

**AMADOR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Meeting Was Recorded

Jackson, California
Tuesday, February 16, 2021
10:30 a.m.

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:

Pat Crew, President, Chair Director
Richard Forster, Vice President, Director
Frank Axe, Director
Jeff Brown, Director
Brian Oneto, Director [zoom]

Absent:

Staff:

Walter White, Fire Chief
Nicole Cook, Clerk of the Board

PUBLIC MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA: None

AGENDA

MOTION: It was moved by Director Axe and seconded by Director Brown and carried 5-0-0 to approve the agenda with the amendment of removing item eight; closed session, upon the request of Director Oneto, and moving it to the March meeting when they all can be present.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

January 2021 Calls Report: Chief White presented the report. Discussion ensued relative to subject matter. Board gave direction to staff to include past year for comparison for all future meetings.

January 2021 Vehicle Maintenance Report: Battalion Chief Justin Yelinek presented the report. Discussion ensued relative to subject matter.

January 2021 Training Report: Chief White presented the report. Discussion ensued relative to subject matter.

Appointment of Board Committee Members:

MOTION: It was moved by Director Axe and seconded by Director Brown and carried 5-0-0 to reappoint Director Crew and Director Forster as Plans and Policy Committee Members.

Authorization to Select One of the Three Proposals to Perform a Nexus Study of Development of Impact Fees: Deputy Fire Marshal, Pat Chew presented. Discussion ensued relative to subject matter. DFM Chew recommended Mike Baker International because of their past experience working in the county and for their rates. No motion given at this time but direction was given to staff to include the scope of work and give a status update from the City of Jackson (who has used Mike Baker International for their Nexus Study) at the next Board meeting.

Resolution to Approve an Agreement between Cal OES Type III Assignee of Temporary Transfer of Vehicular Equipment and AFD: Discussion ensued relative to subject matter. (Summary below)

Director Brown: Where will this be housed? *Chief White:* Housing at station 121

Director Oneto: How is the county being reimbursed? *Chief White:* Personnel reimburse

Director Oneto: If we send our engine do we get reimbursed? *Chief White:* On personnel only. Last year we had more requests than we can fill. We would still be sending our water tenders and type 3's as part of the mutual state aid system.

Director Oneto: Why would we send OES engine when we can send ours and get a fair amount of money back? They pay you more for wear and tear of the engine. What would be the benefit? Maybe for the state but we are small dog in a big fight. See item 10. I don't think we need another engine. If anything this is a negative.

Director Forster: Page 3; sporadically vs. temporary use for temporary cover of fire station. Most for state use, correct? *Chief White:* Primary use is for state use however if we have another apparatus in the shop we are able to use it as a first out while the other is being maintained. Director Forster: but the main emphasis is that we can use in county if there is a need, which I like. There is also a deductible of \$100 and they pay the expenses.

Director Oneto: I would like to bring the boards attention - how can an agency become an OES assignee? We will go when they call; anytime anywhere. Do we have the staff to send out like they are saying in the agreement of 4 with 3 minimum? *Chief White:* it is based on ability to staff and we have been building up our volunteer core as well to meet the minimum standards to go on a strike team and we started that last fire season to go out of county. We feel that more often than not to have the ability to staff and send this equipment. Ultimately if the agency is drawn down and unable to send we won't send it. We have the opportunity to give back the equipment if it's not beneficial or working for us. We have always taken pride in supporting the state mutual aid system and it's a big trust in us to give us an asset of \$270,000 with the expectation that we will take care of it, use it sparingly for local response and send it when the state needs it. It is the same mutual aid system that we received five years ago during the Butte Fire. This is a policy decision to support the mutual aid system at this level and accept this asset under these conditions and that would be my recommendation.

Chief White: Two things I like about this is it allows working opportunities to personnel and volunteers that I would not be able to provide for them normally.

Director Axe: This is what I understand the benefits to be, the OES engine can be used by AFPD, though limited, we can cancel at any time, less wear and tear on our apparatus, *Chief White:* there would be a partnership. *Director Axe:* Does OES provide grants for other types of things down the line and would it look favorably for us?

Director Forster: Have you been an assignee in the past with other agencies you have been with and have you seen any negatives that you can see going into something like this? *Chief White:* Yes I have and the benefits outweigh any of the training opportunity for career and volunteer valuable experience it is something we should do.

