



**MINUTES of the Regular Meeting of the
Pliocene Ridge CSD Board of Directors
Date: Thursday September 21, 2023 Time: 6:30 pm
Location: Pike City Firehouse.**

1. ESTABLISH QUORUM, CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE: The meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm by President Larry Allen. **Flag Salute.** Present: Board members, Larry Allen, Bruce Coons, and Pam Davis. Chris Mills arrived after the consent calendar was adopted and left after agenda item 3. Grace Lundeen notified the Secretary in advance that she could not attend due to illness. Also in attendance: Chief Dorn and Alleghany Assistant Chiefs David Arbogast and Ned Cusato, Downieville Fire Protection District President Frank Lang and EMT/Dispatcher Stephanie Aufdermaur. Public present: Vicky Tenney. Pliocene Ridge CSD Secretary Rae Bell Arbogast took the minutes.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR:

Approval of current Agenda, Minutes for regular meeting held August 17, 2023 and the Treasurer's report for August 2023 **A motion was made to approve the consent calendar by Bruce Coons, seconded by Pam Davis Ayes: Allen, Coons, Davis, Noes: none Absent: Lundeen & Mills Abstain: none ~ Motion carried.**

3. UPDATE ON AMBULANCE MOU: Downieville FPD President Frank Lang wanted to follow-up in person on the MOU. He provided a brief history of the agreement for the ambulance in Alleghany. The most recent development was that the Sierra County Board of Supervisors and Service Area 2 did not want to be involved in the new agreement. He stated that NORCAL EMS had inspected the ambulance in Alleghany in early August and the ambulance was in good order. There was concern over some reporting deficiencies but nothing that couldn't be worked out. Another draft agreement was provided with the understanding that PRCSD would place an action item on the next meeting agenda after everyone had time to read it.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT None

5. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

*a) Correspondence: **Email topics (in & out):*** Van Maddox Sierra County Auditor re: Streetlight budget figure and budget in general, Sierra County Clerk-Recorders office re: Brown Act and remote meetings, Frank Lang re: ambulance MOU, Golden State Risk Management Authority (Insurance Carrier) re removal of one of the vehicles sold last year from the policy and correction of the Pike non-profit's name (their program reverted it back to the old name with the renewal docs), Blain Boden re: audit, Mountain Messenger re: budget hearing notice, Jim Buckbee re: Forest Service Loaner vehicle 6770 (have been trying to return it for over a year, it is still on our insurance until they take it back), NFIRS re system availability, John Pekarek of Banner Communications re: additional siren for Alleghany, Chris Mills and Chief re: Risk Manager Position, Roland Robertson & Denise Ruane re: Russell Davidson as potential person to help with Pike Firehouse analysis.

b) Committee/Member/Business Reports:

1. Chief's Report ~ Chief Dorn reported that it's been quiet which is good on the one hand but not good for firefighter training as we learn best by doing. Have one firefighter Cameron Shay taking the EMT class in Downieville. Cameron has also joined the North San Juan Fire Dept.

2. Assistant Chief's Report: Ned Cusato reported that there was a response for a smoke check near Alleghany recently that turned out to be a water dog.

3. *AVFD non-profit corp:* ~ Rae Bell reported that she had submitted a request to the Board of Equalization (BOE) last May to find out if there were any audit findings because nobody seemed to have any information about it. A response finally arrived at the beginning of September stating that they hadn't gotten any response from two previous information requests that were sent to AVFD. The BOE was looking for two-year's worth of financial statements which Rae Bell mailed to them by certified mail.

4. *Pike Community Support Foundation* ~ No report.

5. *Board Member/Staff Reports* ~ Secretary/Treasurer's Report provided in writing. Streetlight manager Bruce Coons reported that a light in Alleghany that had been obliterated by a falling tree last winter had been replaced. The one in Forest City has been a bone of contention as PG&E can't seem to figure out where it is, even though they have been told multiple times.

6. *Firewise Community Projects* ~ Rae Bell reported that she has been trying to get one of the firesafe counsel's trailers to the area.

7. *Firehouse Projects & ADA Compliance:*~ No report.

8. *Pending Grants:* None.

6. ACTION ITEMS

a) Unfinished Business

1. Appoint Risk Manager. Nobody volunteered. Chris Dorn will ask at training to see if anyone might be willing to do it.

b) New Business

1. *Public Hearing for final budget adoption: Opened at 7:07 PM closed at 7:08 PM with no comments or questions. A motion was made to adopt the Fiscal year 23/24 Final Budget as presented by Bruce Coons, seconded by Pam Davis Ayes: Allen, Coons, Davis, Noes: none Absent: Lundeen & Mills Abstain: none ~ Motion carried.*

2. *Approval for staff to pursue grant funding for additional siren in Alleghany. Motion made by Bruce Coons, seconded by Pam Davis Ayes: Allen, Coons, Davis, Noes: none Absent: Lundeen & Mills Abstain: none ~ Motion carried.*

3. *Rescind changes to the bylaws adopted on June 15, 2023 regarding remote meetings and confirm that the district opts to return to traditional Brown Act Rules which do allow telephone conferences. Motion made by Bruce Coons, seconded by Pam Davis Ayes: Allen, Coons, Davis, Noes: none Absent: Lundeen & Mills Abstain: none ~ Motion carried.*

4. *Consider adoption of mileage reimbursement option for Directors at IRS mandated rate. Article III of the Bylaws COMPENSATION Currently states the following:*

1. Board members shall serve as unpaid volunteers.
2. Board members may receive reimbursement of expenses incurred representing the District as directed by the Board.

Propose adding item 3. Board members may apply for mileage reimbursement at the IRS annual rate for board meeting attendance. Requests for reimbursement must be submitted in writing to the Treasurer and must include at minimum: Date and miles driven. All reimbursement requests for any given quarter must be submitted within 30 days of quarter-end. Older reimbursement requests will not be eligible for payment.

Motion made by Bruce Coons to add item 3 as written above, seconded by Pam Davis Ayes: Allen, Coons, Davis, Noes: none Absent: Lundeen & Mills Abstain: none ~ Motion carried.

5. Authorization for the Treasure to bill 1/5 of the cost of her Quickbooks accounting subscription to PRCSD in addition to the 1/3 of the payroll module cost which is already billed to the district. Motion made by Bruce Coons, seconded by Pam Davis Ayes: Allen, Coons, Davis, Noes: none Absent: Lundeen & Mills Abstain: none ~ Motion carried.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS, NEXT MEETING DATE & AGENDA ITEMS: The next regular meeting is scheduled for October 19th in Alleghany. The ambulance MOU will be on the meeting.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Rae Bell Arbogast, Secretary