

August 10, 2021 Tuesday @ 6:00 PM
SIERRA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT # 1
FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING AGENDA MINUTES
FIRE STATION 82, SIERRAVILLE CA

THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED IN PERSON AND VIA “CONFERENCE CALL”. THOSE WISHING TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELEPHONE SHOULD CALL (701) 802-5316 AND USE ACCESS CODE 5188908.

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 pm

Roll Call of Commissioners

{ X } Tom Rowson, Chairperson { X } Richard Maddalena { X } Laurie Belli { X } Tom Archer
{ X } Candy Hunter { X } Shawn Burt { X } Jeff McCollum

Quorum **Yes/No**

Chairperson Rowson gave the oath of office to newly appointed Commissioner Jeff McCollum.

PUBLIC INTRODUCTION: Mick Connolly, Fire Chief and John Mitchell. Kelly Champion, Clerk- Absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT: John Mitchell provided the Commission with an opinion piece on the need and use of personal fire extinguishers. The piece shares his concerns for his property in light of recent fires in adjacent communities. He plans to donate an extinguisher to the Calpine Volunteers.

Mr. Mitchell further provided the Commission with an update on the recent meeting of the Calpine Volunteer Fire Department. He reports they have 37 dues paying members and are in the process of redefining by-laws and officer titles. He stated the Sierraville group is interested in being under the umbrella non-profit but expressed a strong desire for full autonomy. Discussion followed. Chairperson Rowson thanked Mr. Mitchell for his handouts and time.

MINUTES APPROVAL: Approval of the Minutes: 7/13/21 Commissioner Burt moved to approve the 7/13/21 minutes, Commissioner Hunter seconded. 5 Ayes (Maddalena, Archer, Hunter, Burt, Rowson) 2 Abstain (Belli, McCollum) motion passed.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

1. Review P&L, Balance Sheet, Report of Funds as of July 31, 2021 **H Commissioner Belli moved to approve the financial statements, Commissioner Burt seconded. 7 Ayes (Maddalena, Belli, Archer, Hunter, Burt, McCollum, Rowson) motion passed.**
2. Approve Bill Payments **H Commissioner Maddalena questioned a mileage reimbursement request. Discussion followed with Commissioner Archer stating we need to review our reimbursement policy. After review of the facts presented, it was agreed this reimbursement for mileage would constitute pay for travel to and from “work”. Mileage from the station is covered under District policy.**

REPORTS & REQUESTS FROM DISTRICT CHIEF, BATTALION CHIEFS AND EMS COORDINATOR:

1. Chief's Report (Response Summary, Fleet, Communications System, Faculties) (Mick)
2. Training / Recruitment/ Retention (Mick)
3. EMS (Mick)
4. Medical Supplies

Chief Connolly reported on the Dixie Fire as well as a review of local incidents. He reported the new command vehicle has had the radios installed. He further reported there has been a problem with the Babbit Repeater. He further reported on dispatching issues as the district dispatcher now has full-time work commitments which may necessitate change. He also reported on communication training on interfacing with UFSF as well as pre-plan tac channels.

Commissioner Maddalena stated the volunteers utilizing the upstairs training office at station 84 have requested the District purchase an air conditioning as the intense heat precludes use of the space during hot summer days. Commission Archer mover to purchase an air conditioner for such use not to exceed \$600. Chairman Rowson seconded the motion. 7 Ayes (Maddalena, Belli, Archer, Hunter, Burt, McCollum, Rowson) motion passed.

Chief Connolly stated there are 21 volunteers currently on the roster. He reported on a Cal OES preposition paid staffing plan recently put in place which will allow local staffing for high fire situations. He states this is a 24-hour staffing commitment and this program will ensure we can staff a local engine during red flag situations. He states this is a daily request submitted to OES with approval coming the day of the request allowing time for staffing assignments.

5. Discussion/Action: Purchase printer and supplies to print IDs for incidents (Mick) **Commissioner Archer moved to approve the purchase of equipment not to exceed \$900. Commissioner Burt seconded. 7 Ayes (Maddalena, Belli, Archer, Hunter, Burt, McCollum, Rowson) motion passed.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Status of appeal for fire services rendered during the Loyalton Fire (Rick/Kelly) **Commissioner Maddalena stated Tim Beals sent a letter of support with our last appeal. The appeal seems more likely to be approved.**
2. Update on Calpine Siding Project **Commissioner Rowson reported the siding has been completed on Station 84 and Commissioner Maddalena reported it looks really nice.**
3. Update on PSPS Grant/generator install in Calpine and Sierraville (Rick) **Commissioner Maddalena states the permits have been submitted to the county and the generators are sitting at the stations awaiting permitting and then installation. He reports the required flood plain, base elevation surveys have been completed as well.**
4. Update on AFG Grant for turnout gear **Commissioner Maddalena reports we are still in the running for approval on this grant which would fund the purchase of 10 sets of turnouts for around \$54,000.**
5. Discussion/Action: Approve contract with Mick Connolly for services rendered as a Training, Recruitment and Retention Consultant (Tom R.) **H Chairperson Rowson reviewed the scope of work covered under this contract and Commissioner Archer reviewed the contract stating once insurance documents have been presented to the District, the contract will take effect. The contract is for \$1,000 per month with an annual insurance reimbursement of 50% of the policy not to exceed \$500. Commissioner Archer moved to approve the contract as presented. Commissioner Maddalena seconded. Roll call vote- Archer-yes, Maddalena-yes, McCollum-yes, Burt-yes, Hunter-yes, Rowson-yes, Belli-yes. Motion passed.**
6. Discussion/Action: Adopt Cooperative Agreement with Tahoe National Forest (Tom R./Rick) **H Discussion ensued. The contract calls for the district to have a current compensation policy. Commissioner Archer moved to adopt Resolution 2021-2 presented by Commissioner Maddalena an addendum to the current District 2014 Compensation Policy. Commissioner Belli seconded. 6 Ayes (Maddalena, Belli, Archer, Hunter, McCollum, Rowson) 1 Abstain (Burt) motion passed. Commissioner McCollum moved to adopt the Cooperative Agreement with the Tahoe National Forest as presented. Commissioner Belli seconded. 6 Ayes (Maddalena, Belli, Archer, Hunter, McCollum, Rowson) 1 Abstain (Burt) motion passed.**
7. Discussion/Action regarding reimbursement of District volunteers who worked the Sugar Fire/Beckwourth Complex incident on July 2, 2021 (Rick) **Chairperson Rowson presented the salary reimbursements from this incident response, stating there will be no cost recovery due to the lapse in cooperative agreement with TNF and Beckwourth Fire requested our response, not the USFS. Reimbursements presented total \$1,868.57 (table presented for payments to respective volunteers) less 12% worker compensation cost. Commissioner Belli moved to pay volunteers. Commissioner Archer seconded. 5 Ayes (Maddalena, Belli, Archer, Hunter, Rowson) 2 Abstain (Burt, McCollum) motion passed.**

