



Long Valley Fire Protection District  
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**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**  
**August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Date: Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
Time: 7:00 p.m.  
Location: 3605 Crowley Lake Drive, Crowley Lake, CA 93546

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

Members Absent: Tom Beveridge

Others Present: Fire Chief Scott McGuire, Division Chief Fred Stump, Volunteer  
Firefighter Paul Zastoupil, Captain/Fleet Manager Billy Czeschin, Board  
Secretary Katie Durgin (via Google Meet), Sunny Slope resident Hap  
Hazard

Others Absent: None

1. Call to order, roll call, Pledge of Allegiance, and announcements. Commissioner Brown announced that he had a phone call with former Chief Vince Maniaci during which Vince Maniaci extended his regards to the Board.
2. Opportunity for public to address the Board on items of interest to the public that are not agendized and within the jurisdiction of the Board. No public.
3. Discussion on Proposed Fire Station in the Sunny Slopes Area. Commissioner Shaw opened the discussion with staff reports.

Staff Report: Division Chief Fred Stump provided a report on his recent activities. He mentioned attending the Birchim Community Services District (BCSD) public meeting at the Crowley Community Center, where they discussed the status of the Sunny Slopes station. During the BCSD meeting, Fred raised the possibility of cost-sharing for a new power pole in the area. Fred also updated the Board on his communication with Mono County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) Coordinator Brent Calloway. Brent had confirmed receiving the requested information from BCSD and believed it met LAFCO requirements. Fred has not heard anything from Brent since, but plans to follow up with him soon. Additionally, Fred noted Gerry LeFrancois has requested drawings of the road and the easement area near Station 2 from the county. Sunny Slopes resident Hap Hazard suggested contacting Digital 395 for potentially better-engineered drawings of the area. Hap Hazard inquired about the location of the new pole Fred mentioned. Fred explained

the new pole's location and BCSD's request for cost-sharing. Commissioner Brown suggested exploring General Steel Building company as an option for Station 2 to see if there are potential cost savings. Discussion was made surrounding this suggestion touching on efficiency of utility costs and was decided that this is an option worth exploring.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 regular meeting. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER BROWN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CZESCHIN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 REGULAR MEETING. Motion passed 4-0.
5. Chief's Report.
  - A. Volunteer Report. Volunteer Firefighter Paul Zastoupil reported that there have been eight calls since the last regular meeting. Of these calls, seven occurred within the district, while one took place in the county. The nature of the calls was predominantly medical emergencies, with one incident involving a trash fire in a dumpster. Chief McGuire additionally mentioned a call pertaining to a fire caused by lightning. The average number of personnel responding to calls is eight people.
  - B. Report on Current Fire Department Activities, Assignments and Schedule for potential Board direction. Chief McGuire reported that the volunteers participated in the Bluesapalooza event in Mammoth as a fundraiser for the district. The Chief also highlighted an upcoming significant date, September 30<sup>th</sup>, marking two years since the passing of Long Valley volunteer firefighter Alex Millan. In honor of this occasion, Alex's wife and former Long Valley volunteer firefighter, Carlene Millan, will be visiting Crowley to scatter his ashes. The district will be providing one engine, and possibly more, to be part of this event. Furthermore, Long Valley Fire volunteers will be serving at the Crowley Fun Run as a fundraiser. The event is scheduled to take place near the end of September.
  - C. Long Range Planning Discussion.
    - (a) Personnel. Chief McGuire reported that Assistant Training Officer Pete DeGeorge is actively listing his house for sale and his departure from the department is likely eminent.
    - (b) Airport. Chief McGuire reported that the volunteers conducted trainings at the airport including an airport drill.
    - (c) Geothermal. The Casa Diablo IV plant has officially become operational. Long Valley Fire recently conducted a tour of the facility. Chief McGuire decided not to extend an invitation to Mammoth for the tour due to their ongoing training commitments with new firefighters, which have left their schedule inflexible. Mammoth will likely do a site walk soon, but currently their schedule is very regimented.

(d) Station Maintenance. The Long Valley Firefighters Association has acquired new exercise equipment for the station, which is currently in the process of being installed. Additionally, the Sheriff's office has committed to contributing \$1,000 to improve the gym space within the station. Chief McGuire also reported that the necessary repairs to the station's roof have been successfully completed.

