourt and seconded by Director Rice to approve the District payroll for pay period 10 for \$156,689.83, pay period 11 for \$116,292.90, and for pay period 12 for \$122,266.90. The motion passed unanimously.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

After being reviewed, a motion was made by Director Bettencourt and seconded by Director Rice to approve the bills paid on June 1, 2015 for 24,750.50, June 18, 2015 for \$38,133.67, and on June 18, 2015 for \$6,360.96. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:59 pm.

Approved at the meeting of July 9, 2015.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dave Huber, Chair
CHAIRPERSON

Robert Rossi
SECRETARY

K. Labrado prepared the minutes