Director Crew: we get more requests than we can meet? *Chief White:* Yes

Director Oneto: I have to disagree with Chairman Crew, we do not have enough crews to send out or if we do there will be nobody here to fight fires.

Battalion Chief Yelinek: we get more for type 1 or type 3 that goes out, we make about \$2080/day billable up to a 16 hour. Water Tender is a little but less and type I ; crews on OES salary for personnel reimbursement

Director Oneto: how much for the engine? *Chief White:* we would not be reimbursed for the engine only the personnel.

Director Oneto: we are a little dog in a big fight, look at the state budget and then look at ours. I do not see a benefit in this only that we support the mutual aid but we already do this with our engines and get reimbursed for them. I am highly against this.

Chief White: Fire, Flood and Earthquake, this is a resource that can be deployed for any of these disasters. I have not only participated in OES. Our personnel takes pride in supporting the mutual aid system.

Director Forster: not putting hours and miles on our engine I believe is a good thing.

President of Local 5181; R. Crowder: A lot of valid questions that you all have brought up, our biggest gain is the upgrade in the apparatus that we use. The biggest concern are the demands that might be put on line staff to fulfill the assignments mandatory vs. voluntary moving forward. We appreciate the Chief looking out for us and putting us in more useable equipment by any means he can.

Cindy Grandbois: one of the things that I have not heard discussed is that this will allow another engine to fight any fire locally if we should get another one like Butte Fire. There is no time commitment on this, we can revisit it to make sure it's still working for us.

Richard Reed: local resident and retired firefighter. I have a concern. The good thing is having new equipment but my concern would be the staffing level. What is the Volunteer status? *Chief White:* We have roughly twenty active personnel who either meet or will meet minimum requirements to go out. We have a handful that went out last year who are ready to go. This is something we will evaluate and it provides a quality and new piece of equipment that are starting to be functionally obsolete. We do not mandate personnel, we sign up who is available that week. We keep a current list for that. Possibly mandate staff for initial attack.

Director Forster: What is the term? *Chief White:* No term.

Director Oneto: I prefer to get money back to AFPD for this operation rather than helping the state. We may have already bought a Calaveras County engine, we don't need another one. I make a motion to deny placing an OES engine in the county.

Chief White: We had trained and willing personnel to be deployed on a strike team but twice the equipment broke down and we had to pull back on the assignments because we did not have the equipment. We are trying to remedy by having the OES engine and the other type III.

Director Oneto: to Director Forster, I am against this because of the resources coming down.

Director Crew: We had a motion by Director Oneto. Do we have a second? Seeing or hearing none, the motion dies for not hearing a second.

MOTION #1: It was moved by Director Oneto not to approve said resolution, motion died for lack of second.

MOTION #2: It was moved by Director Forster and seconded by Director Axe and carried 4-1-0 to approve said Resolution between Cal OES Type III Assignee of Temporary Transfer of Vehicular Equipment and Amador Fire. Oppose Director Oneto

RESOLUTION NO. AFD 21-01

Resolution Authorizing President to Sign Cal OES Fire and Rescue Agreement for Temporary Transfer of Vehicular Equipment- Type III Engine

Director Axe: acknowledges Director Oneto's concern about the benefit but I believe fighting fires is a group effort, if it comes to that emergency coming to Amador County, I want them to come here. We need to try to support that. If it does not work, we can opt out.

Director Brown: wish we had cost analysis or a better understanding.

Richard Reed: An additional question, under mutual aid agreement being reimbursed for the equipment and personnel, does it also include the cost factor of overtime backfill? *Chief White:* Yes

Battalion Chief Yelinek: using the OES Salary Survey; CFAA agreement; we take averages of our ranks and we do an average regular rate of pay, base, benefits, retirement and they do a time and ½ and covers the backfill or personnel needs.

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

Minutes for Meetings of January 19, 2021:

MOTION: It was moved by Director Forster and seconded by Director Axe and carried 5-0-0 to approve January 19th, 2021 minutes with no changes. Director Oneto has a slight change; recently rebuilt engine, not a new motor for the Calaveras Engine.

ADJOURNMENT: At 12:01 PM., Chair Crew adjourned the meeting until March 16th at 10:30 am.



Chair, Amador Fire Protection District