



Long Valley Fire Protection District
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**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
July 9, 2025**

Date: Wednesday, July 9, 2025

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: 3605 Crowley Lake Drive, Crowley Lake, CA 93546

Members Present: Lorinda Beatty, Ron Day, Dan Gordon, David Melchior, Kim Czeschin

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Division Chief Fred Stump, Equipment Manager and Captain Billy Czeschin, Secretary Kathryn Durgin (via Google Meet), Hap Hazard

Others Absent: Fire Chief Scott McGuire

1. Call to order, roll call, Pledge of Allegiance, and announcements. Commissioner Beatty called the meeting to order at 7:03pm. Commissioner Gordon led all in attendance to the Pledge of Allegiance. No announcements were made.
2. Opportunity for the public to address the Board on items of interest to the public that are not agendized and within the jurisdiction of the Board. The public did not address the Board on any items.
3. Report and provide direction on the progress of the Sunny Slopes Station 2 project. Commissioner Beatty opened the discussion with staff reports followed by public comment.

Staff Reports: Division Chief Fred Stump reported that Mono County received two consultant proposals to do the work for the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. He noted that Gerry LeFrancios and Chief McGuire reviewed the proposals and to his knowledge, began contract discussions with the County, as of about a week and a half ago. Fred also mentioned that the congressional funding request for the Station 2 Project has been deferred for one year. He shared that according to the County's lobbyist, the request remains active but will not be considered in the upcoming fiscal year. Secretary Durgin commented that at last special meeting there was an outstanding invoice for reimbursement under the \$100,000 County Preliminary Funding Agreement. She

reported that the reimbursement has since been received, and as of today, there are no outstanding invoices pending.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the June 4, 2025 Special Meeting. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER DAY, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GORDON, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 4, 2025 SPECIAL MEETING. Motion passed 5-0.
5. Chief's Report. *In Chief McGuire's absence, Commissioner Beatty read aloud a report provided by the Chief for this meeting:*
 - A. Volunteer Report. Commissioner Beatty reported that there have been 22 calls since the last regular meeting, including a larger incident known as the Dry Fire near the scenic route. She also reported that wildland training is nearly complete. She reported that the joint wildland training originally scheduled for June 7, 2025, at the Mammoth Airport with CalFire and the Inyo National Forest Service was canceled due to those agencies working wildland fires and rehabilitation.
 - B. Report on Current Fire Department Activities, Assignments, and Schedule for potential Board direction.
 - C. Long-Range Planning Discussion.
 - a) Personnel. No news.
 - b) Airport. Commissioner Beatty reported that reinspection notices have been sent out.
 - c) Geothermal. Commissioner Beatty shared that Chief McGuire is currently scheduling for summer inspections with Mammoth Lakes Fire Department.
 - d) Station Maintenance. Commissioner Beatty shared that the work done on the Memorial Garden is near complete with the flagpole still needing to be installed. Division Chief Fred Stump shared that the water is currently off while they work to install the flagpole, however the sprinkler system does work. Fred Stump noted that the pile of pallets that were on that side of the station are now gone.
 - e) Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance. Commissioner Beatty shared that the radios are in however the base is still pending. Fred Stump also noted that there is one vehicle that is having radio issues that still need to be addressed.
 - f) County and Community Updates. Commissioner Beatty reported that the Crowley Lake Dam Road is closed until fall. She shared that Mono County has a new radio contact person. Additionally, she shared that there is rumor that the county is looking to pull funding and cancel the California Radio Interoperable System (CRIS) project.

Public Comment: Sunny Slopes resident Hap Hazard commented that the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP) has posted the road closure sign

one mile past the community of Sunny Slopes. He expressed concern that visitors, many of whom are drawn to the area by a promotional website, are unaware of the closure until they have already driven in. He noted an incident where a 60-passenger bus had to turn around at the current closure sign location. Mr. Hazard shared that he has spoken with District Supervisor Rhonda Duggan and representatives from DWP about posting a closure sign, but feels it was not placed in a reasonable or effective location.

- g) Grants. Commissioner Beatty reported approval of the Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) grant is confirmed for \$80,000 with extrication equipment to be ordered in September. Additionally, she shared that the First Due program installation is currently in process for the new Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) and operations software. She noted that Secretary Durgin will be in Crowley July 23-27 for records inventory.

