



# NEWCASTLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

## NOTICE OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**September 21, 2016 @ 6:00 P.M.**  
at: 461 Main St. Newcastle, CA 95658

### AGENDA

- 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:** Pledge of Allegiance
- 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**
- 3. BUDGET WORKSHOP:** REVIEW AND MAKE FINAL CHANGES TO 2016/2017 OPERATING BUDGET.
- 4. EXECUTIVE SESSION: (CLOSED)**
  - (A) Conference with Labor Negotiator (Gov. C. sec. 54957.6): Meeting with District's Labor Negotiator J. Elder and Kristianne Seargeant to discuss bargaining with NPFA re successor MOU.
  - (B) Fire Chief Recruitment (Gov. C. sec. 54957(b) (1)); Discuss Fire Chief recruitment and negotiations.
- 5. RECONVENE OPEN SESSION:**
- 6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
  - (A) August 10<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting
  - (B) August 17<sup>st</sup> Regular Meeting.
- 7. BILL APPROVAL:**
  - (A) Monthly Expense Report, FINANCIAL REPORT: Email Copy Available on Request. [info@newcastlefire.org](mailto:info@newcastlefire.org)
- 8. CORRESPONDENCE:**
  - (A) Water Quality Fees Newsletter from State Water Resources Board
  - (B) Letter Dated August 31<sup>st</sup> from Placer Hills Fire Protection District to Supervisor Jennifer Montgomery, Re: County Fire Service Funding.
- 9. Newcastle Professional Firefighter Association:**
- 10. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

(The Newcastle Fire Protection District Board of Directors has provided this period for members of the public to be given the opportunity to address the board on items of interest to the public, which are applicable to the district. No action may be taken on any matter, which is not already on the agenda for consideration. The reasonable time frame for public comment will be limited to three (3) minutes per person, unless specifically authorized otherwise by the Chair.)

**11. Informational / Non-Action Items:**

- (A) New Fire Station Update
  - 1. Progress Report.
  - 2. Presentation of all Costs as of September 1, 2016 incurred for the Building of the New Fire Station.
- (B) Ad Hoc Committee Report, to provide Alternatives/Options to the Canceled Agreement for Fire Chief and Administrative Services
  - 1. Update Board on discussions with Placer Hills Fire Protection District for Services.

**12. Action Items:**

- (A) Review, Modify if Necessary and Approve Response to Placer County Grand Jury.
- (B) Review, Modify if Necessary and Approve Data to Add to District Website.
- (C) Increase Number of Board Meetings from One to Two Each Month (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday) until December 21, 2016.
- (D) Review, Modify if Necessary and Approve Lease Agreement with the Newcastle Firefighter Volunteer Association for Lease of 1941 Van Pelt Antique Fire Engine.
- (E) Review Architectural Services Scope of Work and Proposals to Complete the New Fire Station.
- (F) Authorization to Proceed with Vegetation Removal from New Fire Station Site.
- (G) Approve \$500 Expenditure for Fire Prevention Supplies to be distributed to Newcastle School Children during Fire Prevention Week in October.
- (H) Adopt Final Operating Budget for FY 2016/2017.

**13. Board of Director Reports:**

**14. Meeting Adjourned:**

**NEXT TENTATIVE SPECIAL MEETING: WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 5, 2016**

**NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2016**

Accommodating those individuals with Special Needs:

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Newcastle Fire Protection District encourages those with disabilities to participate fully in the public meeting process. If you have a special need in order to allow you to attend or participate in our public meetings, please contact our office at (916) 663-3323, well in advance of the regular meeting you wish to attend so that we may make every reasonable effort to accommodate you.

# NEWCASTLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

## MONTHLY EXPENSE REPORT

MONTH OF August, 2016

	<u>FUND</u>	<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION:</u>
1	2939	Jim Jordan	\$25.00	Meeting
2	2939	Eric Sprouse	\$50.00	Meeting
3	2939	Jonita Elder	\$50.00	Meeting
4	2939	Rocky Robinson	\$25.00	Meeting
5	2939	Robin Enos	\$50.00	Meeting
6	2555	Gayle Capik	\$60.00	Clerk
7	2770	Dawson Oil	\$92.13	District Fuel
8	2965	PG&E	\$626.67	District Electric
9	1310	Kaiser	\$3,360.17	Health
10	1310	Principle Life	\$722.01	Dental
11	1310	United Healthcare	\$148.92	Vision
12	2051	AT&T	\$83.73	District Phones
13	2051	Wave Broadband	\$119.90	District Internet
14	2523	Sierra Morning Website Design	\$50.00	Web. Service
15	2422	Air Gas	\$30.63	Medical Oxygen
16	2770	Dobbas	\$381.71	District Fuel
17	2017	Advantage Gear	\$897.52	Employee Uniforms
18	2405	Meeks	\$80.33	Toilet Repairs and Toilet Deat
19	2555	LKMT&G	\$2,352.60	Legal Services
20	2522	Life Assist	\$38.24	Glucose
21	2051	Wave Broadband	\$119.90	District Internet
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36				
37				
38				
39				
40		<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$9,364.46</b>	

**RECEIVED**  
SEP 14 2016

BY: 

**Newcastle Fire Protection District**  
PO BOX 262  
Newcastle, CA 95658

**Questions About Your Storm Water Permit?**

If you have questions about the SMARTS database or your Storm Water permit, including how to terminate the permit, please contact the State Water Board's Storm Water Unit at [stormwater@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:stormwater@waterboards.ca.gov) or (866) 563-3107. The Storm Water Unit can assist dischargers with Construction, Industrial and Municipal Storm Water permit questions. If you have a question about your invoice, please contact the Fee Branch (contact information on Page 1).

**Questions About Your Waste Discharge Requirement (WDR) Invoice or Permit?**

Please contact the appropriate Regional Board directly with any questions about your invoice or your permit, including how to transfer or terminate the permit if it is no longer needed. WDR programs include: Waste Discharge Requirements, Land Disposal, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), Confined Animal Facilities (CAF), Agricultural Lands (formerly referred to as the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program), and Water Quality Certification (formerly referred to as the 401 Certification Program).

Regional Board WDR Permit Contacts		
Region	Phone Number	Water Quality Cert. ONLY
1 – North Coast	(707) 576-2656	(707) 576-2656
2 – San Francisco Bay	(510) 622-2305	(510) 622-2093
3 – Central Coast	(805) 549-3550	(805) 542-4771
4 – Los Angeles	(213) 620-2424 RB4Fees@waterboards.ca.gov	(213) 576-6718 – Dredging (213) 576-5733 – Fill/Excavation
5F – Central Valley (Fresno)	(559) 445-6278	(559) 445-6278
5R - Central Valley (Redding)	(530) 224-4850	(530) 224-4845
5S – Central Valley (Sacramento)	(916) 464-4727 R5-Fees@waterboards.ca.gov	(916) 464-4732
6A – Lahontan (South Lake Tahoe)	(530) 542-5464	(530) 542-5422
6B – Lahontan (Victorville)	(760) 241-7306	(530) 542-5422
7 – Colorado River	(760) 776-8941	(760) 776-8941
8 – Santa Ana	(951) 782-4902	(951) 782-3281
9 – San Diego	(619) 521-3919	(619) 521-3919

# WATER QUALITY FEES NEWSLETTER

FISCAL YEAR 2016-17

## Water Boards

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
REGULATORY WATER QUALITY CONTROL DIVISION

### **FY 2016-17 Water Quality Fee Schedule to be Proposed at September 20, 2016 Board Meeting**

Staff will be presenting to the State Water Board a proposal for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-17 Fee Schedule for Water Quality Fees on Tuesday, September 20, 2016. The item will be posted for public comment approximately 7-10 days prior to the meeting with instructions on how to submit comments. This meeting will be your final opportunity to provide comments to the State Water Board on the FY 2016-17 Fee Schedule.

### **Stakeholder Outreach for FY 2017-18**

The State Water Board will be holding several stakeholder meetings in 2017 to discuss the FY 2017-18 Fee Schedule. Some of these meetings will be held in various locations throughout the state. To receive information about these meetings, sign up for the "Fee Regulations – Water Quality" email subscription list. (see bottom right)

### **Marijuana Cultivation Invoicing for FY 2016-17**

The State Water Board will send out annual fee invoices for the first time to dischargers issued waste discharge requirements or waivers of waste discharge requirements for marijuana cultivation. This fee schedule can be found in Title 23, Division 3, Chapter 9, Article 1, Section 2200.7 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR).

