

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

November 19, 2025 Minutes

1) Fire Board President Foote called the meeting to order at *11:10 A.M.*

2) Fire Board Members present: President Nancy Foote attended by landline, Secretary Tracey Smith & Director Mark Burnham.

Absent: Director Joseph Spooner.

Staff present: Fire Chief Robert Gray, Office Manager Holly Coons-Price & Captain Ryland Arbuckle.

Public Present: 0

3) Pledge of Allegiance:

Fire Chief Gray led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4) Approval of the meeting minutes of October 15, 2025:

Secretary Smith called for a motion to approve the *October 15, 2025*, meeting minutes. Upon a motion by Director Burnham, seconded by President Foote, the motion was unanimous.

5) Approval of the November 19, 2025, Agenda:

Secretary Smith called for approval of the agenda for *November 19, 2025*.

Upon motion by Director Burnham, seconded by President Foote, and with a unanimous vote, the agenda was approved as posted.

6) Public Comment:

Secretary Smith called for public comment.

There was none.

7) Old Business:

A. Chester Building Lease – *Update:*

Secretary Smith called upon Fire Chief Gray for an update.

Chief Gray explained that his last meeting with Bonnie the general manager of Chester Public Utility District (CPUD). His offer to lease a section of their building was \$1,200.00 each month, which would not include utilities. They also discussed CPUD's current lease agreement with the County of Plumas. Bonnie agreed to contact the County regarding the future of their existing lease of the County's property and how that will effect Peninsula Fire's portion of the lease agreement.

Chief Gray informed the fire board that he continues to meet or stay in contact with Chester's Public Utility District General Manager Bonnie Mullaney regarding a lease agreement. Chief

Gray said he urged Bonnie to come to an agreement by the first of January.

B. Chester Funding 1st Quarter Year 2027:

Fire Chief Gray said he is trying to get a time line from the County of Plumas as to when we will start receiving the funds in 2027 from the Chester Community. He said he needs this information so he start planning a budget.

Chief informed the fire board that the SAFER Grant, which is designed for temporary funding for staffing, is on hold until the Federal Government opens funding again.

Chief Gray reported that the district's rescue boat is now out of the water. He has taken one extra firefighter/EMT from here and placed them in the Chester district for a portion of the week to help staff an ambulance.

8) New Business:

A. Acknowledging the passing of William Barry, Vice President of the Board of Directors:

Fire Chief Gray explained that He and Holly have reviewed the instructions from the County of Plumas elections department. Since Bill Barry did not reapply for his position on our board of directors before he passed, an opening was created for a new member. Holly explained that a vacancy notice will be posted in the first week of December, and anyone within our district can submit a letter of interest to the fire board. The letters will be forwarded to the board of directors before the December 17th meeting. The fire board can appoint a new board member. In this case, the term of office will be for two years.

There was a question regarding the number of board members and if there needs to be a Chester resident. Chief stated there is no law because it is up to the fire district's discretion.

There was a discussion about the voting process following receipt of letter of interests.

The letters will be scanned to the board members and will be included in the December board packet.

President Foote moved to approve an interested person at the December board meeting. Director Burnham seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The five officers of the board positions will be voted at the December meeting also.

President, Vice President, Secretary, and two Directors.

9) New Business:

A. Lake Almanor Firefighters Association Labor Body Memorandum of Understanding:

Fire Chief Gray explained that he and director Burnham reviewed the MOU with Dave Henderson, President of the Firemen's Association.

One of the changes discussed was the employee health insurance plan. Chief explained that the current Blue Shield plan is not accepted by most providers where the firefighter live. After extensive research by the LAFFA they are requesting to change to Blue Cross/PORAC, which has a higher premium but it has proven to be accepted by providers in all the counties where the firefighters live.

The other request was a 4% raise. Chief explained that until he has a full understanding of the future with the Chester budget he cannot promise raises at this time.

Another request was discussed, instead of the district paying the 13% contribution in to the firefighters retirement, the district would pay the firefighter their 13% directly to them. Chief explained that he is not comfortable changing contributions until he consults with the Weist Law Firm because he does not know how this would affect the district's unfunded liability future with CalPERS.

Chief Gray said he is in favor of changing the employee insurance plan.

The fire board approved the new MOU, dated *July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2026*.

AYES 3, NOES 0, Absent 1, & Abstain 0

President Foote thanked Director Burnham for his work on the MOU.

10) Reports:

A. Fire Chief's Report:

Chief Gray reported that our annual pump testing was done today. Tomorrow, Hamilton Branch vehicles will be tested; on Friday, West Shore vehicles will be tested. He explained that this is a requirement and that no major repairs are needed with Peninsula's.

Chief Gray reminded the fire board that on December 5th, he and Secretary Smith will meet with the consultant from Weiss Law Fire regarding our CalPERS unfunded liability.

B. Board of Directors' Report / Comments:

None

11) Correspondence:

A. Traci Park – Los Angeles Councilwomen, 11th District – Pacific Palisades Fire Gratitude Letter:

12) Future Agenda Items:

A. Chester Building Lease Agreement

B. Chester Funding

C. Fire Board Vacancy, Letters of Interests/appointment

D. Fire Board Positions

E. Weiss Law Firm – Review Unfunded Liability Proposal

13) Next Scheduled Regular Fire Board Meeting:

December 17, 2025 @ 11:00 AM, Station 2

14) Regular Meeting Adjourned:

There being no further business, Secretary Smith adjourned the Fire Board meeting at 11:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by *Holly C. Coons - Price*.

X

Tracey Smith