(e) Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance. Chief McGuire reported that the new 3200 will be stationed in Carson City for the majority of the month to undergo various upgrades, including the installation of a new shell, graphics, a bumper lift, and radios. Additionally, he noted that 3231 has returned from Burton's Fire. Fred Stump expressed his gratitude to Commissioner Czeschin's sister for her assistance in retrieving 3231 from Modesto. Fred Stump suggested that the Board consider sending a letter to express their appreciation for her support. Chief McGuire recognized Fred Stump for his dedicated efforts in returning 3231 to operational status. He noted that the only outstanding issue with 3231 is the auxiliary pump. Chief is currently awaiting the arrival of radios for the new California Radio Interoperable System (CRIS) system.

(a) Board of Forestry Fire Safe Regulations Discussion and Possible Action. No news.

6. Board review/approval of payment warrants since last meeting. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER BROWN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DAY TO APPROVE PAYMENT WARRANTS SINCE LAST REGULAR MEETING. Motion passed 4-0.

7. Resolution R23-02 Declaring a Residential Burn-Ban. Chief McGuire presented a preliminary draft of Resolution R23-02 to the Board. Discussion was made by the Board concerning the content and language of the resolution. Key points raised during the discussion included whether the resolution should apply to residential or commercial areas, the possibility of including specific dates for when the ban would be in effect versus making it a year-round restriction, the consideration of making it an ordinance rather than a resolution, the inclusion of "warming fires" in the burn ban, addressing the State Responsibility Area (SRA), defining the types of burning activities covered, and the methods of enforcing the resolution. Hap Hazard offered a public comment stating that historically this district has not seen any major fires that have presented a big problem to the community. Most fires that have been destructive began outside of the community and burned into it. While he recognized the fire district's efforts to prevent such destructive fires within the community, he expressed concern about potential challenges in notifying the public of the imposed burn ban dates if a timeline were to be established. He also suggested that there may be a valid need for burn permits for private property owners and cautioned against overly restrictive measures, anticipating potential resistance from the community. Ultimately, the Board concluded that the department would not proceed with a resolution declaring a burn ban at this time.

8. Discussion regarding potential development in the district. Chief McGuire wanted to bring to the attention of the Board that there are currently five will-serve letter requests in his inbox. The district is currently experiencing a notable increase in planned construction projects, including developments in the industrial park, the construction of five new single-family homes, and a particularly significant project involving the construction of a three-story condominium complex comprising ten two-bedroom units. Chief McGuire highlighted the discussions he has been involved in regarding the condominium project. The challenges discussed include concerns about water availability, the fire department's lack of accessibility to the roof due to the building's design, and the necessity of obtaining a wetland permit for parking. The Chief's purpose in bringing these projects to the Board's attention was to ensure that they are informed about the ongoing development plans within the district.
9. Update on Education Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF).
  - a) Vote to approve Agreement between the County of Mono and the Long Valley Fire Protection District on ERAF remediation. Chief McGuire presented the revised agreement to the Board. Discussion was made by the Board on whether to proceed with its approval. Commissioner Brown voiced his concern regarding the agreement's termination clause, expressing a preference for an agreement lasting 2-5 years, or ideally, 20 years. Commissioner Shaw relayed feedback received from legal counsel Tim Sanford, who commended the agreement and was impressed that the district was able to accomplish this. In response to the discussion, Commissioner Shaw suggested convening a special meeting before the September Board meeting to vote on the approval of the agreement. Carry over.
10. Discussion and possible action regarding Long Valley Fire Department newsletter. No news. Carry over.
11. Secretary to the Board's Report. Secretary Durgin shared that the Volunteer Length of Service Award (VFLSA) report has been submitted. The department has five VFLSA qualifiers this year.
12. Review correspondence received since the last regular meeting. Commissioner Shaw reported correspondence concerning a letter from Congressman Kevin Kiley. Chief McGuire reported correspondence in relation to a rescue they performed at Rock Creek. Those involved sent Long Valley Fire a thank you note and a \$150 gift card to the Rock Creek Café.
13. Review and adjust current FY budget line items as necessary and accept. Secretary Durgin noted that the \$14,700 for the station roof repair was applied to the 2022/2023 budget expenditures. Chief McGuire shared that he is still waiting on assigned information to Long Valley Fire about the open FEMA report for roof repair damage.
14. New Business. No new business.

15. Call for Agenda items for next regular meeting. Discussion on proposed fire station in Sunny Slopes area; Update on ERAF; Discussion and possible action regarding Long Valley Fire Department newsletter.
16. Adjournment. A motion was made by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Czeschin, to adjourn the meeting and reconvene in regular session on September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Long Valley Fire Station, 3605 Crowley Lake Drive, Crowley Lake, California. Motion passed 4-0.

Katie Durgin  
Secretary to the Board