



Long Valley Fire Protection District
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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
March 9th, 2022

Date: Wednesday, March 9th, 2022
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: 3605 Crowley Lake Drive, Crowley Lake, CA 93546

Members Present: Hank Brown, Tom Beveridge, Ron Day, Sharon Shaw, Kim Czeschin

Members Absent: Fire Chief Vince Maniaci

Others Present: Volunteer Scott McGuire (representing Fire Chief), Volunteer Pete De George, Volunteer Soibian Spring, Secretary Katie Durgin

Others Absent: None

1. Call to order, roll call, Pledge of Allegiance, and announcements. The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. Commissioner Brown announced that there will be a Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) meeting in April if anyone from the department would like to attend. Commissioner Brown will forward information to anyone who is interested in attending.
2. Opportunity for public to address the Board on non agendized items. No public present.
3. Approval of the Minutes of the February 9th, 2022 regular meeting. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER BROWN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BEVERIDGE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 9TH, 2022 REGULAR MEETING. Motion passed 5-0.
4. Chief's Report.
 - A. Volunteer's Report. Volunteer Soibian Spring reported they had a three-and-a-half-hour ice rescue call at Convict Lake. The call was the sixth this year in the same area. Two people had slipped at the same location around the lake and were stranded for five hours. They were not in the lake; however, they were stuck with no way out. A ski patrol member who was recreating in the area was able to access the people and call for emergency services. Volunteer Pete De George commented that the topography was very steep requiring ropes and other technical equipment. No injuries were reported. Soibian Spring reported that the volunteers have established an engineers group. Fred Stump created a document that includes all the

information that pertains to each engine. The group will use this information as the basis for engineer training. Scott McGuire reported that there was a mini tornado at the industrial park across from the airport. The tornado destroyed three trailers at Adventures in Camping. 15 cars were destroyed including Scott McGuire's personal vehicle. No injuries were reported. The tornado dissolved as it approached the Mammoth Airport.

- a. Volunteer Firefighter Requirements. Soibian Spring spoke on behalf of the Long Valley Firefighters Association. After discussion of the firefighter requirements, the Long Valley Firefighters Association voted to request that the Board of Commissioners withhold discussion of the requirements until the new Fire Chief is hired. Commissioner Shaw stated that the Board cannot withhold discussion on the firefighter requirements until a new Fire Chief is hired. Commissioner Brown suggested that the Board adopt the Volunteer Firefighter Requirements with the option of amending them when the department hires a new Fire Chief. Discussion was made specifically on the requirement stating "Firefighters shall attend all meetings, drills, and trainings as possible unless with advance permission and agreement of the Chief and Board. Firefighters are expected to attend a minimum of 25 training sessions per year. Officers are expected to attend a minimum of 35 training sessions per year." Commissioner Brown commented that there has been much discussion on the firefighter requirements. He noted that the Board has expressed concern with the financial impact of keeping volunteer firefighters on workers compensation insurance who are not meeting a standard of trainings and calls. However, Commissioner Brown stated that he does not want to put something in place that will hamper acquiring new volunteers or keeping current volunteers on the department. The Board of Commissioners clarified that if the volunteers cannot meet the set expectations, they will not be terminated; however they will be encouraged at that point to meet the expectations. A suggestion was made to change the word "expected" to "recommended" and to change the minimum training session attendance for officers from 35 to 30. Scott McGuire suggested creating a system that serves to internally maintain an accurate roster that will be addressed monthly. Scott McGuire and Secretary Durgin will connect monthly to address active and inactive volunteers and adjust the roster accordingly. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER BROWN TO LEAVE THE WORD "EXPECTED" AS IS AND CHANGE THE MINIMUM TRAINING ATTENDANCE FOR OFFICERS FROM 35 TO 30 SESSIONS. The motion was not seconded by a member of the Board of Commissioners. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER BEVERIDGE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DAY TO CHANGE THE WORD "EXPECTED" TO "RECOMMENDED" AND TO CHANGE THE MINIMUM TRAINING ATTENDANCE FOR OFFICERS FROM 35 TO 30 SESSIONS. MOTION PASSED 4-1.

