

**AMADOR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Meeting Was Recorded

Jackson, California
Tuesday, July 16, 2024
10:30 AM

The Board of Directors of the Amador Fire Protection District met in the County Administration Center, 810 Court Street, Jackson, California, on the above date pursuant to adjournment, and the following proceedings were had, to wit:

Present:

Brian Oneto, Chair
Pat Crew, Vice Chair
Frank Axe, Director
Richard Forster, Director
Jeff Brown, Director

Absent:

Staff:

Robert Withrow, Fire Chief
Nicole Cook, Board Clerk

AGENDA

MOTION: It was moved by Director Brown and seconded by Director Axe and carried 5-0-0 to approve the agenda as presented.

PUBLIC MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA: None

PRESENTATION:

Badge Pinning: The Fire Chief presented the badge and administered the firefighter's oath to the following rank of office: Volunteer Firefighter Bodie Pfeiffer; who was pinned by his father, Volunteer Firefighter Zachary Heliker; who was pinned by his daughter and Prevention Officer Ashley Anaya; who was pinned by one of her sons. Each have been with the District in their capacity for over a year. Chief stated that the fire service is unique in that it becomes a way of life. Wearing the badge is honorable and represents trust.

Gratitude and congratulations were given by each of the board members.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:

Fire Chief Update: The following discussion ensued relative to subject matter, no action was taken.

Operations: Amador County Fair pre-incident planning has been implemented. The 4th of July Plymouth Parade had illegal firework activity. The City Manager was notified. E-5123 is out of the county at the Shelly Fire. There was a special recognition given to Battalion Chief Watkins who took a strike team out of county. He was in charge of five agencies. For the team's appreciation, they presented BC Watkins with a challenge coin. A meeting will be scheduled to discuss mutual aid in the El Dorado

County, Diamond Springs area. The District is providing aid but we do not receive aid in return. For example, when the Plymouth station responds to a call in their area, an engine from station 116 drives down to cover in station 122 absence. This costs the District in fuel and logistics. Perhaps there could be a reimbursement for services. There was additional staffing for the 4th of July holiday. Special recognition was given to the volunteers who served during the holiday.

Cindy Grandbois, a member of the community addressed the board by asking if there was a way to identify those who purposely ignite illegal fireworks. Will AFPD be in a position to give citations? The Fire Chief responded that during the parade AFPD personnel asked those that were in the vicinity of the deployed fireworks who did it, but no one confessed. Perhaps more personnel with a badge could deter. Currently the District is working the Amador County Sheriffs Office (ACSO) regarding citations, etc.

Fire Prevention: Ashley Anaya, Prevention Officer gave an update on the following; Shake Ridge fire in June is currently deemed accidental. Special mention that smoke alarms do save lives and that she is proud to work with the Red Cross. The other fires are still under investigation at this time.

A special power point presentation was given "Fire Prevention Training Summary".

Public Information Officer: K. Dale, PIO reported the following participation:

- Senior Center hosted an event "Emergency Preparedness Fair" on June 29th
- Lupe Lane Fire Wise Community on June 29th

Primary focus is the County Fair. The District is partnering with the Amador Fire Safe Council to host a kid's area with interactive games promoting fire education and safety. Amador Fire will have a derby car this year and there will be tug a war between AFPD and ACSO.

Firewise & Property Inspections: performing inspections have allowed the District to engage directly with property owners, fostering open lines of communication. The face-to-face interaction is invaluable. This enables the District to educate residents on important matters, address their concerns in real time, and build trust through personal connection.

Currently working with CHP, exploring grant opportunities to purchase life jackets with the goal that they may be provided long term on Electra Road for those accessing the Mokelumne River.

Volunteer Program: The Fire Chief stated that he is proud of the group. There was a great turn out of volunteers who responded to a structure fire this month.

LAFCO Application for a Change of Organization: Discussion ensued relative to the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) initiating the proceedings for a change of organization to AFPD and the dissolution of the Lockwood Fire Protection District.

Director Forster expressed concern that merging may effect the Districts existing residents and their emergencies and also did not want it to cost the District additional funding to sustain LFPD.

