

**AMADOR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Meeting Was Recorded

Jackson, California  
Tuesday, June 18, 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:**

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

**Absent:**

Brian Oneto, Chair

**Staff:**

Robert Withrow, Fire Chief  
Nicole Cook, Board Clerk

**AGENDA**

**MOTION:** It was moved by Director Axe and seconded by Director Brown and carried 4-0-1 to approve the agenda as presented, Director Oneto absent.

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

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Public hearing for the consideration of the Levy of Assessments for the Fire Protection and Emergency Response Services Assessment in accordance with Articles XIIC and XIID of the California Constitution and with Government Code Sections 53750 at the Amador County Administration Center, Board Chambers at 10:30 AM or soon thereafter.

Public Hearing opened at 10:33 AM

The Fire Chief addressed the Board by stating that the additional revenue generated, sixty percent of it will go toward personnel and the forty percent will go toward operating. The sixty percent is approximately two hundred twenty one thousand and the forty percent is approximately one hundred forty seven thousand.

Cindy Grandbois, a member of the public addressed the Board by thanking the Fire Chief for his transparency regarding the additional revenue. She also stated that she wanted to make herself more clearly from the last meeting, just because the Board is authorized to increase the rate not to exceed three percent, based on the CPI, does not mean that you have to and to please consider not increasing in the future. Does the engineers report serve any other purpose besides granting proof justifying cost of living increase?

Fire Chief responded that it's not the only function, proposition 218 requires that level of justification, the District would not be allowed legally to levy a benefit assessment without the engineers report. The report is required every year, regardless if the Board authorizes a cost of living increase or not.

Discussion ensued relative to subject matter.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Director Brown and seconded by Director Axe and carried 4-0-1 to close the public hearing, Director Oneto absent.

**Benefit Assessment:** Discussion ensued relative to approving the Final Engineer's Report, Confirming the Assessment and Ordering the Continuation of the Levy of Assessments for Fiscal Year 2024-25 for the Amador Fire Protection District, Fire Protection and Emergency Response Services Assessment.

Chris Coulter, SCI Consultant addressed the Board by stating that the original benefit assessment was left flat for so many years, essentially the District was under funded.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Director Axe and seconded by Director Brown and carried 4-0-1 To approve the Final Engineer's Report, Confirming the Assessment and Ordering the Continuation of the Levy of Assessments for Fiscal Year 2024-25 for the Amador Fire Protection District, Fire Protection and Emergency Response Services Assessment. Director Oneto absent.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. AFD 24-05**

Approving the Resolution to approve the Final Engineer's Report, Confirming the Assessment and Ordering the Continuation of the Levy of Assessments for Fiscal Year 2024-25 for the Amador Fire Protection District, Fire Protection and Emergency Response Services Assessment.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:**

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

**Good of the order:** Congratulations were given to the following Firefighters who are now off probation; Austen Montesanti, Kody Lunde, Marcos Merlin and Michael Jones. Congratulations to Jake Roller who was recently promoted to Engineer.

**Operations:** Captains meeting was productive and interactive. Medical Director, Dr. Sloane was present. There was great discussion on the CQI (continuous quality improvement) process and PCR (patient care report) documentation. LFPD Directors McLaughlin and Stevens, myself, Battalion Chief Yelinek along with Director Brown and Director Oneto attended a meeting to discuss challenges, operations, etc. for LFPD moving forward. One of the options is to dissolve LFPD and have them merge with AFD. LAFCO approached AFD requesting that a resolution be presented to the Board at the next meeting. In preparation, AFD has submitted financials to LAFCO. One of the biggest concerns is that there has been a decrease in the level of service regarding call response.

Cindy Granbois, a member of the public addressed the Board by stating her concern about being taxed or charged extra for the dissolving of Lockwood (LFPD).

Fire Chief responded with LFPD parcel tax will go away and the LFPD land owners would have AFD's benefit assessment applied instead. Cal Fire, if available, responds to Lockwood calls when dispatched.

The Wildfire Resiliency Project continues with AWA for their infrastructures, which includes inspections. Station 122 remodel continues. Margaret Roberts, the City Manager has been wonderful to work with, she secured extra funding for the apparatus bay to have exhaust emissions removed from the engines. The interior of station 112 is almost finished.

**Fire Prevention:** The Fire Chief reported that Ashley Anaya, Prevention Officer has been attending an extensive Fire Investigators training. Chief commended her dedication and commitment.

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

- Partnership with Public Health on May 24<sup>th</sup> for the Plymouth Bike Safety Fair
- Lake Drive Fire Wise event on June 8<sup>th</sup>
- Meadowlark Fire Wise event had 55+ people attend on June 15<sup>th</sup>
- Upcoming:
  - Emergency Preparedness Fair at the Senior Center on June 29<sup>th</sup>
  - Fair July 25-28 will include partnering with other agencies and resources to create a very interactive booth which would include CPR, extinguisher training, kid activities, etc.
- Property inspections continue, average three a week, since April, there has been 28 inspections performed.

**Volunteer Program:** Emergency Medical Responder Class has been completed, special thanks to Volunteer Firefighter (FF) Eric Jones for hosting and coordinating the test with MCEMSA. Apprentice FF program is working well, several good candidates on board with more being added to fill vacancies. Volunteer recruitment will occur annually, followed by an Academy. Water tender staffing by volunteers during red flag warning.

**Preliminary Budget:** The Fire Chief presented. Discussion ensued relative to the 2024-2025 fiscal year preliminary budget resolution and scheduling the public hearing for the final budget on September 17, 2024 at 10:30 AM or as soon thereafter.

Measure M personnel funding is lower than expected.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Director Forster and seconded by Director Axe and carried 4-0-1 to approve the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025, Director Oneto absent.

Public Hearing for Final Budget is set for September 17, 2024

### **RESOLUTION NO. AFD 24-06**

Resolution Approving the Preliminary Budget Fiscal Year 2024-2025

**New Fire Station:** Discussion ensued relative to subject matter. The planning commission approved the new station relocation of station 114. Special thank you to Chuck Beatty Planning Department Director and Nicole Cook for working hard on the use permit and negative declaration CEQA documents. Escrow closed on the property. The Fire Chief requested approval to obtain an agreement between AFD and Weatherby-Reynolds-Fritson to draft plans for a new fire station. The concept is once the plans are received, the District would request for proposals for contractor build.

Direction was given to Staff to seek approval from GSA Director and County Counsel prior to bringing forth an agreement. If approved by both, a motion was moved by Director Forster and seconded by Director Brown for the Fire Chief to obtain an agreement to present to the BOD with Engineering and Design firm.

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

**Call Report:** Total of 364 calls for the month of May. Staff is still working on obtaining accurate reporting using the new ESO program. There has been a significant number of traffic accidents.

**Training Report:** No action taken, report only.

**Vehicle Maintenance Report:** No action taken, report only.

**MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS:**

**Minutes for Meeting from May 21, 2024:** Discussion ensued relative to subject matter.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Director Forster and seconded by Director Axe, and carried 4-0-1 to approve the May 21st regular meeting minutes with minor changes, Director Oneto absent.

**ADJOURNMENT:** At 11:45 am. Pat Crew, Vice Chair adjourned the meeting until Tuesday, July 16<sup>th</sup>.

  
Chair, Amador Fire Protection District