Public Comment: Division Chief Fred Stump reported that two representatives from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) visited the station last month and worked on an upgrade to the entire seismic network they are developing, which is part of ongoing earthquake prediction efforts. He stated that he requested all USGS equipment at the station be clearly tagged, which has since been done. He also noted the presence of a large, labeled USGS box located in the dispatch office and emphasized that it should not be bumped or moved, as it contains a sensitive instrument. Fred provided additional details about the equipment installed at the station.

6. Discussion and possible action on managing district funds. Secretary Durgin reported that she contacted Shannon LeGrand at the Mono County Finance Department to inquire about the possibility of the fire district opening a checking account for district operations. She explained to Shannon LeGrand that this is a topic currently under discussion by the Board of Commissioners and asked for details on whether it would be a viable option. Secretary Durgin shared that, after a follow-up phone call, Shannon informed her that she is not ignoring the inquiry but is waiting on a response from others to gather the necessary information. Secretary Durgin is currently waiting to hear back regarding the inquiry.
7. Discussion and possible action concerning the dedication of a portion of Highway 395 to former Captain Vidar Anderson. Division Chief Fred Stump reported that at the last meeting, he believed the endeavor was likely no longer moving forward. However, he shared that District 2 Supervisor Rhonda Duggan reached out to Legislative Director Belle Castro in Assemblymember Tangipa's office. He further shared that following their conversation, it now appears that Assemblymember Tangipa intends to submit the dedication request in the FY 2025-2026 cycle. Fred added that he has been in contact with Belle Castro to continue moving forward with this endeavor.
8. Board review/approval of payment warrants since the last meeting. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER GORDON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MELCHIOR TO APPROVE PAYMENT WARRANTS SINCE LAST REGULAR BOARD MEETING. Motion passed 5-0.

9. Board Secretary Report. Secretary Durgin reported that the resolution to transfer funds into Account 321 was submitted to Shannon LeGrand at the Mono County Finance Department on July 1, 2025. According to Secretary Durgin, Shannon is currently waiting on approval of the resolution before making the transfer. Secretary Durgin also noted that the department received a \$24.01 deposit from the U.S. Treasury, issued as a refund for a tax overpayment related to a previously voided payroll check. She shared that she has begun the QuickBooks Online ProAdvisor Training to strengthen her knowledge and skills in QuickBooks. In addition, with approval from Chief McGuire and Commissioner Beatty, she met with her sister-in-law, a Project Manager at a bookkeeping company, to receive guidance on setting up the Chart of Accounts in QuickBooks Online. She further reported that payroll will be processed next week and confirmed that the Quarterly Tax Reports for Q2 2025 have been submitted as of today.
10. Review correspondence received since the last regular meeting. Secretary Durgin noted that she recently came across a newsletter from the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) regarding potential amendments to the Brown Act, specifically Senate Bill 707 (SB 707), which could impact special districts. Commissioner Beatty added that SB 707 primarily addresses the requirement to translate public meeting documents when a certain percentage of the community speaks a qualifying language. Commissioner Beatty also shared that she is in the process of hiring a new administrative assistant for Hilton Creek, who is currently taking QuickBooks courses. Commissioner Beatty expressed interest in connecting her with Secretary Durgin to support each other in their roles.
11. Review and adjust current fiscal year budget line items as necessary and accept. Fred Stump suggested raising the budget for the flagpole installation. Discussion was made around what the costs will be. No adjustments were made to the budget.
12. New business and Board member reports. No new business and no Board member reports.

Public Comment: Division Chief Fred Stump shared that the Firewise Communities in the area are still in the formation process. He shared that the Crowley 2 group is currently filling out paperwork to be established and that there is another group that is in the beginning stages as well. He shared that to his knowledge the Sierra Springs Firewise group is still moving along.

13. Call for Agenda items for the next regular meeting. Staff report on the progress of the Sunny Slopes Station 2 project; Discussion and possible action concerning the dedication of a portion of Highway 395 to former Captain Vidar Anderson; Discussion and possible action on managing district funds.
14. Adjournment. A motion was made by Commissioner Day, seconded by Commissioner Gordon, to adjourn the meeting and reconvene for regular session on August 13, 2025 at 7:00pm at the Long Valley Fire Station, 3605 Crowley Lake Drive, Crowley Lake, California. Motion passed 5-0.

Katie Durgin
Secretary to the Board
Long Valley Fire Protection District