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion/Action regarding the mutual aid agreement between TMFPD and Reno Fire (Candy) **Commissioner Hunter expressed concern that the cooperative agreement between these two agencies remains lapsed as of 6/30/21. Commissioner Archer felt we should abstain from getting involved. Commissioner Burt stated Commissioner Hunter's communication with Chief Moore serves to show our support and serves the interest of our District.**
2. Discussion/Action Truckee Meadows Fire District emergency fire ordinance pertaining to Verdi/Long Valley (Tom R.) **Chairperson Rowson stated the emergency fire ordinance pertaining to open flame bbq etc., passed by the Sierra County BOS, is under purview of the SCSO for enforcement. We have no agreement with TMFPD for enforcement. Discussion followed. No action taken**
3. Report of meeting with Tim Beals regarding collection and disbursement of mitigation fees and other District topics (Tom R./Rick) **Chairperson Rowson reported that Mr. Beals presented the Finance Committee with detailed collection of all permits issued and fees collected back to the inception of district impact fee ordinance. He reviewed the permits in which impact fees were due but not collected and stated invoices have gone out to the respective property owners; all fees remaining unpaid will be collected on the annual property tax assessment billing. Discussion revealed a breakdown in communication with the auditor's office with payment distribution to the District. It was suggested that the building department collect the fees in a separate check from building permit fees so that the District can clearly track fees collected and deposited. Mr. Beals agreed this seemed like a good solution for both the County and the District. He will check with county council to ensure there is no legal impediment to this solution. Commissioner Maddalena questioned Mr. Beals on the status of the updated County Emergency Response Plan and what the expectation of Fire District involvement would be? Mr. Beals stated the draft will be circulated soon and stated Fire Districts will need to be involved. Com. Maddalena**

stressed this would require a time, research and input commitment from the District. He stated evacuation plans are all risk. He further stated the evacuation plans done under the Firewise Community program are not binding. Commissioner Archer wondered if perhaps there was some grant money available for this under Prop. 1? Discussion followed.

Commissioner Maddalena asked Mr. Beals about the status of the nuisance complaint filed on 100 E. Main St. in Sierraville. Mr. Beals reported it is slated to go before the BOS next month.

Commissioner Maddalena stated Mr. Beals wants the old command Jeep returned to his office and that a new printer was given to the District under a Homeland Security agreement. The District Clerk is in possession of the printer and plans to use it when needed.

4. Discussion/Action regarding creating and adopting a deployment and reimbursement policy of SCFPD#1 Firefighters who respond to state and federal mutual aid requests (Tom A.) **This item was covered under the TNF Agreement.**
5. Report of Calpine “Auxiliary” meeting August 3, 2021 (Rick) **Commissioner Maddalena reported the meeting was very positive. He stated they are wrestling with incorporation of all communities and a long history of separate agencies. He stated they have approved \$2,500 for legal services to organize nonprofit 501c3 status. He states this will be an umbrella nonprofit and other communities who come under it will retain full autonomy. Discussion followed.**
6. Discussion/Action regarding purchase of used brush truck to replace brush truck at Station 84 (Rick) **Commissioner Maddalena reviewed options. It was decided the Commission would appoint an Apparatus Committee comprised of Commissioners Burt, McCollum, Maddalena and District Fire Chief Connolly. This will allow the District to move more efficiently into the bid and purchase process. Commissioner Maddalena moved to authorize the committee to research and purchase a Type 3 Engine, not to exceed \$12,000. Commissioner Burt seconded. 7 Ayes (Maddalena, Belli, Archer, Hunter, Burt, McCollum, Rowson) motion passed.**
7. Discussion/Action to form Apparatus Committee to identify the rolling stock needs of the District with the authority to make timely purchases, to consist of Chief and 2-3 Commissioners. **This item was covered in item 6 above.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS:

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: September 14, 2021 at 6:00pm in Sierraville

ADJOURNMENT: 8:39 pm

Key: T – Tabled from previous meeting H – Handout

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