### **Storm Water No Exposure Certification (NEC) Invoicing for FY 2016-17**

The State Water Board will be issuing invoices to all NEC facilities for FY 2016-17. The fee for initial certification or renewal of certification is \$200 per facility (Title 23, Division 3, Chapter 9, Article 1, Section 2200.5 of the CCR).

### **Need our Form W-9 to Pay Your Invoice?**

A copy of the State Water Board's W-9 is posted on our website (above) and updated annually. If you need us to complete a different form, please contact us directly.

### **Storm Water Permit Holders – Is Your Permit Information Current?**

Be sure to update or terminate your permit if you move, need to change the project acreage, have a change in ownership or no longer need the permit. To update or terminate your permit, log into your SMARTS account and submit a Change of Information (COI) or Notice of Termination (NOT). If you have questions, contact the Storm Water Unit (contact information on page 2).

### **Pay Your Invoice Online!**

You can make a payment online via Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT). Visit our website (above) for a link to the secure payment website. You must have at least the invoice number to make a payment. We cannot accept credit card payments at this time but hope to in the near future.

### **Check the Status of Your Payment Online**

Visit our website and click on the Storm Water and Wastewater Permit Fee Invoice Information link. You can search for invoices by WDID (facility ID), invoice number, facility name or facility address.

### **Is Your Billing Address Current?**

It is your responsibility to ensure we have the correct billing address on file so that you receive your invoice in a timely manner. If you have a Waste Discharge Requirement permit, contact the appropriate Regional Board at the phone number listed on page 2. If you have a Storm Water permit, log into your SMARTS account and update the billing information.



### **Sign Up for Periodic Email Updates**

The Fee Branch sends out announcements and periodic updates regarding fees to stakeholders via email. To subscribe to the "Fee Regulations – Water Quality" email list, visit the Water Quality Fees website (above) for a link and instructions. You can also sign up for emails regarding other Water Board topics that might be of interest to you.



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## PLACER HILLS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

*Alex Harvey Peter Hills Fred Lofrano Russell McCray Mark Wright*

Established 1949

August 31, 2016

Jennifer Montgomery, Supervisor District 5  
County of Placer  
175 Fulweller Ave.  
Auburn, CA 95603

RECEIVED  
SEP 14 2016

BY: .....

Re: County Fire Service Funding

Dear Supervisor Montgomery:

The Placer Hills Fire Protection District Board of Directors, at its regular meeting of August 3, 2016, elected to forward our collective concerns regarding the status of fire protection services in Placer County.

The specific concern is the financial stability of the independent fire districts. It is a well-known fact that all the districts to a varying degree are struggling to maintain fire and emergency medical services; and at the same time, fully fund their operations to meet future capital expenses, including funding major projects such as replacing a fire station.

Our Board is concerned that any positive direction has been held in abeyance while the County conducted a fire protection study utilizing a consultant. It would be an understatement to say that the fire service agencies and representatives were extremely disappointed in the study report, and its lack of specific fiscal recommendations and reorganizational options. The Fire Chiefs submitted their individual reviews and comments to the County, with the assumption that at a minimum, their assessments would be included in the report and the report presented to the Board of Supervisors. As of this date, another 3-4 months have now passed, and the report has yet to be formally presented to the Board of Supervisors.

It should also be noted, that the Municipal Service Review of the county fire services was conducted some three plus years ago, and the report was scheduled for release at least 18 to 24 months ago. As of this date, the Local Agency Formation Commission has given no indication as to whether the study will be released, if ever. The fire districts were again hopeful this report would provide guidance for future endeavors to address the collective fiscal issues facing Placer County fire districts.

These continued delays in addressing a comprehensive review and finding funding solutions continue to place fire districts in the potential position of failing financially. The County has continued to present a collective position that each fire district needs to go back to their

respective citizens and attempt to raise revenues by passing a special tax. As the Board is aware, many of the districts already have special taxes in place that have been approved by their residents. Several of the districts have tried and failed to get approval for additional taxes, or consultants have recommended not proceeding with this option since the potential to pass such a tax with a required 66 2/3 majority vote is not possible.

