

**AMADOR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Meeting Was Recorded

Jackson, California  
Tuesday, April 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 Crew and seconded by Director Brown and carried unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

**PUBLIC MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA:** None

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:**

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

**Operations:** Currently creating eligibility lists for both Firefighter and Engineer ranks. The District is also working closely with the Sheriffs Office to develop a joint Swift Water Rescue Team. The training is scheduled for early May. BC Watkins and Sgt. Wilson are the leads from each agency. Other updates include developing a Wellness Program; having a peer support group in place is important. A member was sent to a Resiliency Training, they brought back resources and tools to share. The Captains meeting went well, very productive. They will develop orientation training for newly promoted Engineers and during the meeting they identified additional assignments for all members; including ladder maintenance, etc. Lastly, a meeting is scheduled with the Jackson Rancheria Casino Hotel to discuss Exhibit A and replacement of apparatus.

Dir. Crew asked if the volunteers would qualify to be on the FF eligibility list as a new hire and Chief Withrow answered yes.

**Fire Prevention:** A. Anaya, Prevention Officer reported that she continues to go to training, work on mandated inspections and pre-fire plans.

**Public Information Officer:** K. Dale, PIO reported that the Boot Drive raised \$5,700. All monies raised will go to the Firefighter Burn Institute. The Plymouth Spring Event was also successful despite the weather. There are 8 community events scheduled within the next 6 weeks. A lot of residents continue to reach out in desperate need of guidance and assistance regarding their home owners insurance being cancelled. Chief Withrow and K. Dale have visited over a dozen homes, at the home owner's request, walking the property and discussing defensible space. Majority of the visits, the homeowner has already done a significant amount of vegetation management. Amador Fire has been writing letters for the homeowners to give to their insurance companies explaining they have been inspected and have done the proper work and the department has physically seen it.

Dir. Forster asked if home hardening process also include evacuation routes, K. Dale responded with yes and also stated that there are tools, including checklists on the Amador Fire website.

**Volunteer Program:** Currently working to combine the two Volunteer FF Association. The Jr. FF Orientation meeting was a success, currently at 5 members. There will be a Mason's Dinner recognizing two active volunteers, FF Hill and FF Darrow. We have had a number of residents stepping forward who want to join as a Volunteer FF.

**SCI Consulting Services Agreement:** Fire Chief presented. Discussion ensued relative to subject matter.

Direction given to staff to request from SCI that the annual service fees be reduced, go from five years to a three year agreement term and verify that there is a cancellation clause.

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

**Call Report:** No action taken, report only. There were a number of traffic accidents. No significant fires other than the Pioneer Creek house fire, which was reported out last month.

**Training Report:** No action taken, report only. The Fire Chief acknowledged Battalion Chief Justin Yelinek as he wrapped up the Driver Operator Series 1A and 1B and also for Chief Watkin's Incident Command 300 class. Chief Watkins is leading the Swift Water Rescue Technician class, instructed by Rescue III International. He also organized the Multi Company Drills which focused on the Rope Rescue (RR) skills and the development of standard operating guidelines for RR. Currently the volunteer firefighters are training on wildland firefighting.

**Vehicle Maintenance Report:** No action taken, report only. E-5111 will return back to quarters once the body work has been completed. The body work received damaged caused by snow storms and the fire from the Bear River incident.

## **MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS:**

**Minutes for Meeting from March 19, 2024:** Discussion ensued relative to subject matter.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Director Forster and seconded by Director Crew, and carried unanimously, 5-0-0 to approve the March 19th regular meeting minutes with no changes.

**CLOSED SESSION:** At 11:36 a.m., the Board recessed into closed session. This portion of the meeting was not recorded.

Director Oneto recused himself from the Conference with Real Property Negotiators item because of potential conflict of interest with property owner.

**REGULAR SESSION:** At 11:43 a.m., the Board reconvened into regular session. The following matters were reviewed during closed session:

**Closed Session Minutes:** Discussion ensued relative to subject matter.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Director Crew and seconded by Director Forster and carried unanimously, 5-0-0, to approve confidential minutes of March 19th with no corrections.

**Conference with Real Property Negotiators:** Amador Fire Protection District (AFPD) Negotiators: Robert Withrow, Fire Chief, Property: Portions of APN: 030-740-022-000 Negotiating Parties: Del Rapini Construction Inc./ Rapini Delbert E Sp. Trust. - Terms and Conditions to Consider Negotiation.

Suggested Action: Discussion and possible action.

**No action was taken, update given. Discussion only.**

**ADJOURNMENT:** At 11:44 am. Pat Crew, Vice Chair adjourned the meeting until Tuesday, May 21, 2024.

  
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Chair, Amador Fire Protection District

