

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
LAKE VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
OF EL DORADO COUNTY
February 13, 2020**

The Board of Directors of the Lake Valley Fire Protection District of El Dorado County met in regular session on February 13, 2020 at the Meyers Firehouse, Meyers, California.

ROLL CALL

Director Bettencourt called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm. There were present the following directors: Bettencourt, Allen, Hogan and Moore. Director Rice was present at 4:07pm. Chief Alameda along with Lake Valley personnel was present.

AGENDA

A motion was made by Director Hogan and seconded by Director Allen to approve the agenda of February 13, 2020 with the following change; closed session item 13 C was moved to open session item 7 A. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Director Hogan and seconded by Director Allen to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 9, 2020. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lisa O'Daly was present and stated her concerns with the public noticing of the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant. She wanted to know where and when the public noticing was posted. As a planner for 33 years she would have liked to have had more time to review and comment on the plan.

Chief Terry Hughes with Eastern Alpine Fire Rescue commented on a snow mobile accident call that occurred on Jan 17, 2020 near Blue Lakes. Crews did an amazing job and the patient was transferred to Renown. He passed away a few days later, but the effects of the crew's efforts allowed the patients organs to be harvested and helped to save the lives of eight other individuals. The family called and stated that the only silver lining to the tragedy was that other people lived because of their son.

Kyle with 3M Scott Safety thanked the District for the purchase of the new Scott SCBA's.

Cal Fire Chief, Scott Lindgren, introduced himself to the Board and updated them on Cal Fire happenings in the Basin. He discussed the promotion of Chris Anthony to the new wildfire resiliency program and the acquisition of land to build a new fire station at the old Sunset Stables location. He thanked the District for the great relationship we have and for allowing Cal Fire to rent Station 5.

COMMUNICATIONS

There were several great communication letters this month, as always, great job. Director Allen would like to recognize the Golden Bear neighborhood at a future meeting for obtaining their Firewise Designation.

OLD BUSINESS

A. JPA Update

Executive Director Ryan Wagoner said that the City Council approved the lease for the old Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority space. The City and JPA attorneys outlined what needs to be done for the transition and they are applying for a temporary use permit. The building will still need to be brought up to code.

B. Third Amended Joint Powers Agreement

A motion was made by Director Allen and seconded by Director Rice to approve the Third Amended Joint Powers Authority Agreement removing Barton from the Board and allowing and elected member to represent Fallen Leaf Lake CSD Fire Department. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Measure B Update

Director Moore stated that the Foundation members are doing quite a bit to promote the measure. There were two negative write ups in the media and there was discussion on how to handle the opposition. Chief Alameda and Director Moore said they were fine with opposition as long as the facts were represented accurately. Dusty LaChapelle contacted the consultant and was advised to leave it alone and not respond. There was additional discussion putting a positive letter in

the newspaper on Feb 28, 2020 to inform last minute voters. Chief Lindgren spoke up, and suggested offering on social media the option to meet in person at the fire station discuss any issues at hand.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Updating of Policies and Procedures Manual

The Board gave direction to the Battalion Chiefs to review the Policies and Procedures Manual and send edits to the Board to review.

B. CalPERS Employer Pension Prefunding Trust

Direction was given from the Board to set up a meeting with CalPERS to get information regarding setting up an employer pension prefunding trust.

REPORTS

A. Lake Valley Fire Protection District Chief's Report

Chief Alameda is continuing to work on the annual report. He gave a run-down of the calls from last year and the value of the fire loss. He also gave a VHR update stating that we have completed 288 inspections so far and are on track to complete 520 next year. He also mentioned that although defensible space is not doable in our VHR inspection model currently, it is something we hope to put in place in the future. He also congratulated the Golden Bear neighborhood for being the first South Shore community to receive a Firewise designation.

B. Battalion Chiefs

Chief Stephen reported that he will be working with the Cold Creek neighborhood on defensible space. The Zephyr Crew will be out helping with community work days to complete fuel reduction work. They will be planning an evacuation drill and will hopefully work at also becoming a Firewise community.

Chief Zlendick said that crews were working hard on Measure B. There have been several mechanical problems lately. Brush 7 had a fan dislodged and Medic 7 blew a transmission. He thanked Fire Mechanic Andrew Sessions for his great work in getting things repaired. The new SCBA's are in and training will begin on those.

Currently, there are three injuries and overtime is up. Director Rice stated we need to keep an eye on what causes there injuries and discuss how to prevent them if possible.

Chief Pevenage discussed the ongoing SCBA training for the new air packs. He also talked about health and wellness and how prevention pays are large role in this. He stated that firefighters are constantly getting injured and we need to include this in our model. Director Rice commented that we should work on trying to achieve a no injury milestone and have a party.

C. Firefighter's Association

Matt Nerdahl informed the Board that the recent calls have had more deaths then usual and the impact has been taking a toll on the crews. He also mentioned that the Union has formed a fire chief selection committee and has developed their own set of questions and would like to be part of the selection process for the next fire chief. Additionally, he told the board that Chief Alameda was discussing what a service agreement would look like with Cal Fire. He mentioned that the Chief was having informal talks with Chief Lindgren, from Cal Fire and that he told Chief Alameda that these talks need to stop because he felt these talks were causing a blow to morale during the tax measure.

Director Bettencourt stated that part of succession planning is looking at all options. He stated to Matt Nerdahl that casual, generic conversation about the potential future of the District was more than acceptable and that the Union was taking the discussions out of context and blowing things out of proportion. He indicated that Chief Alameda was being transparent. Chief Lindgren stepped up and stated that with the announcement of Chief Alameda's retirement these conversations intensified and that he sat down with Matt Nerdahl and had an open an honest conversation with him about these informal talks. He also said that these informal talks are not new and have been going on for a while at all levels. Chief Lindgren stated that the relationship Cal Fire has with Lake Valley Fire is very important and he wants to see Lake Valley Fire succeed. Hiring a fire chief right now is difficult and he doesn't want to see Lake Valley Fire in a bind. He indicated that if Cal Fire can help in any way they are happy to do so. Director Bettencourt stated that this should be brought to the District and then the Board.

D. Firefighter's Foundation

Nothing to Report

REVIEW AND APPROVE DISTRICT YEAR TO DATE INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT

A motion was made by Director Hogan and seconded by Director Moore to approve the District year to date income and expense report from July 1, 2018 to December 31, 2019. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVE DISTRICT PAYROLL

A motion was made by Director Allen and seconded by Director Rice to approve the District payroll for pay period 1 for \$165,952.82 and for pay period 2 for \$158,352.96. The motion passed unanimously.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was made by Director Allen and seconded by Director Rice to approve the bills paid January 5, 2020 for \$12,269.75, for January 27, 2020 for \$77,465.56 and for February 11, 2020 for \$179,858.70. The motion passed unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board went into closed session at 6:11 pm. The Board resumed open session at 8:40 pm. The reportable action was as follows;

A motion was made by Director Rice and seconded by Director Moore to approve both the MOU for the Battalion Chiefs and for 4409. The motion passed unanimously.

Per Chief Alameda's notes, direction was given by the Board to update the fire chief's job announcement and seek assistance from Cal Fire AEU for the interview process.

Board direction was given to post the fire chief job announcement as early as possible.

Board direction was given to reach out to Cal Fire AEU for administrative proposals.

Board direction was given to move the March meeting to Wednesday March 11 at 12:00pm.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Approved at the meeting of March 11, 2020.

Respectfully submitted;

Robert Bettencourt
CHAIRPERSON

Leona Allen
SECRETARY

K. Labrado prepared the minutes