

Newcastle Fire Protection District  
Minutes of Regular Board of Directors Meeting  
November 20, 2024  
Long Valley Community Hall  
2005 Rattlesnake Rd., Newcastle, CA 95658

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

- a. Chairman Elder called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- b. Director Bettencourt led the flag salute.
- c. All directors were present.
- d. Chief Gow, BC Williamson and BC Slusher were present.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

- a. Secretary Heisterkamp made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Director Burns 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 with the following amendment: Item 2 (b.) should read "Director" Bettencourt, not "Secretary Bettencourt". Secretary Heisterkamp seconds the motion. Motion carries via roll call vote (5/0).

**4. Approval of Financial Report**

- a. Secretary Heisterkamp made a motion to approve the financial report as presented by Chief Gow. Director Burns seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (5/0).

**5. Correspondence**

- a. None

**6. Public Comment**

- a. Jon Anacker – He is very thankful for the fire board and fire crews.
- b. Chairman Elder – Tomorrow is Director Burns' birthday.

**7. Chief's Report**

- a. Chief Gow reporting:
  - i. The Placer Hills, Newcastle and Penryn awards luncheon is tomorrow.
  - ii. December 13<sup>th</sup> is the Christmas party.
  - iii. December 11<sup>th</sup> is the LAFCO meeting at 4:00 p.m.
  - iv. BC Nelson believes he can get \$2k each for the old SCBA's.
  - v. Annual physical exams are an NFPA requirement. Staff is not happy with the current supplier and has found a mobile exam supplier out of Reno. This is the same vendor South Placer Fire (SPL) uses. More information to follow.
  - vi. Western Placer Fire Chiefs have petitioned SSV to go out to bid on a new ambulance contract (AMR's current contract will be expiring).
  - vii. SPL will be working with LAFCO to expand their ambulance service into the Loomis area. Chief Gow asks that the Newcastle board support them in this. LAFCO agrees with this, SSV does not.
  - viii. Foresthill Fire's Measure D did not pass.
  - ix. The draft MSR has been published. There is much angst in the county because it took two years to complete.
  - x. Local 3800 will be meeting with the Board of Supervisors and the LAFCO Commissioners soon.
- b. BC Williamson reporting for Fire Marshal D'Ambrogi:
  - i. 1 Single Family Dwelling (SFD) plans reviewed.
  - i. 2 SFD final inspection.
  - ii. 1 SFD sprinkler hydro (rough) inspection.
  - iii. Lot split – 1 lot to 3 lots, Shirland Tract.
  - iv. Variance – setback for new shop – Indian Hill
  - v. Variance – setback for new ADU – Kiker
  - vi. Pre-development meeting with county and applicant – Kellogg St. – Canine Kennels (most likely will not happen).
  - vii. Mitigation fee/CIP package submitted to county for review and approval.
- c. BC Slusher Reporting:
  - i. 43 calls for October.

- ii. 690 calls YTD.

#### 8. Newcastle Professional Firefighter's Association

- i. Captain Shaw reported that the association participated at the Newcastle Community Assn. pancake breakfast and the local 3800 "Breakfast to go" event at Placer Hills Fire.

#### 9. Board Committee Reports

- a. Building Committee report on the new fire station.
  - 1. Director Bettencourt reported that we are still working with PG&E to try and recoup the \$60k that the district was forced to pay for service to the new station.
  - 2. Director Lee suggested that if PG&E is unwilling to remedy this that the district go to the media.
- b. Inter-district Cooperation Ad-hoc Committee.
  - 1. Chairman Elder reported that on 11/1 Amanda Ross (LAFCO) was named "Interim Assistant Executive Officer".

#### 10. Informational/Non-Action Items

- a. Board to discuss Newcastle Fire's parcel ownership at the Chantry Hill ballfield.
  - i. Secretary Heisterkamp reporting:
    - 1. The school superintendent approved the fire board to contact the school's counsel.
    - 2. Secretary Heisterkamp had a lengthy discussion with the school's counsel.
    - 3. Information already known was reiterated and new information regarding the CA Attorney General's ability to appoint trustees was shared. The AG doesn't actually do the appointment, it goes to court where the judge makes the appointment.
    - 4. Since the fire district only owns two of the three parcels at the ballfield and the third is subject to state input, this topic becomes very complicated.
    - 5. The fire board will put this item on the agenda once the information from the school board is received.
  - ii. Board to review and discuss the Placer County Municipal Services Review.
    - 1. This item was discussed during Chief Gow's report.

#### 11. Action Items

- a. Consider and approve contributing \$500 for a joint fire district awards luncheon.
  - i. Secretary Heisterkamp made a motion to approve the contributing of \$500 toward a joint fire district luncheon. The contributed funds can only be used for awards and food (no alcohol). Director Bettencourt seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (5/0).
- b. Consider and approve the appropriations (GANN) limit for FY 2024/2025 as prepared by the Placer County Auditor Controller.
  - i. Director Bettencourt made a motion to approve the Appropriations Limit (GANN) as prepared by the Auditor Controller's office (\$1,965,451.81). Secretary Heisterkamp seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (5/0).


#### 12. Director's Reports

- a. Secretary Heisterkamp asked what the board is planning to do to recognize Bill Kahrl. Captain Shaw volunteered to take charge of a committee consisting of representatives from the board, the union and staff. **Place on December agenda as informational item.**

#### 13. Chairman Elder adjourned the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
Patrice Metz, Recording Secretary

  
Chairman,  
Newcastle

Approved