



Long Valley Fire Protection District  
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**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
ON APRIL 8, 2015**

Date: Wednesday, April 8, 2015  
Time: 7:00 p.m.  
Location: Long Valley Fire Station, 3605 Crowley Lake Drive, Crowley Lake, CA

Members Present: Brown, Day, Rutkowski, and Shaw  
Members Absent: Beveridge  
Others Present: Chief Maniaci, Secretary/Administrative Assistant Grossblatt,  
Volunteer Lester Perpall

1. Call to order, roll call, and announcements. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Brown mentioned that he attended a recent Mammoth Lakes Fire Department Board meeting. One of the key issues of concern for their Board was updating their "rolling stock" of equipment and how to finance the necessary upgrades.
2. Opportunity for public to address the Board on non-agendized items. None.
3. Volunteer Report. The Board moved the Volunteer's report up in the agenda. Lester Perpall gave the Board an update on the fishing opener. Regarding training exercises, he mentioned that a joint exercise was held with the County paramedics. "In-house" driver trainings were also held amongst the volunteers.
4. Approval of the minutes of the March 11, 2015 regular meeting. A MOTION WAS MADE BY BROWN, SECONDED BY DAY, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 11, 2015 REGULAR MEETING. MOTION PASSED 4-0.
5. Chief's Report.
  - A. Report on Current Fire Department Activities, Assignments and Schedule for potential Board direction. We have had three calls since the last meeting. One call was for a vehicle accident (with a deer). One call was for a medical aide regarding a slip and fall. One call was related to an incorrect page.

The reimbursement check for the Round Valley Fire was received this afternoon. A special firefighter payroll will be sent out with the next payroll cycle.

A brief discussion was held regarding the problems associated with the Firefighter pension program. Fortunately, many of the problems that have plagued the District are slowly being resolved.

Chief Maniaci mentioned that a multi-agency wildfire-urban interface training exercise is being planned in early May.

Commissioner Brown asked Chief Maniaci about current projects in the pipeline and any associated mitigation fees that may be forthcoming.

B. Long Range Planning Discussion.

(a) Personnel. A program has been worked out with Mammoth Hospital regarding physicals for new volunteers. The special rate for the physical is \$130 which is similar to what other public agencies are paying.

(b) Airport. No update.

(c) Geothermal. We are still waiting to schedule a joint training exercise at the Geothermal plant.

(d) Maintenance. All fleet vehicles have been recently serviced. Chris Baitx will be cleaning up the flower beds.

5. Secretary to the Board/Administrative Assistant Report. Secretary Grossblatt indicated he will be updating all the files in the dispatch office. There are several older files that he will be going through and purging where necessary. A brief discussion was held regarding the Xerox machine power supply and the impacts of the weekly generator testing cycle.

6. Discuss ERAF. No update. Carry over to the next agenda.

7. Review monthly financial reports and budget. Make changes to budget as necessary. Commissioner Brown asked why the District was paying for internet service related to Digital 395 when we were told that all public agencies would not be required to pay any monthly fees. Unfortunately, there was no explanation other than all public agencies were paying for internet service related to Digital 395. Secretary Grossblatt indicated that 39% of the budget remains unspent with 10 weeks to go in the current fiscal year. There were no other items of note to brief the Board on regarding the current budget.

8. 1<sup>st</sup> review of the 2015/16 Fiscal Year Budget. Chief Maniaci passed out two draft versions of the 2015/16 fiscal year budget. One version contained the revenue figure from the Mono County Assessor's Office (approximately \$291,730). The other version added approximately \$16,970 from the 2014/15 budget surplus into the 2015/16 revenue figure for a total budget of \$308,700. Both versions of the draft 2015/16 budget included a proposal to pay-off the remaining balance of the rescue engine (approximately \$45,027) from reserves. Paying off this balance saves \$7,563 in interest costs and eliminates the annual payment of approximately \$16,000 from the proposed budget (line item 304 entitled "rescue equipment"). The Board then discussed the pros and cons of paying off the rescue engine. Commissioner Brown expressed concern over using \$45,000 in reserves to pay off the rescue engine when those monies may be needed for future vehicle equipment upgrades. Further, without knowing the exact amount of mitigation fees coming into the capital account, he felt it was difficult to commit the \$45,000 towards the rescue engine payoff. Commissioner Shaw indicated that saving \$7,500 in interest costs (over three years) by paying off the rescue engine was a significant savings to the taxpayers. Commissioner Rutkowski concurred with this assessment and mentioned that our reserve balance would still be over \$500,000 after paying off the rescue engine. Chief Maniaci indicated that he will prepare a 3<sup>rd</sup> version of the draft budget without the payoff of the rescue vehicle (and the associated cuts necessary to balance the budget). The Board agreed to revisit this important issue at the May meeting. Questions then arose regarding the correlation of savings from the Fleet Equipment Manager position and any possible increases in the equipment-maintenance line item. Chief Maniaci indicated that he increased the equipment-maintenance line item by \$5,000 in regards to this issue. Secretary Grossblatt confirmed that a public hearing will be held in June before the budget will be finalized. Carry over to the next agenda.

9. Resolution R15-02 approving new CDF rates. Chief Maniaci briefly discussed why a resolution was necessary with respect to updating the CDF reimbursement rates. The resolution language is similar to what other Fire Districts have submitted to the State. A MOTION WAS MADE BY BROWN TO WAIVE THE READING AND APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. R15-02 OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE LONG VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT IDENTIFYING THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR FIRE DISTRICT RESPONSES AND COMPENSATION AWAY FROM THE OFFICIAL DUTY STATION AND/OR ASSIGNMENT ON AN EMERGENCY INCIDENT AND SECONDED BY RUTKOWSKI. MOTION PASSED 4-0.

10. Benton Crossing Landfill agreement with Mono County. No current update. The agreement is still being reviewed by CDF and the Forest Service. Carry over to the next agenda.

11. Review correspondence received since the last regular meeting. None.

12. New Business. Commissioner Shaw asked about a retirement party for John DePerro.

13. Call for Agenda Items for Next Regular Meeting. ERAF; landfill agreement with Mono County; 2<sup>nd</sup> review of the 2015/16 fiscal year budget.

14. Adjournment. A motion was approved to adjourn the meeting and reconvene in regular session on May 13, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Long Valley Fire Station, 3605 Crowley Lake Drive, Crowley Lake, California.

Michael Grossblatt  
Secretary to the Board