

May 11, 2021 Tuesday @ 6:00 PM
SIERRA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT # 1
FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING AGENDA MINUTES
VFW HALL, 801 BRIDGE STREET, VERDI, NV

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: 6:04 pm

Roll Call of Commissioners

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

Quorum **Yes/No**

Kelly Champion, Clerk- present
Chief Connolly- present

PUBLIC INTRODUCTION: Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District’s Chief Moore and Deputy Chief Alex Kukulus joined the meeting for Public Comment. Sierra County Director of Planning and Building, Tim Beals attended. Ten members of the public from the Verdi area were also in attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Chairperson Rowson opened the meeting with thanks to everyone who organized the meeting and to everyone for coming. He introduced the Commissioners and Chief Connolly and then invited Chief Moore to introduce himself and his Deputy Chief. Various questions were asked from the public regarding Truckee Meadows Fire Protection operations in regards to Verdi/Long Valley fire protection. Public asked if the fire house across the street from the meeting location was operating and Chief Moore responded that there were currently no volunteers for the location. It was clarified that the District responded mainly to structure fires as opposed to wildland fires. Public inquired with Chief Moore about all the new construction in the area and if it would negate their capacity to respond to which Chief Moore said it does not because they are a very large District with a lot of Stations. Commissioner Hunter asked the public if the Dog Valley access road was still an issue and it was confirmed that it was blocked from a developer. Tim Beals said that Sierra County is working on a “no parking” ordinance for the tank storage area and that there was a legal issue the County was working on in regards to the developer blocking the access road. Public made comment that their homeowners’ insurance was cancelled three time in the last year. Various discussions ensued on insurance and ISO ratings and how to get help with the issue. Public asked if there could be an ordinance for property owners to clear brush and debris on properties. Tim Beals responded saying that the public could ask the District or the County to request Cal Fire to inspect the property or file a nuisance complaint with the County.

Commissioner Hunter announced that Truckee Meadows Fire & Rescue has launched a volunteer program called Community Connect. The program uses an online platform that allows residents and business owners to share critical information about their household to aid firefighters, paramedics and other emergency personnel to respond more efficiently and effectively. Residents can create a profile and share key information on access and occupants. The program can be accessed at <https://www.communityconnect.io/info/nv-truckeemeadows>.

Public Comment closed at 6:48

Chairperson Rowson asked for a motion to approve payment to the Loyalton Fire Department. Commissioner Archer moved to approve; Commissioner Belli seconded. 6 Ayes (Maddalena, Belli, Archer, Hunter, Burt, Rowson), motion passes.

Chair moved to discussion on the purchase of a 2008 Chevrolet ¾ ton extended cab from Cal Fire excess property fleet for \$6,000 as a Command vehicle. The truck is a 4wd with a camper and light package. It needs to emblems and a digital radio. Commissioner Archer moved to approve the purchase; Commissioner Hunter seconded. 6 Ayes (Maddalena, Belli, Archer, Hunter, Burt, Rowson), motion passes.

Chair moved to discussion regarding the completion of the metal siding on the Calpine Fire Station. Commissioner Maddalena presented the two proposals, one for 2 sides and one for 3 sides, and made mention that the contractor may not be able to work on the project until July. It was the consensus of the Commission to accept the proposal for the remaining 3 sides so the project would be complete.

Commissioner Maddalena moved to accept the proposal for \$21,950, Commissioner Belli seconded. 6 Ayes (Maddalena, Belli, Archer, Hunter, Rowson, Burt), motion passes.

Chair moved to review the status of generator purchases for Calpine and Sierraville stations from the PSPS Grant funds. Commissioner Maddalena stated that he was working on a couple monet saving options and that the deadline to expend the funds was moved to March 2022.

