

Penn Valley Fire Protection District  
**PENN VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
REGULAR MEETING  
May 2, 2017

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Penn Valley Fire Protection District was called to order by Chairman Farrell at 6:30 P.M. at Station 43. Intern Zywicki led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken.

**PRESENT**

Directors: David Farrell, Kurt Grundel, Terry McMahan, John Pelonio and Bruce Stephenson

Absent: None

Board Clerk: Debbie Hughes

Others: Chief Wagner and other Fire Department personnel.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Captain Thomas stated that the Local 3800 Firefighter's Union participated in St. Baldrich's Foundation fundraiser for children with cancer. Participants receive pledges or donations for shaving their heads. They raised approximately \$17,500.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Vice-Chairman Grundel motioned to approve the consent calendar as presented. Director Pelonio seconded. Motion unanimously carried.

**NEVADA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION**

No report. Chief Wagner was unable to attend the meeting this morning.

**NEVADA COUNTY FIRE AGENCY (NCFA)**

No meeting.

**LAFCO**

Vice-Chairman Grundel reported that:

- Our cost will increase 1.7% for 2017/18.

**PENN VALLEY FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION**

No report.

**FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

Chief Wagner reported that:

- For April, we responded to 122 calls. (This is an increase of 20 calls since the report was written.)
- For the first time in 3 or 4 years we have 3 firefighters that can work out of class.

- Our share of property taxes is one of the lowest for special districts in Nevada County. We have tax rate areas that we aren't receiving a share of property taxes on. Chief's working with SR at LAFCo because this probably happened in 1986 when the District annexed new areas.
- Captain Thomas is adding two new categories to the Chief's Report – Emergency Medical Services and Fire Prevention to keep the board updated.
- EMS -
  1. He reported that Rideout Memorial Hospital's STEMI receiving center was suspended March 1<sup>st</sup> since they're having trouble securing around the clock cardiologist coverage. Nevada County ambulance units, including Penn Valleys will transport STEMI emergency patients to Sutter or Kaiser Hospitals in Roseville. This makes for 2 – 2 ½ hours our ambulance is out of the area.
  2. Crews responded to several critical patients in April.
  3. Wittman Enterprises is doing all our ambulance billing as of 1/1/17. With the switchover, it's taken a little extra time for insurance companies to make the change and accept Wittman's ambulance billing for us. Finance Administrator Thelen and Captain Thomas attended a training there today. Everything's running as it should, at the six-month mark staff will provide the board with an accounting of billing, payments, and collections.
- FIRE PREVENTION –
  1. This includes Engine Company Inspections, Projects, Meetings and Training, Investigations and a Comments section. There was a recent article in the Sacramento Bee regarding fire inspections and Consumnes Fire and Folsom Fire. The article; which was partially ineffective news, said they were remiss in their inspections. Captain Thomas informed the board that the district tries to inspect as many building annually as possible. The Uniform Fire Code mandates high rises, jails, schools and apartments have annual inspections. The District inspects their schools and apartments annually and we don't have a jail or any high rises.

The board confirmed they'd like this information to be added to the Chief's Report.

## **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

**VI-1** Tabled until next month.

### **VI-2 Public Hearing – Discussion and Second Hearing on:**

- A. Resolution 2017-02 Consideration of Consumer Price Index (CPI) Adjustment to the Fire Suppression Benefit Assessment Fee

Chairman Farrell opened the meeting to the 2<sup>nd</sup> public hearing. This is an annual review to consider an adjustment in the fee based on any change in the CPI as provided by the State of California Division of Labor Statistics and United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, for the Bay Area of the preceding calendar year. The adjustment can be that CPI or 3.0%, whichever is less. The CPI change for Bay Area Cities in 2016 is 3.0%. Director Pelonio motioned to waive reading the entire resolution and just read the title. Director Stephenson seconded. Motion unanimously carried. Director Farrell read the title of Resolution 2016-02 and then closed the public hearing. Director Pelonio motioned to approve Resolution 2017-02. Director Stephenson seconded. Motion unanimously carried by a roll call vote.

- B. Resolution 2017-03 Consideration of Consumer Price Index (CPI) Adjustment to the Special Tax – Rescue

Chairman Farrell opened the meeting to the 2<sup>nd</sup> public hearing. This is an annual review to consider an adjustment in the rescue tax based on any change in the CPI as provided by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Cities Average for the preceding calendar year. The adjustment can be that CPI or 3.0%, whichever is less. The CPI change for U.S. Cities Average in 2016 is 2.0%.

This would be an increase to the fire suppression benefit assessment fee and the rescue tax of \$2.21 each annually for an overall increase of \$29,000. The board concurred in the first hearing that to keep up with inflation we need to adjust the Consumer Price Index as allowed by the ballot language. Director Pelonio motioned to waive reading the entire resolution and just read the title. Director Grundel seconded. Motion unanimously carried. Director Farrell read the title of Resolution 2017-02 and then closed the public hearing. Director Grundel motioned to approve Resolution 2017-02. Director McMahan seconded. Motion unanimously carried by a roll call vote.

### **VI-3 Board Guidance for Agreement Signature with Sacramento Metro Fire District for Recovery of Administrative Costs Associated with Ground Emergency Medical Transportation Payments**

Office Administrator Hughes explained that this agreement is to pay Sacramento Metro Fire District their administrative costs associated for overseeing the GEMT program. Last year the board approved Chief Wagner's or Office Administrator Hughes' signature on the agreement between the District and the State Department of Health Care Services for participation in the GEMT program. Director Grundel motioned to approve Chief Wagner's or Office Administrator Hughes' signature on the agreement between Sac Metro Fire and the District. Director McMahan seconded. Motion unanimously carried.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORTS**

1. Chairperson Farrell – No report.
2. Vice-Chairman Grundel – No report.
3. Director McMahan – No report.
4. Director Pelonio – He attended the Northern California Special District Insurance Authority (NCS DIA) meeting 4/26/17. This is our Workers Compensation Insurance carrier. Our rate increase will be 0.27% or \$237 for fiscal year 2017/18, a lot less than previously thought.
5. Director Stephenson –No report.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

At 7:20 P.M. The Board went into closed session:

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (a): to receive any updates on pending litigation (Grizzell, et al. v. Penn Valley Fire Protection District Board).

AND:

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6: Memorandum of Understanding Negotiations between Penn Valley Fire Protection District and Nevada County Professional Firefighters Local 3800.

At 8:20 P.M. the board came out of closed session and reported: No action taken and nothing to report on pending litigation, and regarding MOU negotiations the board gave the Negotiating Board Committee direction to move forward with the Negotiating Local 3800 Firefighters Committee.

**INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

(refer to red correspondence book)

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Board adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Hughes  
Clerk to the Board

Public\Board meeting minutes\16-17 05-02-17