

Penn Valley Fire Protection District  
**PENN VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 12, 2018

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Penn Valley Fire Protection District was called to order by Chairman Farrell at 6:33 P.M. at Station 43. Lieutenant Bryan Mathena led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken.

**PRESENT**

Directors: David Farrell, Kurt Grundel, Joey Jordan, Terry McMahan and Bruce Stephenson (at 7:30 P.M.)

Absent: None

Board Clerk: Debbie Hughes

Others: Chief Wagner, Finance Administrator Thelen, Dr. Julie Cox (fitness instructor) and firefighters.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Dr. Cox teaches Qi Gong classes at Western Gateway Park Saturday mornings. She doesn't charge for the class but asks for donations for local charities including the fire department. She had \$542.00 in donations from class members to present tonight. The Board was very appreciative.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Director McMahan motioned to approve the consent calendar as presented. Director Grundel seconded. Motion unanimously carried.

**NEVADA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION**

Chief Wagner reported on the meeting last week. Discussed items were:

- June 11<sup>th</sup> dooryard burn permits were suspended.
- There was a townhall meeting last night in Nevada City regarding wildfire season and river safety. Chief attended along with Director McMahan and other agencies. The UC Field Station reported they have a method they use to see how bad the fire season could be. It consists of cutting and weighing grass of the same size area each year. Last year was a record year and so far, it looks like this year will top it.
- The Grass Valley Police Department is working with the Nevada County Sheriff's Office on the homeless situation especially with fires escaping.
- Yesterday the Chief, Captain Thomas and Director McMahan participated in an active shooter training with the Nevada County Sheriff's Office and other agencies. Lt. Mathena

showed the Board the protective gear the firefighters would wear for this kind of emergency.

- The two wildland urban interface drills were an enormous success. There were lots of participants from neighboring agencies.

### **NEVADA COUNTY FIRE AGENCY (NCFA)**

Director Grundel reported that they will meet to approve the 2018/19 preliminary budget this month.

### **LAFCO**

Director Grundel said they've passed their preliminary budget for 2018/19.

### **PENN VALLEY FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION**

PVFFA President Dennis Bertolucci reported the last breakfast was held on the rodeo weekend and 209 customers were served. There is \$3,370 from donations in the paramedic scholarship program.

### **FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

In addition to the report in packet Chief Wagner said:

- We had a structure fire in LWW that ran through the attic. When crews arrived, the roof was collapsing so it was fought defensively.
- There was a river drowning last week.
- Part-time person Moses Minnock has been hired full-time as a firefighter/EMT for now but will have his paramedic license by September or August.
- Lieutenant Mathena hired four new interns and still has two more to interview. Of the four already hired, three of them were the top performers at Butte Fire Academy. Intern Oscar Oregel-Torres has been hired for part-time.
- As mentioned in the NCFCA report the LWW WUI drill was successful, we've had positive feedback and no complaints even though it was on Memorial Day weekend. Only a handful of participants knew what the scenarios consisted of and each group had a proctor.

### **Emergency Medical Services and Fire Prevention**

In addition to report in packet Captain Thomas added:

- Our response times were extremely tight for a couple of months. S-SVEMS gave us an exemption for April. After talking with SNA Manager Rob Riley, we gave up approximately \$100,000 in revenue last year for mutual aids. We have received more than budgeted in ambulance revenue. We budgeted \$320,000 and at June 12<sup>th</sup> we have \$428,863 (after paying the costs to Wittman for their service).
- Captain Thomas has been doing inspections on hazard vegetation complaints. He's also talked with a couple of road associations to help them be compliant by using their association in a global way, instead of individual complaints, to clear the roadways. The Nevada County Board of Supervisors adopted the ordinance without considering staffing

or time for inspections. The Ordinance states fire departments are supposed to handle large parcels and roadway clearances. Cal Fire and Nev Co. Inspector's jobs are to inspect individual homeowner parcels. Captain Thomas is inspecting on a complaint driven, as time allows basis.

### **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

#### **VI-1 Review and Adoption of 2018/19 Preliminary Budget**

Finance Administrator Thelen and Fire Chief Wagner presented the budget. The operating budget for expense is \$68,701 more than our revenue currently but there are still unknown factors such as property tax increases and Prop 172 fund. In 2017/18 in the preliminary budget we had negative \$104,000, but we are going to have a higher than expected carry-over. Ambulance and strike team revenue were much higher than budgeted for; M. Thelen foresees at least a \$200,000 carryover. We prepare a very conservative budget with expenses based on worst case scenarios and revenues low. PG&E is much lower as we plan on having the solar panels installed. Director Jordan motioned to approve the preliminary budget for fiscal year 2018/19. Director Grundel seconded. Motion unanimously carried.

D. Hughes explained that the next two resolutions are standard that we adopt every year.

#### **VI-2 - Approval of Resolution 2018-05 Authorizing the County of Nevada to Collect our Fire Suppression Benefit Assessment Fee for Fiscal Year 2018/19**

Director McMahan motioned to approve Resolution 2018-05. Director Grundel seconded. Motion unanimously carried.

#### **VI-3 - Approval of Resolution 2018-06 Authorizing the County of Nevada to Collect our Special Taxes for Ambulance, Rescue and First Aid Services for Fiscal Year 2018/19**

Director Grundel motioned to approve Resolution 2018-06. Director McMahan seconded. Motion unanimously carried.

#### **VI-4 – Approval of Resolution 2018-07 Establishing the Appropriations Limit for Fiscal Year 2018/19**

D. Hughes explained that because of the Gann Limit adoption in 1980, limits are placed on the amount of tax proceeds that State and local agencies, including special districts can appropriate each year. The limit is adjusted each year for inflation and population changes. The appropriation limit for 2018/19 is \$280,137. The Resolution is approved and adopted annually by the board and then every four years we go to the voters. Director Jordan motioned to approve Resolution 2018-07. Director Stephenson seconded. Motion unanimously carried.

**VI-5 – Approval of Resolution 2018-08 Calling General District Election for Two Director Positions**

Two Director positions will be up December 2018, so we must ask the Nevada County Elections Department to include this on the general elections ballot in November. Director McMahan motioned to approve Resolution 2018-08. Director Grundel seconded. Motion unanimously carried.

**VI-6 – Approval of Resolution 2018-09 Request Electorate to Approve and Increase the Appropriation Limit for the Next Four Years**

D. Hughes explained that every four years we go before the voters in accordance with Article VIII B of the California Constitution and ask them if we can spend the revenues we've already collected. There's no monetary impact to the voters at all; we need to educate the voters that this only allows us to spend the money they've already authorized us to collect. The resolution must be to the Elections Department by July 4<sup>th</sup>. The wording that we may use for the ballot is #7 of the resolution and this must be at the Nevada County Election Department by August 17<sup>th</sup> so we can review in July and August, if need be. Director Grundel motioned to approve Resolution 2018-09. Director Jordan seconded. Motion unanimously carried.

**VI-7 – Rough and Ready Fire Protection District's Proposal to Buy Surplus Engine 93-01 (1993 Pierce Lance Type 1)**

At the March 2018 Board meeting Captain Miller noted in his apparatus report that Engine 45 was no longer needed. At the May Board meeting Chief Wagner brought it to the Board to declare surplus and sell. A vendor has since given a rough estimated value of \$12,000 with no guarantee how long it would take to sell. Captain Pettee (R&RFPD) said they have two apparatus with mechanical issues and his department may be interested in purchasing E93-01. He brought to his Board and they directed him to send us an e-mail with a \$7,500 offer. K. Grundel motioned to approve Rough and Ready FPD's offer. B. Stephenson seconded. Motion unanimously carried. The board was pleased it could be used by a local neighboring agency.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORTS**

1. Chairman Farrell – He helped at the breakfast last month and thought it went well considering the crowd was larger. He said Lt. Bertolucci and Director McMahan did an excellent job. He attended the opening day ceremony at Sierra College Fire Academy May 8<sup>th</sup> and was disappointed that we didn't have an engine there. Director Jordan also attended.
2. Vice-Chairman Grundel – No report.
3. Director Jordan – No report.
4. Director McMahan – He agreed the breakfast was hectic but still went well.
5. Director Stephenson – No report.

**INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

(refer to red correspondence book)

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

None

**CLOSED SESSION**

At 8:00 the board entered closed session under: Government Code Section 54957.6 Discussion regarding Memorandum of Negotiations between Penn Valley Fire Protection District and Office Staff Employees and a Contract with the Fire Chief.

**ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION**

At 9:39 the board came out of closed session. Chairman Farrell reported that the action taken was K. Grundel motioned to approve the 07/01/2018 -06/30/2020 MOU with Office Staff as presented by the Negotiating Committee. J. Jordan seconded. Motion unanimously carried. Direction was given to the Negotiating Committee to meet and finalize a new contract with the Fire Chief.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The board adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Hughes  
Clerk to the Board