B. Report on Current Fire Department Activities, Assignments and Schedule for potential Board direction. No news.

C. Long Range Planning Discussion.

- (a) Personnel. Volunteer Soibian Spring spoke on behalf of the Long Valley Firefighters Association regarding the hiring process of a new Fire Chief. Soibian reported that they would like to have a member from the Association to review applications and be part of the interview process. Volunteer Scott McGuire reported on behalf of Chief Maniaci. Scott McGuire reported that the Insurance Services Office (ISO) tri-annual inspection will take place on March 14-16th. Volunteer Douglas Brooks has completed his EMT training. Scott McGuire reported that Chief Maniaci would like to request from the Board to reimburse Douglas Brooks up to half of the training costs. The Board approved the reimbursement with the recommendation of providing full reimbursement once Douglas Brooks is active again on the department.
- (b) Airport. Mammoth seasonal flights will end on April 14th. Flights will begin again on June 15th.
- (c) Geothermal. The department will do a seasonal walk through at the new geothermal substation this coming spring.
- (d) Station Maintenance. Cory Barnett has taken over the cleaning position at the station. Secretary Durgin will get Cory Barnett set up on payroll direct deposit. Commissioner Brown suggested replacing all lightbulbs at the station. Station Maintenance Manager Devin Preston will begin replacing the lightbulbs.
- (e) Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance. Scott McGuire reported that 3281 is currently at Burtons. When 3281 is finished, 3231 will be going to Burtons for repair.
- (f) Airport MOU between Town of Mammoth Lakes and Long Valley Fire Protection District. Scott McGuire reported that the letter drafted by Chief Maniaci has been submitted to the Airport Deputy Manager. The letter states the expectations of Long Valley Fire Protection District. The letter will replace the Memorandum of Understanding Agreement with the Town of Mammoth Lakes.
- (g) Board of Forestry Fire Safe Regulations Discussion and Possible Action. No news.
- (h) Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Service. No news.

5. Board Review/ Approval of Payment Warrants since February 9th regular meeting. All Board members have reviewed the warrants since last regular meeting. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER BROWN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DAY TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT WARRANTS. MOTION PASSED 5-0.
6. Discussion on possible hiring of new Fire Chief. The Board of Commissioners will allow a member of the Long Valley Firefighters Association to be on the sub-committee that will review candidates for a new Fire Chief. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER BEVERIDGE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CZESCHIN, TO CREATE A SUB-COMMITTEE THAT WILL REVIEW CANDIDATES FOR THE FIRE CHIEF POSITION. THE SUB-COMMITTEE WILL CONSIST OF COMMISSIONER BROWN, COMMISSIONER DAY, AND A MEMBER OF THE LONG VALLEY FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION. MOTION PASSED 5-0. Discussion was made on how the department wants to advertise the Fire Chief position. Commissioner Shaw stated that if no one has interest from within the department, we need to pursue advertising outside of the department. Scott McGuire opted to not only promote the position from within but also promote outside the department. Scott McGuire further suggested that only when all applications have been submitted, then the committee review all candidates both from within and outside of the department. Commissioner Brown notified the Board that the Mammoth Fire Department is hiring an outside firm to recruit candidates for a Fire Chief position. Commissioner Brown suggested that Long Valley Fire Department hire the same firm to recruit a new Fire Chief. Commissioner Day suggested the department advertise locally at first. If no candidates come forth, the department advertise outside of the community. Commissioner Brown suggested that the hiring sub-committee along with Fred Stump and Chief Maniaci meet to decide how they want to proceed with advertising for the Fire Chief position. Carry over.
7. Review Draft of Long Valley Fire Protection District Bylaws. Secretary Durgin suggested that she provide the Minutes and Agenda to the Board two weeks prior to the monthly meetings. The Board will then have enough time to submit corrections at least one week prior to the meetings. Carry over.
8. Update on Education Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF). Carry over.
9. Discussion on Solar Panel Installation at the Fire Station. Carry over.
10. Secretary to the Board's Report. Secretary Durgin reported that she spoke with Joyce Goggans, the senior auditor for State Compensation Insurance Fund (SCIF) regarding proration of volunteers for workers compensation. Joyce Goggans confirmed that SCIF does prorate workers compensation based off the volunteer start and end dates that are submitted at the end-of-year audit. A volunteer cannot receive workers compensation proration based on only when they are active. The proration is based on their start and end dates as a volunteer. Secretary Durgin will contact Ben Romo to discuss the possibility of finding lower workers compensation rates.

11. Review correspondence received since the last regular meeting. Secretary Durgin received correspondence from Scheereen Dedman with the Mono County Clerk Records office. The Clerk Records office will be conducting verification of each district boundary prior to the upcoming November General Election. Scheereen Dedman is requesting district boundary documentation from each district only if the district requires redistricting from the 2020 census. Secretary Durgin asked the Board if this applied to Long Valley Fire Protection District. Commissioner Brown stated that this does not apply to Long Valley Fire Protection District and that our district does not require redistricting. Secretary Durgin will forward the correspondence to Commissioner Shaw to review the documentation request.
12. Review and adjust current FY budget line items as necessary and accept. The Board of Commissioners reviewed the current FY budget. No adjustments were made.
13. New Business. No new business.
14. Call for Agenda items for next regular meeting. First Review of FY 2022-2023 Budget Draft; Discussion on possible hiring of new Fire Chief; Review Draft of Long Valley Fire Protection District Bylaws; Update on ERAF; Discussion on Solar Panel Installation at the Fire Station.
15. Adjournment. A motion was made by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Beveridge, to adjourn the meeting and reconvene in regular session on April 13th, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Long Valley Fire Station, 3605 Crowley Lake Drive, Crowley Lake, California. The motion passed 5-0.

Katie Durgin
Secretary to the Board