



Eastern Plumas Rural Fire Protection District

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MINUTES

For the Special Meeting of the Eastern Plumas Rural Fire Protection District's Board of Directors held at 141 Delleker Rd., Portola, CA 96122 On March 21, 2022 at 6:30 PM

Board Members: Chairperson Jeanne Graham, Director Kevin Sankey, Director Angelina
Sutcliffe and Director Audrey Mitrevics

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Chairperson Graham.
2. **Roll Call:** Director Sutcliffe, Director Mitrevics, Chairperson Graham and Director Sankey via Zoom, were all present.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge was recited by all.
4. **Public Comment:** Captain Elaine Frank spoke in support of the Board Chair and District Secretary. Member of the public, Ashlee Sims asked that the secretary read her cease and desist aloud. Chairperson Graham advised that per counsel, the item will be posted to the District website after the meeting and a reading of it was not required. Ms. Sims then asked that the secretary read it aloud as her public comment. The secretary read aloud as much as possible in the 2 minutes allotted. The full document would be posted to the website following the meeting.

5. **Consent Items:**

- a. Minutes Special Board Meeting February 21, 2022
- b. Resolution 2022-04, continued remote meetings

Director Sutcliffe made a motion to approve the consent items. Director Mitrevics seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Director Mitrevics – Aye, Director Sutcliffe – Aye, Director Sankey – Aye, Chairperson Graham – Aye. The item passes.

6. **Regular Calendar:**

6.1. Update on Budget and Approve Warrants: Secretary Katy Martinez informed the board that warrants total \$27,576.86, and the balance is approximately \$170,267.22.

6.2. FY2022-23 Budget: Select Board Member to work with Secretary and Chief to develop Preliminary Budget for FY2022-23: Board discussion ensued. Director Graham made a motion that Director Sutcliffe take on this task. Director Sankey seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote:** Director Mitrevics – Aye, Director Sutcliffe – Abstain, Director Sankey – Aye, Chairperson Graham – Aye. The item passes.

6.3. Resignation of Director Acosta: Director Graham shared her screen with the public and went over findings and recommended steps per counsel. Director Graham explained that the District does not have a specific obligation to agendize resignations. Since the agenda was posted, the District has received an additional piece of correspondence from Ms. Sims with Brown Act allegations against Chairperson Graham and the secretary, Katy Martinez as well as a demand to cure. This correspondence has been given to counsel to evaluate and a response will be given to the Board at the April 18, 2022 Regular Monthly Board Meeting. Clarification that what the law is referring to when it is saying “the District”, it means “the staff” not “the Board”. Director Graham asked for a

motion. Director Sankey made a motion to accept Director Acosta's resignation. Director Sutcliffe seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote:** Director Mitrevics – Aye, Director Sutcliffe – Abstain, Director Sankey – Aye, Chairperson Graham – Aye. The item passes.

6.4. Monthly Chief's Report: Chief Frank stated that in district, in the past month there were; 5 medical calls, 1 gas leak and 1 illegal burn. The Quincy Fire Academy has been resumed this year and there are 4 EPRFPD firefighters that plan to attend. The cost is \$150 per attendee, this covers books, the training and certificates upon completion. Chief Frank spoke with Dan Bria and the SCBA's are expected to be delivered to Beckwourth Fire very soon and arrangements will be made to pick them up. An invoice is expected from either LN Curtis or Beckwourth Fire for EPRFPD's portion of the grant. Once the SCBA's are picked up, fit testing will be performed. Director Sankey had questions about allegations of a missed or incorrectly paged out call in district. Chairperson Graham noted that this subject will be discussed further later in the meeting.

6.5. Update from staff on status of Forest Service requests on 2021 contract and any related issues: Chief Frank stated that Joe Waterman had attended a meeting with Forest Service. Forest Service is going back over the contract and hopefully we will hear something by the end of the month. Chief was directed to stay on top of this and keep the Board informed.

