

FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Station 7
3111 Woodside Road
Woodside, CA 94062
October 27, 2008

Director Gardner called the regular meeting of the WFPD Board of Directors to order at 7:00 pm.

Directors Present: Gardner, Cain, and Berger

Staff: Fire Chief Armando Muela, FM Denise Enea, B/C Don Romero, B/C Dan Ghiorso, B/C Emil Picchi, Captain Steve Slaughter, Business Manager Kate Edwards, Administrative Assistant Pamela Van Horn.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None

CONSENT AGENDA:

Items 1 – 4 and 6 of the agenda were moved to the consent agenda and approved unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA:

Item 5: Fiscal Year Spreadsheet. In a response to a question from Director Berger, do we need to add revenues to PERS, our Public Employee Retirement System-~~(PERS)?-?~~ Business Manager Edwards informed the Board our next potential PERS increase would not happen until fiscal year 2010-2011. PERS uses the last three years for projecting their costs to the Fire District with no changes expected until 2011. The Fire District will monitor PERS activities closely and inform the Board of any potential changes.

STAFF REPORTS:

OPERATIONS – B/C Ghiorso reported that the operations activity for the month of August were routine. The County Communications Plan is moving ahead with its new channel and frequency plan. Until a grant for new radios comes through, WFPD will be making do with the few older radios that remain in service. Parts may be available on E-bay to keep these running until we get a grant. In September, ~~it was~~we learned that no grants had been awarded for over four weeks. In all of 2007, only one week passed without a grant being made. We were assured that there is still money earmarked for

2008. A new Mobile Data Terminal system is being considered as our next potential upgrade to our current system for tracking our engines. This upgrade will also provide our crews with incident information (GPS) mapping, pre-plans, and tracking our apparatus responses.

TRAINING – Battalion Chief Butler reported that August standard training was limited. With teams being out of County, the firefighters were busy with everyday calls and unable to go out of service for drills, etc. The Fire Academy began in September with graduation scheduled for December 19. Those who make it through will be available for provisional hiring by mid December. Three of the candidates are WFPD recruits. The bulk of our training activity was devoted to supporting the academy.

IT – B/C Romero reported that, having been gone most of August, his attention was focused on keeping systems running and verifying the integrity of the data via remote laptop. During September, B/C Romero concentrated on preplans and the design of a preplan model for local companies to use. A mockup of the wall map of the District is available for review, and comments, in the hallway between the Day Room and the Apparatus Bay. Corrections and recommendations will be accepted until we are comfortable that we have a map meeting our needs. At that point, we will authorize creation of the “real” map. Working with the Ethernet at Station 19 required a significant amount of time during the month of September.

EMS – B/C Picchi reported that James Ellis has completed his field training portion and is now a work alone medic. Michael Lambretch and Sean Devlin are now in field training process. Raymond O’Leary has passed his paramedic internship and will be completing his National Registry Testing portion. The new ambulance is expected within the next week or so. CHP may be inspecting it before authorizing delivery. Word is that it will arrive white, not red. The new ambulance will be painted red before the Fire District receives the vehicle. Active negotiation for the EMS contract will occur in December.

FIRE PREVENTION – Fire Marshal Enea announced that building projects are still coming in. Both Towns have requested extended use of the Chipper this year. This year’s Chipper Program saw an increase in service, mostly due to the large fires around the state. The Fire Safety Trailer has been utilized numerous times by other fire agencies to provide safety education to young children. This is in-line with the grant funding we received from AFG. SOD remains a topic of concern. The District’s Fire Marshal is working with both Towns to assist our residents in how to handle Sudden Oak Death. Agrafos should be applied each year as a method to control/eliminate SOD. It appears as though the injection method of application is working well.

NEW BUSINESS: Director Gardner toured the new Portola Valley Town Center. He is concerned about the photovoltaic shut off process. It is a multi part process and is not as safe for firefighters as the requirements for homes. Fire Marshal Enea informed

Director Gardner all of our fire crews have been oriented to this building and the Photovoltaic system.

The WFPD Grant Team is working on establishing non-profit foundation. A mission of the foundation is to allow citizens the ability to donate money to the foundation and receive a tax benefit.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION:

1. A thank you for the expression of sympathy for the death of David J. Gaggero, the grandfather of Marshall and Keenan Hird, was received.
2. The Woodside Area Horse Owners Association thanked the District for the use of Station 7 as a stop for their annual Day of the Horse ride.
3. Lynn and Jane Hersh thanked the department for the wonderful retirement dinner. They had a terrific time and appreciated the efforts that made the evening so memorable.
4. Woodside Kindergarten students and parents thanked the Department for their tour of the station.
5. The Village Doctor thanked Fire Chief Muela for providing volunteers for the Tour of Woodside with hopes of future collaborations.
6. Lisa Betlem sent a note to Dan Dempsey and his chipper team for all the help they provided her in ridding her home of piles of vegetation and waste.
7. Peninsula Volunteers, Inc. thanked Chief Muela for the donation of a party at a Fire Station with food provided by Peninsula Volunteers.
8. Justine and John Arrilaga, Jr, sent muffins and a note thanking the firefighters for helping their babysitter, adding that she is now fine.
9. The Board of Supervisors of Butte County sent a letter and Certificate of Appreciation to the District in thanks "for the outstanding public service provided by your fire fighting organization during the recent firestorms in Butte County." The certificate was awarded "In recognition of your immediate response to the 2008 Fire Storm and Lightening Complex, the citizens of the County of Butte extend our gratitude for your help and protection of our families and property. You provided valiant and steadfast service that saved many lives and homes. Your commitment to public service, professional training and hard work is very much noticed and appreciated."
10. The Redwood City Fire Department sent a letter to Selena Brown thanking her for her help and support of the Redwood City Fire Department Junior Fire Academy.
11. The Blues Barbeque subcommittee for the Portola Valley Open Space Acquisition thanked WFPD for the donation of a dinner party for twelve at a Woodside Fire Protection District fire station.
12. Jack sent a note and a photo of himself feeling much better than he was when the fire fighters went out on a Sunday night to help him after he hurt his head.
13. Fire Chief Armando Muela sent a letter to Fiduciary Counselling, Inc. for the donation from the Trustees of the 1993 Irrevocable Trust of Rudolph W. Driscoll, Jr.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 21:00 pm. The next meeting is November 24, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Berger