

**PENINSULA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

May 15, 2024 Minutes

- 1) Fire Board President Nancy Foote called the meeting to order at 11:00 A.M.
- 2) Fire Board Members present: President Nancy Foote, Vice President Bill Barry, Secretary Tracey Smith, and Directors Mark Burnham & Joseph Spooner. Staff present: Fire Chief Robert Gray, and Administrative Assistant Holly Coons-Price. 2 Firefighters attended.
- 3) Pledge of Allegiance: President Foote led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 4) Approval of Minutes for *April 17, 2024*:

President Foote called for a motion to approve the meeting minutes for *April 17, 2024*. Upon a motion by Secretary Smith, seconded by Vice President Barry, and with a unanimous vote, the Fire Board meeting minutes were approved as written.

5) Approval of Agenda:

President Foote called for a motion to approve the Agenda for *May 15, 2024*:

Upon a motion by Secretary Smith, seconded by Vice President Barry.

The motion was approved unanimously.

6) Public Comment:

President Foote called for public comment.

There was none.

7) Old Business:

A. Almanor Firefighters Association – Negotiations – Discussion

AFA Negotiators – Arbuckle & Carter

Peninsula Fire Board Negotiators - Foote & Burnham

President Foote and Lieutenant Arbuckle informed the Fire Board that negotiations are ongoing.

There was no discussion.

B. Shared Service Options in the Almanor Basin:

Chief explained that after a conversation with President Foote regarding shared service options in the Almanor basin, they agreed it is time to meet with the other fire agencies.

Chief stated he has reached out to the West Almanor Fire President and also discussed options at the Hamilton Branch Fire Board meeting last week. Chief said there was interest in forming a group to have a conversation regarding consolidation.

Chief said he reached out to invite the Local Agency Formation Committee (LAFCO) to meet with Peninsula, West Almanor Fire & Chester Fire for a presentation to hear different options with a questions and answer period. Chief said he is thinking sometime in July. There was a discussion regarding representation from each Fire District.

8) New Business:

A. Standard Documentation for Employee Mandatory Physical Fitness – Discussion:

Lieutenant Arbuckle explained state standards for physical fitness in the fire service. The mandatory physical standards are implemented to avoid on-the-job injuries. Arbuckle said he has set up in-house fitness training which is required of each employee. The employee has a starting point and increases their threshold for job related skills.

B. New email – Administrative Assistant Coons-Price 80lpfpd@gmail.com

President Foote asked the Fire Board to make a note of Holly's new email address.

C. New Internet Telephone System for Station 1 & Station 2:

Lieutenant Arbuckle informed the Fire Board that he is very close with transferring the fire district's current phone number over to an Internet telephone system. The purpose is to save over \$600.00 each month. Frontier is very expensive and has been the main hold-up with the changeover to keep our same phone number.

9) Reports:

A. Fire Chief's Report:

Chief Gray informed the Fire Board that he is working on the 2024/2025 preliminary budget and will bring it to the June board meeting.

Chief informed the Fire Board that he sold his house in Felton and purchased a house here in Lake Almanor.

Chief informed the Board he will be attending an Office of Emergency Service (OES) wildland payment program in Portola.

He said this is a new electronic system. The paper submission would take up to six months for payment. The new electronic payment system is set up to pay within six weeks.

Chief reported that Chester Fire's measure did not pass.

Chief explained that Chester Fire is holding brownouts on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday of each week. He has asked them if they could reconsider the brownout days on less busy days. Chief said they are still collecting a tax assessment for services and are not providing it. Chief stated that, July first Peninsula will stop providing services without compensation.

Chief said he has asked Chester Fire Board what they want from Peninsula Fire and to please submit it in writing. Chester Fire Board said they would send him a letter but they continue to delay this action.

Chief Gray reported that Chester Fire Chief Balzarini's last day is June 1, 2024. There has been talk about an interim fire chief but there is nothing official yet.

Chief reported a total of 31 emergency calls in April.

2 Fire Calls and 29 Medical Aids. 19 were in Chester & 1 on the West Shore.

There were 9 Inter Facility Transfers (IFT's). Some were taken to the Airport and some taken by ground to an out of area facility.

B. Fire Board of Directors' Reports / Comments:

President Foote asked the Board of Directors for comments.

Director Spooner asked the Chief who would respond to Chester if Peninsula stops.

Chief said they may need to bring an ambulance service from out of the area. Enloe ambulance has been talked about. Spooner stated Chester would have to pay the other ambulance agencies. Chief said he would like to staff an ambulance in Chester but Peninsula and Hamilton branch come first. If we have the capacity then we can help.

The current road construction on A-13 and Highway 36 was discussed and may cause a delay in our response time.

Director Burnham stated that 90% of our calls are in Chester.

President Foote congratulated Secretary Smith on her retirement from Plumas Bank.

10) Correspondence:

None

11) Future Agenda Items:

A. Almanor Firefighters Association - Negotiations

B. Shared Service Options in the Almanor Basin:

12) Next Scheduled Regular Fire Board Meeting:

June 19, 2024 @ 11:00 AM, Station 2

13) Regular Meeting Adjourned:

There being no further business, President Foote adjourned the Fire Board meeting at 11:45 A.M.

Respectfully submitted by *Holly C. Coons - Price*

The meeting minutes for *May 15, 2024* were approved on June 19, 2024.

X

Nancy Foote, Fire Board President

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