6.6. CPR certification changes from NorCal. Nor-Cal no longer requires anyone with EMR certifications or above, i.e., EMT, AEMT or Paramedic, to hold a CPR card: The secretary read aloud Medical Officer Leah Turner's recommendation that when a new member joins EPRFPD, they receive a full course and as long as they maintain their EMR or above, they not be required to take the full course every 2 years. Instead, they do an annual CPR/AED/Airway Management review. These annual reviews can be done during regularly scheduled trainings. Leah can still give firefighters a certificate for their CE's without going through the Red Cross website. Skill sheets will be signed off and copies kept. Board discussion ensued. The Board as well as Chief Frank agreed with Medical Officer Leah Turner's proposal as long as annual reviews are performed.

6.7. Update on Covid-19 Mandates: Captain Frank informed the board that she and Medical Officer Turner are monitoring for any updates and are continuing to follow the recommended PPE usage.

6.8. Update from Director Sankey on C Road Water Tender Use on OES Fires: Director Sankey explained that this has been an ongoing negotiation. The C Road Board has proposed a 60/40 split – 60% to EPRFPD and 40% to C Road. It was clarified that the funds are based on the "net" amount, after all maintenance or repairs to the truck are performed. Board discussion ensued and Director Sankey was directed to inform C Road representatives that EPRFPD would agree to the 60/40 split from the "net" amount received. Director Sankey will approach them with this proposal and the full C Road Board will have to vote on it.

6.9. Gold Mountain CSD Presentation and Questions: Cary Curtis from Gold Mountain thanked Chairperson Graham for her response to the annual contract review. They will take this input and embed it into their report. They would like to spend more time with Jeanne to ensure that the review meets everyone's input and that there is some additional corroboration before the review is finalized.

6.10. Gold Mountain CSD Annual Review. Presentation of Gold Mountain CSD annual contract review and draft response and draft response and development of Board final response. Chairperson Graham shared the draft response to the annual contract review. A formal response is needed and the Board is asked for any recommended changes or additions to the draft. The draft was quickly typed up in order to provide Gold Mountain with a response prior to their last board meeting. Board discussion ensued with input from Cary Curtis. Director Sankey posed his earlier question regarding allegations that EPRFPD had missed a call last Friday. It was explained that EPRFPD did not miss a call

as was alleged by someone at Gold Mountain's last board meeting. Cary Curtis spoke up and apologized for the comment made by Bill Robinson during the GMCSO meeting alleging that EPRFPD missed a call when it had not. Chairperson Graham accepted and thanked Cary for the apology on behalf of the GMCSO Board but explained that an apology made after misinformation is put out to the public, it is difficult to combat it with the truth. The damage to our reputation is already been done. The Board made the decision to continue discussions with Gold Mountain and that Director Sankey will participate as well as Director Graham. A mutually agreeable time to meet will be arranged in the near future. Director Graham will locate a copy of the inspection report of the commercial facilities and provide it to GMCSO. The secretary will provide Director Sankey's contact information to Cary Curtis.

7:53 PM: At this time, Director Sankey called for a 5 minute break

7:59 PM: Chairperson Graham called the meeting back into session

6.11. Hiring a District Manager: Board discussion ensued. Direction was given to the Board to be thinking about what such a position would entail and while the preliminary budget is being reviewed, what amount of money could possibly be dedicated to such a position.

7. Closed Session:

7.1 Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) Name of Case: John Fatheree v. Eastern Plumas Rural Fire Protection District, et al Case No.: CV20-00176: Chairperson Graham moved the meeting into closed session at 8:06 PM.

7.2 Report out from closed session: Chairperson Graham called the meeting back into open session at 8:28 PM. There are no reportable actions from closed session.

8. Request for Future Agenda Items: Medical Officer Leah Turner asked that the Records Retention policy be added to the next agenda.

9. Adjournment:

Chairperson Sutcliffe motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Director Mitrevics seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Director Mitrevics – Aye, Director Sutcliffe – Aye, Director Sankey –Aye, Chairperson Graham– Aye. The item passes.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:31 PM.

ATTEST:

Katy Martinez, Secretary

Jeanne Graham, Chairperson

APPROVED AND SIGNED AT EPRFPD'S 04/25/2022 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING