

February 18, 2025 Tuesday @ 6:00 PM
SIERRA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT # 1
DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA

Location: Fire Station 82 @ 102 E Main Street, Sierraville, CA 96126 &
Verdi Old School: Firehouse History Center (rear building) 165 Bridge Street, Verdi NV 89439
& 715 Moraine Court, Driggs, ID 83422

This meeting will be conducted in person and via video conference. Those who wish to attend via video conferencing should use the following link:

<https://sierracountyfireprotectiondistrictno1-771.my.webex.com/sierracountyfireprotectiondistrictno1-771.my/j.php?MTID=mddde8b46ce168ff8ac4b69f6ae37718d>

Meeting No. 2554 452 4695, Passcode: Sierra

CALL TO ORDER: 6:02 pm

Roll Call of Directors

{X} Tony Commendatore, Chairperson **remote** {X} Thomas Archer, Vice-Chair **Chair** {X} Tom Rowson
{X} Candy Hunter **remote** {X} Laurie Belli {X} Jeff McCollum {X} Richard Maddalena **remote**
Quorum **Yes/No**

Staff Present: Clerk Champion, Chief Connolly

PUBLIC INTRODUCTION Volunteers Phil Sifers and Ben Edwards

PUBLIC COMMENT: Matters under jurisdiction of the Sierra County Fire Protection District #1, and not on the agenda, may be addressed by the Public at the beginning of the regular agenda and any off-agenda matters before the Board for consideration. However, California law prohibits the Board from taking action on any matter which is not on the posted agenda. Any member of the public wishing to address the Board during the "Public Comment" period will be limited to a maximum of five minutes.

None

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Fire Hazard Severity Zones
2. Sierra County Community Wildfire Protection Plan

MINUTES APPROVAL: Approval of the Minutes: 11/19/24 and 1/21/25

Dir. McCollum moved to approve the 11/19/24 minutes, Dir. Rowson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Commendatore- Aye, Hunter- Abstain, Belli- Abstain, Rowson- Aye, Archer- Aye, McCollum- Aye, Maddalena-Absent. Motion passed.

Dir. Hunter asked that the January minutes be revised to read that Belli, Hunter and Maddalena were appointed as Financial Committee. Dir. Commendatore moved to approve the minutes with the revision, Dir. Belli seconded. Roll Call Vote: Commendatore-Aye, Hunter-Aye, Belli-Aye, Rowson-Aye, Archer-Aye, McCollum-Aye, Maddalena-Absent. Motion passed.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

1. Review P&L, Balance Sheet, Report of Funds as of January 31, 2025 **H Dir. Rowson asked for clarification regarding vehicle repair costs and would like to see the reserves replenished from the operating account now that incident reimbursement funds had been received to the District. Clerk replied she will return \$50,000 to Live Oak savings and \$90,000 to Plumas Bank savings to replace funds borrowed for volunteer prepayments.**
2. Approve Bill Payments including City of Loyalton contract payment **H Dir. Rowson moved to approve item 1 & 2 of Financial Statement, Dir. McCollum seconded. Roll Call Vote: Commendatore-Aye, Hunter-Aye, Belli-Aye, Rowson-Aye, Archer-Aye, McCollum-Aye, Maddalena-Aye. Motin passed.**

Clerk pointed out an error in the calculation presented, noting that the County Property Tax Roll Fees needed to be deducted from the total allocable revenues. The FY 24/25 contract payment #1 of 3 is revised to be \$26,612.97. Dir. McCollum moved to approve the payment as corrected, Dir. Maddalena seconded. Roll Call Vote: Commendatore-Aye, Maddalena-Aye, Hunter-Aye, Belli-Aye, Rowson-Aye, Archer-Aye, McCollum-Aye. Motion passed.

