



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 September 27, 2022 at 4:00 PM

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

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Chairperson Sankey.
2. **Roll Call:** Chairperson Sankey, Director Sutcliffe, Director Mitrevics and Director Graham were present. Director Rudolph as absent.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge was recited by all.
4. **Special Meeting Items:**
 - 4.1. The District and Board Policies are not clear, and confusing. It has been recommended by the District's legal counsel that the following changes be made:
 - A) Repeal all such prior policies and policy fragments
 - B) Adopt new temporary District operating practices that:
 - B1) For regular Board meetings, the Chair will prepare and post the agenda, with the assistance of the Board Secretary. Any Board member may request the addition of items in writing to the Chair at least 10 days before the meeting;
 - B2) Special meetings may be called either by the Chair or by any two members, and will generally be limited to items that require attention prior to the next regular meeting; and
 - B3) the Board will appoint a temporary Ad Hoc Committee for communications with District legal counsel and other matters.
 - B4) the Board Chair may introduce and make motions to the Board, participate in any Board discussion, but shall not vote on any matter except in the event of a tie. The Chair shall cast the deciding vote in such an event.
 - B5) the Board Chair shall conduct all meetings.
 - B6) the Vice Chair shall act in place of the Board Chair in the absence of the Chair with the same rights and responsibilities of the Chair at Board meetings.

Chairperson Sankey asked for any public comment on Item 4.1 B1 through B6. Cary Curtis asked what would happen in the event of both the Chair and Vice Chair being absent. Board discussion ensued and it was agreed that Cary's question will be something the Board will look into.

Director Graham made a motion to approve Items 4.1 B1 through B6 in their entirety. Director Sutcliffe seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote:** Director Sutcliffe – Aye, Director Mitrevics – Aye, Director Graham – Aye, Director Rudolph – Absent. The motion passed.

Item 4.1

C) Commit to working as a Board to prepare permanent replacement policies to be considered by early 2023.

Board discussion ensued. Director Sutcliffe made a motion to approve Item 4.1 C in its entirety. Director Mitrevics seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote:** Director Sutcliffe – Aye, Director Mitrevics – Aye, Director Graham – Aye, Director Rudolph – Absent. The motion passed.

4.2 Election/Appointment of a Vice-Chair: Member of the public, Ashlee Sims spoke in favor of Director Sutcliffe being named Vice-Chair. Board discussion ensued. Director Graham nominated Director Sutcliffe to the Vice Chair position. Director Mitrevics seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote:** Director Sutcliffe – Aye, Director Mitrevics – Aye, Director Graham – Aye, Director Rudolph – Absent. The motion passed.

4.3 Dissolve all current Ad Hoc Committees for the purpose of restructuring and reorganizing the Ad Hoc structure, with the exception of the newly proposed legal Ad Hoc Communication Committee: Board discussion ensued. Director Graham asked if she and Director Mitrevics would remain on the LESSG Ad Hoc Committee. Chairperson Sankey voiced that the goal is to start with as clean a slate as possible and that the structure of the Ad Hoc’s may change. Director Graham asked if the subject could be discussed further under Item 4.6 today because the Board needs to formally say who the “contact people” are for that. Chairperson Sankey stated that the Board can address that at the next regular Board meeting. Director Sutcliffe made a motion to approve Item 4.3 in its entirety. Director Graham seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote:** Director Sutcliffe – Aye, Director Mitrevics – Aye, Director Graham – Aye, Director Rudolph – Absent. The motion passed.

4.4 Appointment of a temporary Ad Hoc Committee for Communications with District legal counsel until new, permanent policies are adopted in early 2023, including policies regarding communications with counsel. Board discussion ensued. Director Graham made a motion to approve an Ad Hoc Committee for communication with legal counsel consisting of both the Chairperson and Vice Chair. Director Sutcliffe seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote:** Director Sutcliffe – Aye, Director Mitrevics – Aye, Director Graham – Aye, Director Rudolph – Absent. The motion passed.

4.5 Authorization of the Chair and Vice Chair to select a candidate to provide interim District Secretarial support and to enter into a contract and expend an amount not to exceed \$_____ for a term not to exceed 120 days starting October 1, 2022 for the interim services; and appointing an Ad Hoc Committee to review applications for the permanent District Secretary. Board discussion ensued. Director Graham made a motion that the Chair and Vice Chair start looking for a candidate, select a candidate, with an amount not to exceed \$6,400 without coming back to the Board and a maximum 120 days on the contract. Director Sutcliffe seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote:** Director Sutcliffe – Aye, Director Mitrevics – Aye, Director Graham – Aye, Director Rudolph – Absent. The motion passed.

4.6 Report from Directors’ Mitrevics and Graham on LESSG Meeting held on September 27, 2022 concerning cost to rejoin LESSG: Director Graham informed the Board that she and Director Mitrevics attended the meeting and the LESSG Group has offered EPRFPD to rejoin. A portion of the study would need to be redone, at a cost. Director Graham believes the District is financially able to sustain the cost to rejoin. Cary Curtis then provided an estimated cost of approximately \$20,000 to \$27,000. Member of the public, Ashlee Sims spoke in opposition to EPRFPD rejoining the LESSG. An anonymous public speaker via Zoom also objected to EPRFPD rejoining. Board discussion ensued. Director Sutcliffe made a motion not to rejoin the LESSG. Director Mitrevics seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Director Sutliffe – Aye, Director Mitrevics – Aye, Director Graham – No, Director Rudolph - Absent. Further Board discussion ensued as to whether or not the vote should be considered a “tie” or a “dead vote”. Director Graham asked Chairperson Sankey to research this further. He agreed to do this and then called for the next agenda item.

5. Next Regular Board Meeting October 17, 2022 at 6:30 PM.

6. Adjournment: Director Sutliffe made a motion to adjourn. Director Mitrevics seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote:** Director Sutliffe – Aye, Director Mitrevics – Aye, Director Graham – Aye, Director Rudolph – Absent. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 5:21 PM.

ATTEST:

Katy Martinez, Secretary

Kevin Sankey, Chairperson

APPROVED AND SIGNED AT EPRFPD’S 02/20/2023 REGULAR BOARD MEETING