MINUTES APPROVAL: Approval of the Minutes: 4/13/21 **Commissioner Archer moved to approve the 4/13/21 minutes, Commissioner Hunter seconded. 5 Ayes (Maddalena, Belli, Archer, Hunter, Rowson), 1 Abstain (Burt) motion passes.**

FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

1. Review P&L, Balance Sheet, Report of Funds as of April 30, 2021 **H**
2. Approve Bill Payments including Loyalton Fire Department service area agreement payment **H Commissioner Maddalena moved to approve the payment of the bills presented, Commissioner Belli seconded. 6 Ayes (Maddalena, Belli, Archer, Hunter, Burt, Rowson), motion passes.**

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

1. Chief's Report (Response Summary, Fleet, Communications System, Faculties) (Mick) **Chief Connolly said he has implemented a new application that allows for volunteers to do an incident report from any mobile device. There had been a handful medical calls in the past month along with a vegetation fire from a burn pile, an illegal burn, and a new Loyalton Fire that was under investigation for possible arson.**
2. Training / Recruitment/ Retention (Mick) **Chief Connolly continues more training with volunteers on wildland initial attack and radio communications. He is joining with Graeagle Fire's training association for a training on structure fires and initial attack. Volunteer Ron Tucker is back.**
3. EMS (Mick)
4. Medical Supplies
5. Class B Uniforms/Status of resupply of uniform caps and T-shirts **Stuff is trickling in, things have been slow and hard to get.**
6. Re-number apparatus to match assigned stations **All but one rig (rescue) has been renumbered. A member of the public asked Chief Connolly to describe the training process and what is required of volunteers in regards to certifications etc. Connolly reviewed the Districts process and expressed that volunteerism has drastically dropped off in the US and particularly in the younger population.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Update on Website (Kelly, Mick) **Commissioner Maddalena has emailed Kelly photos and Chief Connolly has emailed Kelly content to be added to website.**
2. Status of appeal for fire services rendered during the Loyalton Fire (Rick/Kelly) **No update at the time.**
3. Discussion/Action regarding completion of metal siding on Calpine Fire Station (Rick) **Discussed above.**
4. Discussion of 2021/2022 Budget (Laurie) **Commissioner Belli said that the Finance Committee had developed a rough draft for the 21/22 Budget and would be meeting again prior to the next meeting to iron it out.**
5. Status of having dozers designated to SCFPD#1 for faster response and potential income source (Rick) **Commissioner Maddalena presented a draft of an updated agreement and pointed out two changes related to outdated information. The District is waiting to on updates from Mr. Roen.**
6. Status of generator purchase for Calpine and Sierraville stations from PSPS Grant funds (Rick) **Discussed above.**
7. Status of exploring budget feasibility and pay structure for District Chief compensation (Laurie) **Work in progress, with Finance Committee.**
8. Status of septic leak nuisance complaint (Tom R) **A letter from the District was sent to Sierra County. Tim Beals said there would probably be a hearing in June or July.**

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion/Status of Truckee Meadows Fire Protection allowing Verdi and Long Valley (Sierra County) into their newly developed Community Connect program. (Candy) **Commissioner Hunter discussed this topic during Public Comment.**
2. Approve purchase of 2008 Chev ¾ ton extended cab from Cal Fire excess property fleet for \$6,000 to replace Command vehicle **Discussed above.**
3. Discussion/Action regarding letter of support for Sierra Valley Community Fire Protection Project being proposed for funding through CalFire CCI, Fire Prevention Grant Program **Chairperson Rowson handed out the letter he drafted on behalf of the District to support the Project. Commissioner Archer moved to approve issuing the letter as presented, Commissioner Hunter seconded. 6 Ayes (Maddalena, Belli, Archer, Hunter, Burt, Rowson), motion passes.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS: There was a handout presented by Tim Beals, which was a letter from Stantec Consulting Services regarding a proposal to extend the underground fiber optic network coming down highway 395 from Prineville to Reno. Commissioner Maddalena said that an old co-op agreement between the District and the USFS had expired and it would be a topic for the next meeting. Commissioner Maddalena made honorable mention of long-time volunteer, Laverne Diltz, recently passed away.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: June 8, 2021 at 6:00pm in Sierraville

ADJOURNMENT: 7:33 pm