

January 16, 2024 Tuesday @ 6:00 PM
SIERRA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT # 1
DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA MINUTES

Location: Fire Station 82 @ 102 E Main Street, Sierraville, CA 96126

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: 5:55 pm

Roll Call of Directors

{X} Tony Commendatore, Chairperson {X} Tom Archer {X} Tom Rowson {X} Richard Maddalena
{ } Candy Hunter **attending remote, not participating** {X} Victoria Fisher, Vice Chair { } Jeff McCollum **absent**
Quorum **Yes/No**

PUBLIC INTRODUCTION: Jason LaChance, Zack Stockdale, Paul Roen, Chief Connolly, Clerk Kelly Champion

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.

Jason LaChance introduced himself as a candidate running for the office of Sierra County Superior Court Judge. Supervisor Roen introduced Zack Stockdale of the USFS and provided a handout of a draft interim map for the Sierra County Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update. The map identified a three-mile threat/ treatment zone surrounding the communities to be prioritized for fuels reduction. The Board was in agreement with the three-mile radius as shown on the map presented. Sup. Roen thanked the District and Mr. Stockdale, saying he was instrumental in the Filippini Road helicopter dip tank project and noted that the County was willing to partner on a second dip tank project in Sierraville near the hot springs.

CORRESPONDENCE: Miscellaneous correspondence discussed was information regarding the City of Loyalton fire department, a boot drive fundraiser opportunity, the EPHC policy for prehospital volunteer supplies and the SAM registration renewal.

MINUTES APPROVAL: Approval of the Minutes: 12/19/23 **Dir. Rowson pointed out two corrections to the minutes: Rowson and Maddalena were in attendance in December and needed an "X" mark next to their name in the Roll Call box and Unfinished Business, Item 1 to remove the words "helicopter landing" and replace with "helicopter dip tank". Clerk to make the corrections. Dir. Archer moved to approve the minutes as corrected, Dir. Rowson seconded. 5 Ayes (Commendatore, Archer, Rowson, Maddalena, Fisher), 2 Absent (McCollum, Hunter), motion passed.**

FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

1. Review P&L, Balance Sheet, Report of Funds as of December 31, 2023 **H**
2. Approve Bill Payments **H**
3. Update on Fire Mitigation Fees **H**

Dir. Maddalena moved to accept the financials and pay the bills with the addition of volunteer Hoyos reimbursement of \$89.90, Dir. Archer seconded. 5 Ayes (Commendatore, Archer, Rowson, Maddalena, Fisher), 2 Absent (McCollum, Hunter), motion passed.

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

1. Chief's Report (Response Summary, Fleet, Communications System, Facilities)
2. Training / Recruitment/ Retention **Chief Connolly reported on responses, the Sheriff's department has been understaffed and there has not been any movement on communication updates, Station 82 needed service to the sensor eyes on one of the overhead doors and some new transmitters, recent and upcoming trainings on new firehouse software, looking to purchase quarter-zip job shirts.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Update on Radio Replacement Project (Rick) **Dir. Maddalena reported that there may be grant opportunities in the future through FEMA for handheld radios. There was discussion with Chief Connolly regarding the older BKS and Kenwood radios. It was acknowledged that the District needed to streamline and purchase new handhelds and more of the newer apparatus radios.**
2. Approval of Banner Quote (Work Order #1410) for Radios for \$33,812.59 (Mick/Ben) **Work Order #1410 was presented for the purchase of 4 mobile radios for apparatus and 8 handheld radios including various accessories. Dir. Archer moved to approve Work Order #1410 not to exceed \$33,812.59 and use funds budgeted for Operating Supplies and Equipment towards the purchase, Dir. Fisher seconded. Dir. Maddalena sought further clarification on the older Kenwood radios and their usefulness. 5 Ayes (Commendatore, Archer, Rowson, Maddalena, Fisher), 2 Absent (McCollum, Hunter), motion passed.**
3. Discussion of Hill Lane realignment (Candy) **T Dir. Hunter reported on this item combined with New Business, Item #4 - Feedback from Verdi Firewise. There was a handout with notes from the Verdi area neighbors' meeting held on November 20th that Dir. Hunter attended with more than 24 residents in attendance. Firewise provided Go-Bags and miscellaneous information and discussion followed regarding the Hill Fire evacuation and Hill Lane extension. Dir. Hunter updated the Board that the USFS acknowledged an egress road and indicated pressure on the County may help further efforts towards resolution.**
4. Update regarding County MSAG update/ 911NET databases and assisting with evacuation planning (Rick) **T No update, in progress.**

NEW BUSINESS:

1. 2024 Capital Improvement Plan Review **H The Board discussed future project ideas such as a Sattley station generator, station maintenance needs and Verdi water storage. There was a consensus to add a helicopter dip tank near the Sierraville airport and bring a draft update for consideration at the next meeting, and set the Pubic Hearing on the matter during the March meeting.**
2. Tour de Manure 2024 Agreement with Eastern Sierra Firefighter Auxiliary (Tom A) **The non-profit group was considering a draft MOU similar to the previous one used with the difference of no profit sharing of proceeds. Chair Commendatore noted an increase in event insurance costs for the sponsor. Board to discuss further the mission statement of the auxiliary at the next meeting.**
3. Approval of Letter to Caltrans for TdM (Tom A) **Dir. Archer made a motion to authorize Chair Commendatore to sign a letter to Caltrans on behalf of the District for permitting purposes, letter drafted by Mike Blide, Dir. Rowson seconded. 5 Ayes, (Commendatore, Archer, Rowson, Maddalena, Fisher), 2 Absent (McCollum, Hunter), motion passed.**
4. Feedback From Verdi Firewise (Candy) **H Included in Unfinished Business, Item 3- see above.**
5. Draft 2023 Annual Accomplishment Report (Candy/Rick) **H The draft report was presented for review, final to be brought for approval at the next meeting.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS: Shelly Wright has receipts for Sierraville Fire Wise Title III Reimbursement

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: February 20, 2024 at 6:00pm in Sierraville

ADJOURNMENT: 7:50 pm

Key: T – Tabled from previous meeting H –Handout

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