



Staff report for meeting date 5/11/2023

Prepared by Secretary/Treasurer Rae Bell Arbogast– *disclaimer: any opinions expressed in this document belong to the author and do not represent the official stance of the district.*

Agenda item 4. a) Correspondence since last meeting

Incoming: Notice of explosives storage (forwarded to Forest Service), Notice that annual Government Compensation report was filed from Blain Boden, consumer confidence notice of availability.

Outgoing: Thank you letter and receipt for tax purposes for computer donated to the Pike Firehouse by Chris Kissinger, Pam Davis board seat renewal papers sent to the County

Agenda item 4. b) 5 Board member/Staff reports

- Ambulance MOU Committee: I remotely attended the Sierra County BOS meeting on May 2nd as they had the ambulance MOU on the agenda. Frank Lang did a good job explaining the situation. The outcome of the discussion was the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee with Lila Huer, Paul Roen and Sharon Dryden. Frank Lang will also participate on the Committee, and I am sure if PRCSD wants to send a representative that would be OK, but the lion's share of what needs to be worked out is the agreement between DVFP and the County for the provision of ambulance services for all Western Sierra County. In the meantime, the draft agreement for our ambulance will be reviewed by County Council. Lee Adams who happens to be the Chairman of the Board for NORCAL EMS will request an extension on the 60 days that NORCAL gave us to sort it out. Everyone agrees that what is in place has been working, so the goal is to formalize it with the blessing of all entities involved. Frank Lang did mention that he consulted with Tim Beals regarding possible LAFCO implications, and it appears that the agreement with the county should be grandfathered in because it dates back to 1989.

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Agenda item 4. b) 7 Firehouse Projects and ADA compliance The planning committee met on May 3rd and will provide a report.

Agenda item 4. b) 8 Pending Grants

- ❖ CDF 50/50 grant for Fiscal year 23/24 - The Chief(s) decided to skip applying this year.
- ❖ Additional siren for Alleghany. – The Sierra County department of OES recently got combined with the Sheriff's Office as part of the restructuring that is taking place with Tim Beal's pending retirement. LeTina Vanetti has been appointed the new county OES Coordinator. OES handles the annual Homeland Security Grant which is available for both fire protection and law enforcement and which was originally identified as a source of funding for this project. In recent years all the funds have been used for law enforcement, but hopefully they will start allocating some of it to fire protection again.

Pending items not addressed on this month's agenda:

(Staff needs more time to work on them before presenting to the board, more info needed, or conditions not right to proceed)

- Water Tender Upgrade
- Fund Policy revision (need to create simplified tracking sheet)
- MOU with non-profits (name changes) We are waiting on documentation from the AVFD non-profit corporation.
- Engine Bay conversion to ADA friendly space Pike firehouse (need cost estimate).
- Signage for firehouses (Need signs with updated department names and updated district logo)
- Long-term plan for adding two larger engine bays in Pike (defined as highest capital improvement priority first by the Chief(s) then the board in Sept. 2022 with letter to USDA Rural Development)
- **Repair to west wall of Station 1 in Allegheny. The metal siding was purchased last April, arrived last summer and is sitting in the County Yard. Waiting for good weather to do it.**
- Proposed changes to Ordinance #1 discussed in Feb. 2023 – Larry Allen found additional code that would allow us to bill for environmental spills & clean-up. More legal research is needed before a new draft will be ready for the first reading.
- ISO survey done in 2019 ~ I have not been able to get a copy of our survey docs from 2019. Every time that I contact them, they tell me to create a user account on their website, which I do, and get a message that a confirmation email will be generated but it never happens. I have contacted the person who did the survey and he said that I am not the only one having problems and that he would get back to me, but he never has. **The ISO survey will be due again next year.** It is a very involved process that I spent well over 40 hours on last time, but we did manage to get a better ISO rating for the district as a result of the work.
- Free attorney consult: I was authorized a long time ago, to inquire about the borrowing limits for CSD's to see if there is any additional information (legal precedence) besides the code but haven't done it.