The Fire Chief stated that at this time LFPD is not able to protect life and property. The merge would be revenue neutral. Corresponding with LAFCO, LFPD would adopt the Districts benefit assessment, their current special tax would then go away. The funding would not support full time benefited paid

employees at Lockwood, however staffing would be supplemented by using apprentice volunteers and possibly seek a paid mechanic, which would also benefit the District.

JoAnne McLaughlin, the President of the LFPD BOD addressed the Board by saying the sooner the merge is completed, the better off the residents of LFPD will be.

Cindy Grandbois, a member of the community shared the concern that merging with LFPD may cost AFPD and would possibly support the merge if the benefit assessment would apply to the LFPD residents.

MOTION: It was moved by Director Axe and seconded by Director Brown and carried 5-0-0 to approve the initiation proceedings performed by the Local Agency Formation Commission for a change of organization to AFPD and the dissolution of the Lockwood Fire Protection District.

RESOLUTION NO. AFPD 24-07

Resolution Approving the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) initiating the proceedings for a change of organization to AFPD and the dissolution of the Lockwood Fire Protection District.

JOA Agreement between LFPD and AFPD: Discussion ensued relative to subject matter. In the short term the District would fulfill the Fire Chief duties, the intention is that the day-to-day operations and logistics pertaining to LFPD would be provided by Battalion Chief Yelinek. A portion of the stipend from LFPD would be given to BC Yelinek for his additional duties. There would be no change in mutual aid; Cal Fire and Sutter Creek remain closest resources if they are in quarters.

Director Forster expressed concerns regarding language within the agreement.

Cookie Stevens, a member of the LFPD Board addressed the Board by stating there are two LFPD stations and they are empty, no one is there to respond to emergencies and it's really discouraging. The community really needs this support.

MOTION: It was moved by Director Axe and seconded by Director Crew and carried 4-1-0 to approve the amendment to the Master Joint Operations Agreement between Amador Fire Protection District and the Lockwood Fire Protection District. Director Forster, voted nay.

RESOLUTION NO. AFPD 24-09

Resolution approving the amendment to the Master Joint Operations Agreement between Amador Fire Protection District and the Lockwood Fire Protection District

Medical Director Agreement: Discussion ensued relative to subject matter. The Fire Chief presented and stated having a licensed physician brings credibility to the EMS program which most of our calls are medical related. Dr. Sloane attended the last Captain's meeting and continues to be a viable resource in patient care reporting and quality care performance.

Cindy Grandbois, a member of the public addressed the Board stating that she supports the continuation of these services.

MOTION: It was moved by Director Forster and seconded by Director Crew and carried 5-0-0 to approve the Professional Service Agreement Second Amendment for a Fire Medical Services Director between Amador Fire Protection District and the Permanente Medical Group, Inc.

RESOLUTION NO. AFPD 24-08

Resolution approving the Professional Service Agreement Second Amendment for a Fire Medical Services Director between Amador Fire Protection District and the Permanente Medical Group, Inc. a California Professional Medical Corporation (TPMG or Contractor)

New Fire Station: Discussion ensued relative to subject matter, update only, no action taken. The Fire Chief expressed his eagerness to move forward but the process is pending by seeking the most cost effective and clear process. The continuation to defer to the New Station Committee; Director Crew and Director Brown along with GSA Director.

Cindy Grandbois, a member of the public addressed the Board by asking why they might not consider selling the old property especially if there is no potential use for it.

District Monthly Reports: Discussion ensued relative to subject matters. The Fire Chief presented.

Training Report: No action taken, report only.

Vehicle Maintenance Report: No action taken, report only.

Call Report: No action taken, report only. Total of 351 calls during reporting period.

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS:

Minutes for Meeting from June 18, 2024: Discussion ensued relative to subject matter.

MOTION: It was moved by Director Forster and seconded by Director Crew, and carried 5-0-0 to approve the June 18th regular meeting minutes with no changes.

ADJOURNMENT: At 12:09 PM. Brian Oneto, Chair adjourned the meeting until Tuesday, August 20th, 2024.


Chair, Amador Fire Protection District