

Newcastle Fire Protection District
Minutes of Regular Board of Directors Meeting

Pursuant to the Governor's Special-Order N-29-20, issued March 17, 2020, the September 21, 2022 Regular Board of Director's Meeting was held via teleconference and in-person at:

Long Valley Community Hall
2005 Rattlesnake Rd., Newcastle, CA 95658

1. Call Meeting to Order

- a. Chairman Kahrl called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.
- b. Chief Gow led the flag salute.
- c. All directors were present.
- d. Fire Marshal D'Ambrogi, BC Williamson, BC Slusher and DM Lofrano were present.
- e. Guests present: Supervisor Jim Holmes, Placer Hills Fire Board members President Hills and Director Fred Lofrano.
- f. Chairman Kahrl commented on the tour of the new fire station that was held prior to the meeting.

2. Approval of Agenda

- a. VC Elder made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Director Enos seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (5/0).

3. Approval of Minutes

- a. Director Bettencourt made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Secretary Heisterkamp seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (5/0).

4. Approval of Financial Report

- a. VC Elder made a motion to approve the financial report as presented. Director Enos seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (5/0).

5. Correspondence

- a. None

6. Public Comment

- a. Jon Anacker – spoke about observing at least 50 fire apparatus on east bound I-80 during the Mosquito Fire. To him that was the epitome of agency cooperation.

7. Chief's Report

- a. Chief Gow reporting:
 - i. Crews have done exemplary work recently.
 - ii. The JOA (*Joint Operating Agreement*) between Placer Hills, Newcastle, Penryn and Foresthill is working.
 - iii. Chief Gow introduced Administrative Assistant, Nicole Paskey.
 - iv. Next month more Lexipol policies will be presented to the board.
- b. Fire Marshal D'Ambrogi reporting for Prevention:
 - i. Placer County Planning will be holding a DRC (*Development Review Committee*) in two weeks for the ARCO/AM PM on Indian Hill Road.
- c. BC Williamson Reporting:
 - i. Chief Williamson took a Newcastle crew on a strike team. They all did an excellent job.
- d. BC Slusher Reporting:
 - i. 535 calls year to date.
 - ii. 44 calls in August.
 - iii. Brush 41 went to the Mosquito Fire from 9/7 – 9/18.

8. Newcastle Professional Firefighter's Association

- a. None

9. Board Committee Reports

- a. Building Committee report on the new fire station.
 - i. Director Bettencourt reporting:

1. November 17th is the projected move-in date to the new station.
2. Electrical infrastructure has been completed.
- ii. From the Tri Corp Project Update:
 1. Exterior paper and lathing are complete.
 2. Roofing underlayment is complete.
 3. Roofing material installation has begun.
 4. Electrical rough is complete.
 5. Mechanical rough is complete.
 6. Plumbing rough is complete.
 7. Mechanical units have been installed.
 8. Drywall installation is complete.
 9. Ceiling installation is in progress.
- iii. Captain Hickok thanked Director Bettencourt for all of the time he has dedicated to the new fire station.
- iv. Chairman Kahrl reported that the local contractors are doing an excellent job.
- b. Ad-hoc Committee report on selling the existing station and dedication of the new fire station.
 - i. Secretary Heisterkamp reported that an email has been sent to interested principles regarding the disposition of the existing fire station. Parties have 60 days to respond.
- c. Inter-district Cooperation Ad-hoc Committee.
 - i. This will be covered during action items tonight.
- d. Contract Committee: Administration Contract with Placer Hills Fire (Directors Bettencourt and Heisterkamp).
 - i. Secretary Heisterkamp had no report.

10. Informational/Non-Action Items

- a. Review letter received from Northern California Fire District Association regarding changes in carrier.
 - i. DM Lofrano reported to the board that the district's current liability insurance carrier will not be renewing any special district policies for 2022/2023.
 - ii. The reasons cited in the letter are:
 1. Wildfire risk and insurance carriers experiencing catastrophic losses over the last several years.
 2. Continual and worsening employment practices claims.
 3. Increased severity of claims, which go into the excess layers of coverage (above \$1M)
 4. Increasing losses of high value vehicles.
 5. Increased Risk Meter scores and lack of any carrier appetite to write in high-risk areas.
 6. Increased construction costs.
 - iii. DM Lofrano will report back to the board with options as they become available.

11. Action Items

- a. Presentation by Placer Hills Fire Board President Hills on the proposed reorganization of Newcastle and Placer Hills Fire Protection Districts.
 1. President Hills reviewed a presentation of the draft LAFCO application for a reorganization (merger) of Placer Hills Fire and Newcastle Fire.
 2. The goal is to have everything wrapped up by the end of September.
- ii. Consider and approve the application to the Placer County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) regarding the reorganization of Newcastle and Placer Hills Fire Protection Districts.
 1. VC Elder made a motion to approve the LAFCO application for reorganization of the two fire districts. Director Enos seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (5/0).

- iii. Consider and approve the agreement with Placer LAFCO to pay any fees and costs associated with the processing of the proposal and indemnify and hold harmless Placer LAFCO resulting from or in connection with the proposal.
 1. Director Bettencourt made a motion to approve the agreement as presented. VC Elder seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (5/0).
- b. Consider and approve a nomination for the Alternate Special District Representative to LAFCO.
 - i. Secretary Heisterkamp made a motion to nominate Chairman Kahrl for the LAFCO Alternate Special District Representative. VC elder seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (5/0).
- c. Consider and adopt Resolution No. 22-07 approving the Cal Fire grant agreement #7GF22070 for \$4,417.72 for fire equipment. (District cost is \$4,417.72).
 - i. Secretary Heisterkamp made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 22-07 as presented. Director Bettencourt seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (5/0).
- d. Consider and approve the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.
 - i. VC Elder made a motion to adopt the 22/23 final budget as presented. Secretary Heisterkamp seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (5/0).

12. Director's Reports

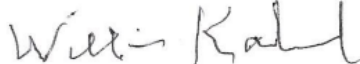
- a. Secretary Heisterkamp reported that there will be three plaques needed for the new station. The plaques will be:
 - i. Recognition of the Saladana Family.
 - ii. Dedication Plaque.
 - iii. Memorial Plaque. (Mr. Saladana would like the Chief Sparks [Newcastle's first chief] to be listed on the memorial plaque.)

13. Chairman Kahrl adjourned the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Patrice Metz, Recording Secretary



Approved