



Long Valley Fire Protection District  
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**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
ON MAY 11, 2016**

Date: Wednesday, May 11, 2016  
Time: 7:00 p.m.  
Location: Long Valley Fire Station, 3605 Crowley Lake Drive, Crowley Lake

Members Present: Beveridge, Brown, Day, Rutkowski, and Shaw  
Members Absent: None  
Others Present: Chief Maniaci; Secretary/Administrative Assistant Grossblatt

1. Call to order, roll call, and announcements. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Brown notified the Board that an ethic's training seminar, put on by the County, is scheduled for Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at the June Lake Community Center from 2 to 4 p.m. Commissioner Brown also mentioned that at the recent LAFCO meeting, interest was expressed on merging the Wheeler Crest and Paradise fire departments as well as the Lee Vining and Mono City fire departments. Finally, Commissioner Brown asked about the status of the property tax revenue amount that was withheld due to the pending property appraisals for MMSA and the Geothermal plant several years ago. Mr. Grossblatt informed the Board that he inquires annually about this withheld amount and the last response from the County was that while a small amount was refunded in a past installment (roughly \$500 of the \$11,000 withheld), the appraisals are still on-going and that the property tax monies would still be retained in case refunds to the two entities were required. Mr. Grossblatt indicated that he would follow up with Stephanie Butters at the County for a current update on this issue.

2. Opportunity for public to address the Board on non-agendized items. No public.

3. Approval of the minutes of the April 13, 2016 regular meeting. A brief discussion was held clarifying a couple of sections in the draft minutes. A MOTION WAS MADE BY RUTKOWSKI, SECONDED BY DAY, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 13, 2016 REGULAR MEETING AS AMENDED. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

4. Chief's Report.

A. Volunteer Report. There was no volunteer update. Chief Maniaci briefly discussed the turnout for the Crowley Lake fishing opener.

B. Report on Current Fire Department Activities, Assignments and Schedule for potential Board direction. There were a total of 4 calls since the last meeting. Three of the calls were related to vehicle incidents (cancelled call, wrong way driver, and a deer collision). One call was for a medical response.

C. Long Range Planning Discussion.

- (a) Personnel. Mimi McDonald is no longer a volunteer. Plans are being made for separate retirement recognitions for Bill Wagner and John DePerro. We need to pay several volunteers for their time at the Walker fire. We will also follow up with Cal Fire for any reimbursements for the Walker fire.
- (b) Airport. The FAA has been doing inspections at the airport. The gate near the Convict Lake intersection will remain in place.
- (c) Geothermal. A joint inspection by both the LVFPD and MLFD is planned for at the end of May.
- (d) Maintenance. The water tender (3280) is back in service. Nathan Phillips reset the lighting mechanism so that the lights automatically turn off on timely basis.

A secure box was installed near the front door to store firearms that are carried by some of the volunteers (particularly during call responses). The safe has a biometric security access function.

Chief Maniaci met with the new Town Building Department Official.

We are still waiting to hear from the USFS on the possible acquisition of a “brush” rig. The Chief mentioned that we will need to do our due diligence in working out any details with the possible acquisition.

We will provide fire services once again at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities at Crowley Lake at the request of the Town of Mammoth Lakes. The Chief will meet with the Town over the coming weeks to outline the fire plan.

We will be receiving the used Ford Expedition from the County in the coming weeks. This vehicle will be outfitted with the necessary equipment and will be the “new” 3200.

We were contacted by the FCC about our radio system and our license status.

