



Eastern Plumas Rural Fire Protection District

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MINUTES

For the Regular Meeting of the Eastern Plumas Rural Fire Protection District's Board of Directors held at 141 Delleker Rd., Portola, CA 96122 On May 17, 2021 at 6:30 PM

Board Members: Chairperson Jeanne Graham, Director Lydia Acosta, Director Kevin Sankey,
Director Angelina Sutliffe

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 6:33 PM by Chairperson Graham.
2. **Roll Call:** Director Sankey, Director Acosta, Director Sutliffe and Chairperson Graham were all present.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Public Comment:** Longest serving member of EPRFPD, Pete Sears, made a statement in strong support of Chief Frank. Captain Elaine Frank spoke briefly, directing the public to visit the district's website and view the 2019 year end award video. Secretary, Katy Martinez, read aloud 3 written comments received from members of the public via email and hand-delivery to the Delleker Station. Chairperson Graham stated that we all need to change our terminology, the proposed change is not a "consolidation", it is forming a "new district".
5. **Consent Items:**
 - a. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting April 19, 2021
Director Sankey made a motion to approve the consent items. Director Sutliffe seconded the motion.
Roll Call Vote: Director Sankey – Aye, Director Acosta – Aye, Chairperson Graham– Aye. Director Sutliffe – Aye. The item passes.
Public Comment: Cary Curtis with Gold Mountain CSD attempted to make a comment but due to technical difficulties, she could not be heard. Jeanne asked that Cary please email her comment. Director Sankey recommended a 5 minute break to allow the email to be received. The meeting was resumed at 6:50 by Chairperson Graham and Secretary Katy Martinez read aloud the public comment received.
6. **Regular Calendar**
 - 6.1 **Budget:**
 - a) Secretary Katy Martinez informed the board that the budget balance is \$73,619.17. Warrants submitted amount to \$107,587.08. Deposits received amount to \$114,747.66.
 - b) Discussion and direction regarding potential Special Budget Meeting/Workshop in June 2021 regarding Fiscal year 2021/2022 preliminary budget. Board discussion ensued. A special meeting was agreed upon for June 10, 2021 at 7:00 PM for a budget workshop.
Public Comment: Leah Turner, member of EPRFPD, spoke in support of Chief Frank and commented on the fire study group.
 - 6.2 **Update from Chairperson Graham on information from the Fire Study Group May 04, 2021 meeting. Receive new information from the study group, review resolution, discuss and determine amount able to pay into Phase 1 of the forming a new board process, next steps, and any related issues.**

Chairperson Graham provided an update from the consolidation meeting held on May 04, 2021. Jeanne informed the board that she presented the fire study group with our proposed changes to the resolution and there were some concerns voiced with respect to some of the wording. Jeanne has brought these concerns to the attention of our counsel and she expects minor changes to be made to the resolution. Board discussion ensued as to whether or not to grant Chairperson Graham authorization to sign the resolution once it comes back from the attorney. Director Sankey wanted to discuss the dollar amount portion of the resolution prior to making a decision. Discussion to determine the amount the district is able to pay into Phase 1 ensued. Director Acosta made a motion to approve committing \$1,000 toward the first phase of forming a new district. Director Sutcliffe seconded the motion.

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

Discussion returned to the matter of signing the updated resolution upon receipt from our attorney. Director Sutcliffe made a motion granting Director Graham the authority to sign the resolution when it received back from the attorney. Director Acosta seconded the motion.

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

6.3 Chief's Report

Chief Frank was not in attendance due to a family emergency. Secretary Katy Martinez presented the Chief's Report. In the month of April there were 11 medical calls in district, 4 alarms/smoke checks, 2 public assists, 1 structure fire and 1 vehicle accident, for a total of 19 calls. Lieutenant Turner took care of the airbag recall on #9857.

6.4 Discussion and Decision Regarding Turning Engine 9867 Ladder Truck back to government surplus.

Public Comment: Cary Curtis with Gold Mountain CSD spoke and expressed Gold Mountain's desire that EPRFPD keep the ladder truck in order to serve their district.

Board discussion ensued. Director Sankey would like more information regarding the original acquisition of the truck and to readdress this topic at the next regular meeting. This item will be on the June agenda.

6.5 Receive update from staff on COVID-19, including any new recommendations from OSHA, Nor Cal or Provident.

Captain Frank provided an update on COVID-19 cases in Plumas County. EPRFPD is continuing to follow OSHA, Nor Cal and Provident recommendations.

6.6 Receive staff update on the status of surplus turnout bids.

Katy informed the board that just prior to tonight's meeting; an email from Lauren Knox was received expressing interest in the City of Portola placing a bid to purchase the turnouts for Beckwourth Fire. Information was provided to her on how to place a bid.

6.7 Receive status of MOU regarding Eastern Plumas Health Care (EPHC) request to utilize Delleker Station for AHA Heartsaver CPR/AED/First Aid classes.

Director Sankey had no update. Board discussion ensued and direction was given to place this item on the June agenda.

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. CV 20-00176.

Chairperson Graham called for Closed Session at 7:38 PM.

Report on Closed Session: Chairperson Graham called the meeting back into open session at 8:16 PM.

Ongoing discussion was had with the district's counsel.

8. Old Business:

There was none.

9. New Business: Next scheduled Regular Board Meeting June 21, 2021 at 6:30 PM.

10. Adjournment

Director Sutcliffe motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Director Acosta seconded the motion.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM

ATTEST:

Katy Martinez, Secretary

Jeanne Graham, Chairperson

APPROVED AND SIGNED AT EPRFPD'S 06/21/2021 REGULAR BOARD MEETING