

Penn Valley Fire Protection District
PENN VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 1, 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. Chief Wagner led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken.

PRESENT

Directors: David Farrell, Kurt Grundel, Joey Jordan, Terry McMahan and Bruce Stephenson

Absent: None

Board Clerk: Debbie Hughes

Others: Chief Wagner, Finance Administrator Thelen, Penn Valley Hi-Grader's Lions Club Members President Carol Puphal, Vice President Bruce Puphal, Dan Emmerich, Shirley Emmerich, Faustino Cardona, Lynda Cardona and Jim Becker.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Penn Valley Lions Club President Carol Puphal said their club wanted to help with our Paramedic Scholarship Program. She presented Chief Wagner with a \$1,500 check. Our Firefighter's Association is a non-profit 301C, so the money is donated to them and kept in a separate accounting for the scholarship program. Chief Wagner said there's going to a firefighter boot for donations at the monthly breakfast. He's also writing an article for The Wildwood Independent about the program and informing people how they can donate if they wish.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The minutes were pulled for a couple of corrections. Director Grundel motioned to approve the minutes with the corrections that were discussed. Director McMahan seconded. Motion unanimously carried. Director Jordan motioned to approve the rest of the consent calendar as presented. Director Stephenson seconded. Motion unanimously carried.

NEVADA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Chief Wagner reported on the meeting this morning. Discussed items were:

- The Hazardous Vegetation Abatement Order needs modification for identifying which agencies are responsible for inspections and violations.
- Nevada County Office of Emergency Services (OES) – They are hosting two tabletop evacuation exercises for fire, rescue, law enforcement and security personnel at Lake of the Pines May 8th and at Lake Wildwood May 16th.

- The Fire Safe Council – The Executive Board is working through some issues. They have recently had 3 Directors; 1 Associate Director and the Office Manager resign.
- Cal Fire –
 1. They will be installing Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) systems in the NEU unit on their apparatus. The system consists of cellular phones, VH radios, satellites and mobile computers. It allows the Grass Valley Emergency Command Center (ECC) to see all emergency vehicle locations in the NEU unit and who's entering the unit to better track closest resources. Local government will be able to piggyback on these, but they are very expensive at approximately \$7,000 per system.
 2. Burn permits were required as of May 1st.
 3. Fire season opens May 11th and they're expected to have peak staffing by June 11th. Aircraft will be staffed at the ECC airport late May.

NEVADA COUNTY FIRE AGENCY (NCFA)

Director Grundel said there's nothing new to report.

LAFCO

Director Grundel said the meeting this month will be focused on the 2018/19 budget.

PENN VALLEY FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

PVFFA President Dennis Bertolucci was responding to a medical emergency on the ambulance at the time of the meeting. It was noted there were approximately 90-100 people at the last breakfast. He will be calling a meeting soon for 2018/19 election of officers.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

In addition to report in packet Chief Wagner said:

- Service calls – We've had 10-15 more emergency calls since preparing this report; it was at 87 then. On 2 separate occasions we had 3 calls in one hour.
- Cal Fire is hosting two wildland urban interface drills that will be simulated fire attacks at Alta Sierra May 20th and Lake Wildwood May 27th. Part of that will include testing of Code Red and the wireless notification system. Captain Thomas will assist Chief Wagner with the LWW training which falls in line with medic leader overhead strike teams. Other PVFPD personnel will assist at LWW.
- On April 17th Nevada County and AMR in Placer County were out of ambulances. There were 7 calls in 5 minutes.
- We had an ambulance participate in the MCI training hosted by Nevada County Consolidated Fire on 4/21.
- Medic 43 had mechanical issues that resulted in down time, towing charges and costs to repair at \$7,300.
- The operating budget has a \$30,000 line item that is transferred to the building and equipment fund annually. Chief said he'd like to pay off the loan for Engine 43 which is mostly paid out of B&E. There's currently \$28,000 due. The board supported this decision.

- He will be gone May 10 through May 26 picking up the breathing air trailer that is being built in North Carolina. He talked with the Nevada County Health Dept about this as it's also a 31,000 KW generator and in case of a county-wide power failure could be used to keep the convalescent homes working until the patients are transferred. Patti Carter from the health dept thought this was a positive thing and will purchase the parts and junction boxes for the homes from grant money.
- Cal Fire is working with Cal Trans regarding the gates installed at Rex Reservoir Rd and Ponderosa Way that cross Highway 20 so that emergency personnel can make access there. Two years ago, there was a barn fire that was difficult to access. The surrounding fire districts that respond to this area could get together and write a letter to Cal Trans.
- The PVCRA's rodeo is May 18 and 19. We will have a staffed ambulance on medical standby and we'll also have an engine in the parade barring any emergencies.

Emergency Medical Services and Fire Prevention

In addition to report in packet Chief Wagner added:

- The Dollar General Store is moving forward with their store on Penn Valley Drive now that NID has increased the water flow. The EIR has already been submitted and approved.
- He conducted a propane tank inspection for a buried tank.
- Director Stephenson added: The big building on Penn Valley Dr. that used to be the big red barn is going to get use permits for an auto shop, wine tasting and a beer brewery. The owner made a presentation to the Penn Valley Chamber.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

VI-1 **Change Date of June Board Meeting.**

The Board concurred since there's an election on June 5th and the Elections Dept uses our building to change the board meeting to June 12th.

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

- A. Resolution 2018-03 - Consideration of Consumer Price Index (CPI) Adjustment to the Fire Suppression Benefit Assessment Fee

Chairman Farrell opened the meeting to a public hearing. The board agreed at last month's board meeting that to keep up with inflation we need to adjust the Consumer Price Index as allowed by the ballot language which is the adjustment of Bay Area Cities CPI or 3.0%, whichever is less. Chairman Farrell closed the public hearing. Director Grundel motioned to approve Resolution 2018-03. Director McMahan seconded. By a roll call vote motion unanimously carried.

- B. Resolution 2018-04 Consideration of Consumer Price Index (CPI) Adjustment to the Special Tax – Rescue

Chairman Farrell opened the meeting to a public hearing. The board agreed at last month's board meeting that to keep up with inflation we need to adjust the Consumer Price Index as allowed by the ballot language which is the adjustment of U.S. Cities average CPI or 3.0%, whichever is less. Chairman Farrell closed the public hearing. Director Grundel motioned to approve Resolution 2018-04. Director Jordan seconded. By a roll call vote motion unanimously carried.

VI-3 - Budget Worksheets for Fiscal Year 2018/19

Finance Administrator Thelen commented on and answered questions about the 2018/19 budget worksheets. She said we are in good financial shape and looking at positive projections for revenue. Ambulance, strike team revenues, and property taxes have increased this past year and are still coming in. A conservative guesstimate is a 4.7% increase in revenues and a 3.6% increase in expenses. There are still two more months of activity for this fiscal year so there should be a closer projection for the June board meeting when we review this as a preliminary budget.

VI-4 - Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) Ballot for Special District Member Election

Director Grundel's recommendation is to vote for Nick Wilcox, the incumbent who represents Nevada Irrigation District. He believes a representative from a fire district and one from a utility district is a good mix. He also said Nick Wilcox has contributed a lot to LAFCo as a special district representative and should continue to. Director Jordan motioned to select and vote for Nick Wilcox for Special District Representative for LAFCo. Director Stephenson seconded. Motioned unanimously carried.

VI-5 – Discussion on Spending (Appropriation) Limit Wording for the November 7, 2018 Ballot and Consideration of Appointing Committee for this

Office Administrator Hughes explained that every 4 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. Four years ago, some of the Directors wished to change the language on the ballot to make it more understandable, but the time frame had expired. 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. Director Jordan said we 'll need to be proactive, and that she'd also look at this regarding the wording and get back to me.

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

1. Chairman Farrell – No report.
2. Vice-Chairman Grundel – No report.
3. Director Jordan – The Fire Academy at Sierra College is having a public ribbon cutting Tuesday, May 8th.
4. Director McMahan – He attended a newly formed fire-wise coalition meeting earlier tonight. New Cal Fire Unit Chief J. Mathias along with Nevada County Fire Protection

Planner M. Furtado were there and will continue to participate in this. The hazardous vegetation abatement order will be discussed for improvements. The Board of Supervisors met today regarding the upcoming cannabis order. There's no fire codes referenced in the order which concerns fire agencies. An emergency ordinance will probably be passed so growers can get their State License this year.

5. Director Stephenson – The Penn Valley Northridge Restaurant hosted a night where 10% of all money collected would be donated to the District. He was disappointed there were no firefighters in attendance. There was a different night for Rough and Ready Fire and they were out in full force. Office Administrator said she emailed the whole department, but it was approximately 3 weeks earlier than the event. Next time she'll remind everyone again closer to the date.

INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

(refer to red correspondence book)

GOOD OF THE ORDER

None

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:55 the board entered closed session under:

1. 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.
2. Government Code Section 54956.9 (c) Discussion of Possible Initiation of Litigation.

ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION

At 9:05 the board came out of closed session. Action taken on Item #1 was that Director Stephenson and Chairman Farrell were given direction to meet with the employees. No action was taken on Item #2.

ADJOURNMENT

The board adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Hughes
Clerk to the Board