5. Secretary to the Board/Administrative Assistant Report. No report.
6. Discuss ERAF. We have not received a response as of yet from the resolution that was sent to our State legislators. Carry over to the next agenda.
7. Review monthly financial reports and budget. Make changes to budget as necessary. Mr. Grossblatt informed the Board that we have 44% of the budget unspent with 12.5% of the fiscal year remaining. This translated into a current surplus of roughly \$131,000. He estimated that on his end we had an additional \$30,000 in expenditures remaining for the fiscal year. The Chief indicated that he had additional expenditures that total \$15,000. Assuming there are no other significant expenses, we should end up with a surplus around \$85,000. Overall, we have \$616,823 in our operating account as of today. In addition, we can expect roughly \$110,000 in additional property tax revenues from the 2<sup>nd</sup> property tax installment (these amounts have not been posted as of yet).
8. Water tender update. The due diligence in South Dakota went extremely well. The specifications were reviewed and “fine-tuned” to everyone’s satisfaction. The Chief indicated that the manufacturer will drive and deliver the new water tender to the District. This transportation cost is incorporated into the purchase price of the water tender. There will be some reimbursement costs that will be paid to Tony Erwin. The Chief then passed out several financing scenarios that were presented in a spreadsheet. After an extensive discussion, the Board determined that the additional interest savings of paying for the water tender in full rather than financing the balance following a down payment made financial sense. In essence, under the scenario that was reviewed, the District would save the taxpayers \$7,520 in interest costs, plus an additional \$2,300 off the purchase price if we paid for the water tender in full. After additional discussion, there was unanimous consent the current budget of roughly \$300,000 per year could not absorb a financing payment of roughly \$60,000 per year and that paying for the water tender in full was the correct decision. A MOTION WAS MADE BY BEVERIDGE, SECONDED BY RUTKOWSKI, TO PAY FOR THE WATER TENDER IN FULL. MOTION PASSED 5-0.
9. Discussion of Sunnyslopes station (CIP item “06B”). No update. Much of this agenda item is dependent on whether the District receives the Forest Service rig. Carry over to the next agenda.
10. 2<sup>nd</sup> review of the 2016/17 fiscal year draft budget. Chief Maniaci passed out an updated draft budget based on comments from the April meeting. This updated budget includes a new revenue figure from the County of \$304,074. This new revenue figure is roughly \$9,000 higher than the previous estimate. Modest raises for the salaried employees were included in this updated budget as recommended by the Board. Training expenses were boosted to reflect an additional AARF vehicle certification for one of the

volunteers. Additional discussions were then held regarding several line item entries. At the conclusion of this discussion, the Board was satisfied with the proposed budget for the 2016/17 fiscal year. A public hearing will be scheduled at the June meeting for formal adoption. Carry over to the next agenda.

11. EMS Update/possible discussion. There were no additional updates on this issue. This issue remains a high priority for the County Board of Supervisors. Future updates on this issue will be discussed under the Chief's report.

12. Discussion regarding the possible repeal of the 1994 MOU between the Long Valley Fire Protection District and the Town of Mammoth Lakes regarding the Mammoth-Yosemite Airport; follow-up discussion regarding the development of a new MOU. The Town has made no significant progress on the new MOU. After a brief discussion, the Board decided to carry this item over to the next agenda.

13. Emergency Broadcast System discussion. Chief Maniaci spoke with Deb Diaz at the County on this issue. Her response was that they were thrilled to have the District be responsible for this system. The fee is \$175 and is due before the end of May. It was suggested that the Chief meet with Linda Salcido of the County before this issue is finalized. We will go ahead and pay the \$175 fee via our credit card. Carry over to the next agenda.

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

15. New Business. Chief Maniaci mentioned that he wanted to agendize the fire mitigation fee revision at the next meeting.

16. Call for Agenda Items for Next Regular Meeting. ERAF update; Emergency Broadcast System; Discussion of the possible repeal of the 1994 MOU regarding the Mammoth-Yosemite Airport/consideration of a new MOU; Public hearing on the 2016/17 fiscal year draft budget; Discussion of Sunnyslopes station (CIP "06-B"); Fire mitigation fee review; Closed session for personnel reviews.

17. Adjournment. A motion was approved to adjourn the meeting and reconvene in regular session on June 8, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the Long Valley Fire Station, 3605 Crowley Lake Drive, Crowley Lake, California.

Michael Grossblatt

Administrative Assistant/Secretary to the Board