

Newcastle Fire Protection District
Minutes of Regular Board of Directors Meeting
May 20, 2026
Long Valley Community Hall
2005 Rattlesnake Rd., Newcastle, CA 95658

1. Call Meeting to Order

- a. Chairman Heisterkamp called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- b. Secretary Burns led the flag salute.
- c. All directors were present except Director Lee.
- d. Chief Gow, BC Williamson, Asst. Chief Slusher, DM Armstrong and Fire Marshal D'Ambrogi were present.

2. Approval of Agenda

- a. Director Elder made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Secretary Burns seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously (4/0).

3. Approval of Minutes

- a. Chairman Heisterkamp made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2026, regular meeting as presented. VC Bettencourt seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously (4/0).

4. Approval of Financial Report

- a. Secretary Burns made a motion to approve the financial report as presented by Chief Gow. VC Bettencourt seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously (4/0).

5. Correspondence

- a. Chief Gow received correspondence from L3800 President, Clayton Thomas. President Thomas will be stepping down from his union position. He has accepted the Fire Chief position with Penn Valley Fire.

6. Public Comment

- a. Jon Anacker –
 - i. Mr. Anacker recently visited Newcastle Elementary. Each student was asked to make a display related to something in nature. His granddaughter Charlotte did hers on wildfire. It will be at the June board meeting for all to see.

7. Chief's Report

- a. Chief Gow reporting:
 - i. Working with Auburn City Fire is going well.
 - ii. South Placer Fire (SPL): Attended their board meeting last night. It was a packed house as one of the topics was a proposed tax measure to be placed on the November ballot.
 - iii. The administrative contract with Penryn Fire is up in June. Once the new board of the consolidated districts is seated and committee assignments have been made, the Penryn board will be contacted. The current contract is being extended until then.
 - iv. Newcastle employees will become Placer Hills employees effective June 13th.
- b. BC Williamson provided the Fire Marshal report:
 - i. SFD Plans in 2
 - ii. Hydro/Rough Inspection (SFD) 0
 - iii. SFD Final 2
 - iv. Defensible Space Inspection 0
 - v. LPG 1
- c. Assistant Chief Slusher provided the Operations report:
 - i. 65 calls for service in April 2026.
 - ii. Aid given to other agencies: 4
 - iii. Aid received: 0

8. Newcastle Professional Firefighter's Association

- i. None

9. Board Committee Reports

- a. Building Committee report on the new fire station.
 - i. Nothing to report.
- b. Inter-district Cooperation Ad-hoc Committee.
 - i. No report.

10. Informational/Non-Action Items

- a. Status on Placer County Local Hazardous Mitigation Plan update for 2026.

- i. Fire Marshal D'Ambrogi reporting:
 1. LHMP is in review at OES.
 2. The Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) will be open for public review tomorrow night at Health and Human Services.
 3. Evacuation/Transportation/Resiliency Plan:
 - Identify evacuation routes and how those routes can be improved.
 - It will be a very comprehensive plan.
 - Draft plan is expected by January or February 2027.

11. Action Items

- a. Consider and adopt Resolution No. 2026-02 amending the budget for FY 2025/2026.
 - i. DM Armstrong reported that this is basically a "closeout" budget.
 - ii. Chairman Heisterkamp made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026-02 with the following correction: Fire Services Revenue, 46350, JOA Staffing, carry "actual" figure of \$26,470 to the last column of the line (amended 25-26). Secretary Burns seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (4/0).
- b. Consider and adopt Resolution No. 2026-03 adjusting Tax Measure B by a cost-of-living increase of 3% for FY 2026/2027.
 - i. VC Bettencourt made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026-03 as presented. Director Elder seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (4/0).
- c. Consider and adopt Resolution No. 2026-04 adjusting Tax Measure F by a cost-of-living increase of 3.5% for FY 2026/2027.
 - i. Chairman Heisterkamp made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026-04 as presented. Secretary Burns seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (4/0).
- d. Consider and adopt Resolution No. 2026-05 requesting collection of Measure B and Measure F on the tax roll for FY 2026/2027.
 - i. Director Elder made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026-05 as presented. Chairman Heisterkamp seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (4/0).
- e. Consider and adopt Resolution No. 2026-06 Preliminary Budget for FY 2026/2027.
 - i. Chairman Heisterkamp made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026-06 as presented. Secretary Burns seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (4/0).
- f. Nominate and approve the board members of the newly reorganized district.
 - i. Chief Gow reported that the Placer Hills board has already chosen their board members for the reorganized district. They are, Russ McCray, Fred Lofrano and Nicole Paskey.
 - ii. Chairman Heisterkamp indicated that NEW will choose their board representatives using a nomination process. Each board member (that's present) will get two votes. One for each available seat.
 1. Director Elder nominated Chairman Heisterkamp to serve on the reorganized board. Secretary Burns seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (4/0).
 2. There was discussion that originally Director Lee had expressed interest in serving on the reorganized board, however, since he has not reached out to anyone regarding this issue, Secretary Burns is interested in serving.
 3. VC Bettencourt nominated Secretary Burns to serve on the reorganized board. Director Elder seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (4/0).
- g. Consider and adopt Resolution No. 2026-07 implementing the reorganization of the district.
 - i. There is discussion that the board of the reorganized district will hold a special meeting on 7/1.
 - ii. Chairman Heisterkamp did not read the entire resolution aloud; however, he felt it was important to read the following passage from the document:
 1. **"FINALLY, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that, on behalf of a grateful community, the Board of Directors honors and acknowledges the 180-year legacy of service of our predecessor firefighters starting with the Newcastle Volunteer Fire Company in 1848 and continuing with the successful shared service agreement and operational integration between Newcastle and Placer Hills since 2016; and looks forward to the enhanced fire and

emergency medical services after our merger into the reorganized Placer Hills Fire Protection District.”

- iii. VC Bettencourt made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026-07 as presented. Chairman Heisterkamp seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (4/0).

12. Director’s Reports

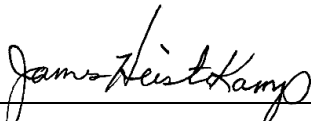
- a. Director Elder reported that Gerald Saladana passed away in April, aged 90.

13. Chairman Heisterkamp adjourned the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Patrice Metz, Recording Secretary



Approved