The efforts of the local fire districts have been further complicated by the passage of a state tax for areas within the jurisdiction of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. This tax, on top of current local special taxes, is a major stumbling block for any District to successfully win passage of additional taxes for fire, rescue, and emergency medical services.

Each of the Fire Districts within Placer County has spent time fully analyzing their financial situation. In the case of Placer Hills FPD, the additional cost per parcel to fund the District's current operations and capital depreciation schedules, and provide for future increases in the cost of services (such as an increase in minimum wage, retirement obligation, etc.) is approximately \$188 per parcel. This would be in addition to the base property tax, and \$120 in fire special taxes already paid by our residents, plus the \$117 State Tax. To fully staff and fund the District to National Standards and provide funding for replacement of the headquarters fire station, would require voter approval of an additional amount of \$522 per parcel. The ability of the District to convince our residents to pay these kinds of additional special taxes is daunting, in addition to the fact that there is a significant expense just to conduct an election that has very little chance of being successful.

The County has said for months that it would assist local districts in these special elections. However, we have seen no proactive endeavors by the County to organize and support such an effort. As districts have contemplated conducting a special election, a question is posed as to what is the back-up plan if the elections fail. To simply say to the districts that their citizens will need to live with the results, and if this means a district fails or has to significantly reduce services, then so be it. Frankly, that is abdication of our joint responsibility to provide appropriate levels of fire protection to many of our County's residents.

In addition, the County said they would conduct a fiscal audit of several of the districts as a "next step" in the process. Again, the Districts have received no indication as to the current status of these audits and what will be the next steps to address the Districts' financial situations.

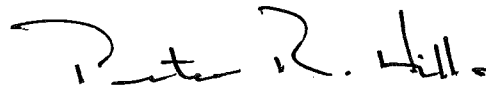
The Fire Districts, over a year ago, collectively asked the County to provide funding of approximately \$5 million to be distributed to the six districts (Loomis, Penryn, Newcastle, Placer Hills, Foresthill, South Placer), to provide bridge financing while more permanent financial solutions were developed. However, to date, the County has not been willing to provide any funding for these districts. Although the County has consistently said it will not provide funding from Proposition 172 revenues, it remains a legitimate revenue source to fund fire protection services. The County is collecting some \$40 million in Proposition 172 revenues annually, a proposition clearly passed by the voters some 20 plus years ago for all public safety services, including fire protection services. Interestingly, the County has maintained that the fire service is not eligible to receive such funds, despite the California Attorney General's Decision in 2004 that clearly states that the fire service is eligible to receive Proposition 172 funds.

The Placer Hills FPD Board of Directors recognizes that distribution of Proposition 172 funds is at the discretion of the Board of Supervisors. However, fire protection services is one of any elected officials primary area of responsibility. Placer Hills PFD Board of Directors recommends the County Board assume some of its fundamental responsibly, and like a number of area Counties, allocate funding from Proposition 172 to the Placer County Fire Districts.

The Placer Hills FPD Board of Directors remains committed to addressing the fire service funding needs of both our own District and neighboring fire service agencies. Because of the critical funding challenges, each agency is totally dependent on its neighboring agencies to provide adequate resources to respond to requests for services in all of our Districts. Any loss of a fire district, or closure of a fire station will have a dramatic impact on our collective ability to provide timely response to emergency incidents. Local fire districts provide the critical initial response to incidents in a large area of the County, and at a substantially lower cost than that provided by the State.

Placer Hills FPD Board of Directors remains hopeful that solutions can be addressed in the near future and avoid any fiscal failure of local fire protection districts. Adequate funding is a vital component of allowing the Districts to continue to function independently, or as part of any future consolidation efforts.

Respectfully submitted,



Peter R. Hills, President  
Placer Hills Fire Protection District Board of Directors

Cc: David Boesch, Placer County CEO  
Andy Heath, Placer County Deputy CEO  
Jenine Windeshausen, Placer County Treasurer-Tax Collector  
Foresthill FPD  
Loomis FPD  
Newcastle FPD  
Penryn FPD  
South Placer FPD  
Western Placer County Fire Chiefs Association