3. Update on Prepositioning and Incident Response Reimbursements **H Dir. Belli asked that the incident response receivables be included on the financial statements.**

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

1. Chief's Report (Response Summary, Fleet, Communications System, Facilities) **Runs: 4 medical, 2 fire, 4 training. Fleet: WT84 & WT83 both have new tires, E282 still under repair.**
2. Training / Recruitment/ Retention **Upcoming training with Beckwourth and REACH, Operator 1A 6-7, 7-8, 14-15. Pump operations 7-12 & 13. Moral issues around TdM and turbulence regarding the labor provided and the lack of monies passed on to the district/firefighters.**
3. Mutual aid agreement with Beckwourth Peak District **In progress.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Discussion regarding 2025 Tour de Manure **Chair Commendatore reported that his meeting with the ESFA President did not go as expected. Dir. Archer spoke of trust and transparency issues. The Board received comments from the volunteers present noting that they felt that the ESFA wanted the volunteers support for the event but did not want to support the volunteers back. Chief Connolly commented that the support transaction with the interim TdM sponsor was simple and easy. Dir. Rowson said there needed to be more communication between the District, volunteers and ESFA. Dir. Hunter suggested that a written list of needs, prioritized and matching proceeds from last year's event, be presented to ESFA. It was agreed to reach out to meet with the ESFA's entire board and a committee from SCFPD#1 to discuss the concerns and move forward with positive intentions.**
2. Discussion regarding TMFPD contract renewal (Candy) **Dir. Hunter reviewed the terms of the proposed agreement. Dir. Archer asked for clarification on the insurance requirements.**
3. Discussion regarding Station 84 Improvements **Volunteer Sifers and Dir. Maddalena reviewed the status of the open building permit and stated that the original plans had not been finalized. The Chair appointed Dir. McCollum to form a committee to steer the project forward.**
4. Update on FEPP Agreement – potential opportunity to acquire water tender and side-by-side (Mick/Rick) **Chief Connolly would like to seek a Type I water tender and a side-by-side with tracks. It was agreed to move this item to the Chiefs Report.**
5. 2025 Priorities Assessment **H In progress, tabled to next meeting.**
6. Verdi siren project (Candy) **The Willow siren was taken down with local help and brought to the Station to test and it works. It was agreed to table the item until further notice.**

NEW BUSINESS:

1. SSFRS Sattley generator request **The SSFRS group has requested that the District install a generator for the water tanks pumphouse and agreed to pay for the purchase and installation of the generator, an automatic transfer switch and a propane tank at an estimated cost of \$12,000. It was the consensus of the Board to obtain a quote and move forward with the permitting. Dir. Rowson sought clarification on the capacity and hydrant flow to see if there was a need for another storage tank.**
2. Update to Financial Policy regarding investments (Tom R/Kelly) **Dir. Rowson presented updates to the Financial Policy to recognize interest rate risk and credit risk in response to a prior year audit note. The update included a Fire Chief Deployment Credit Card limit increase from \$2,000 to \$3,000. Clerk Kelly asked to add a card for the Purchasing Aid with a \$2,000 limit so they were not using the Chief's card. Dir. Rowson moved to approve the updates as presented plus the suggested Purchasing Aid credit card, Dir. Hunter seconded. Roll Call Vote: Commendatore-Aye, Hunter-Aye, Belli-Aye, Rowson-Aye, Archer-Aye, McCollum-Aye, Maddalena-Aye. Motion passed.**
3. Resolution 2025-2, Adoption of Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Procedures (Tom A) **Dir. Archer reviewed the resolution and potential benefit of having such adopted procedures. Chair Commendatore moved to adopt Resolution 2025-2, Dir. McCollum seconded. Roll Call Vote: Maddalena-Aye, Commendatore-Aye, Huner-Aye, Belli-Aye, Rowson-Aye, Archer-Aye, McCollum-Aye. Motion passed.**

4. Salary Survey-Assist Chief in annual salary update/March revision **The procedure for the Cal OES Salary Survey was discussed and direction was given to Chief Connolly to bring any updates and/or the expected March revision to the Board for approval.**
5. Review of Capital Improvement Plan **Direction was given to the Clerk to reach out to Hansford Economic Consulting to get the current CCI and to understand the requirements around a 5-year review along with obtaining a proposal to update the Nexxus Study.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS:

Sierra County Multi-Agency Hazard Mitigation Plan meeting 2/25/25 (Rick) **Dir. Maddalena updated the Board on the progress saying the committee is in the data collection phase to review inventory and check readiness to respond to hazards.**

The Clerk asked that the Board return to Item 2 under the Financial Statements, please see minutes regarding City of Loyalton contract payment above.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: March 18, 2025 at 6:00 pm at the Sierraville School? **Station 82**

ADJOURNMENT: 8:33 pm

Key: **T** – Tabled from previous meeting **H** –Handout

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