



GEYSERVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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Board of Directors:
Michael Pigoni
Robert Stewart
Paul Bernier
Harry Bosworth
Tim Barnard

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 2006 AT 7:00 P.M.

At the Geyserville Fire Station #1, 20975 Geyserville Avenue, Geyserville

1. OPENING GREETING

- A. Meeting called to order by President Michael Pigoni at 6:02 P.M.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Roll Call: Michael Pigoni, Rob Stewart, Paul Bernier, Tim Barnard and Harry Bosworth present. Chief Pigoni was also present.
- D. Agenda Approval: **A motion was made and seconded (Stewart/Bosworth) to approve the agenda. All ayes.**

CLOSED SESSION

The regular meeting was adjourned and the Board met in closed session to discuss contract salaries for the administrative assistant, fire inspector and fire chief, and other applicable labor issues.

RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting was reconvened at 6:55 P.M. The Board announced that the Fire Chief's salary was increased to \$3,000.00 per month, for providing a minimum of 20 hours a week and one accessible day at the firehouse. The fire inspector and administrative assistant were given a \$1.00 per hour raise.

2. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

No public discussion.

3. MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded (Stewart/Bosworth) to approve the Minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting for April 12, 2006. All ayes.

4. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- A. The current financial reports from the County and bookkeeper Jeanne Davis

GATEWAY TO THE GEYSERS

were reviewed. Year-to-date expenses for fiscal year 2005/2006 are \$1,243,259. Over the past month, Operating Fund expenses were \$62,749.91, and station fund expenses were \$37.00.

- B. The Board held a brief discussion of the 2006/2007 budget, during which it was decided they would meet in two weeks to discuss the budget in more detail.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

Warrants for the month of April were reviewed and approved.

A motion was made and seconded (Barnard/Bernier) to approve the April warrants. All ayes.

6. CHIEF'S REPORT

Fire Chief Paul Pigoni reported the following:

- There have been 185 calls to-date; 48 in the last month.
- There are currently 30 firefighters, 0 probationary firefighters, one firefighter on leave, and 9 new recruits.
- Tomorrow at 9:00 A.M the Indian Gaming Commission will announce if the District will be awarded its grant request for an ambulance.
- There have been some recent changes to dispatch. Water Tender 6192 will be attached to all structure and vegetation fire calls, with a second tone-out for the officers. Dane now carries an officer's pager, so he is not disturbed by non-fire calls.
- A summer crossing is scheduled to provide temporary access for emergency vehicles from June 15th to completion.
- On May 22nd, the CDF will continue to honor its agreement from the Healdsburg CDF station at Lytton Springs.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Truck Committee Report: Ryan Petersen reported on the status of Department apparatus, noting that the 70 series engines are scheduled for service, 82 had its annual, and 31 is out of service for box repair.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence.

9. OLD BUSINESS

- A. The multi-purpose room rental agreement was tabled.
- B. Discussion of ALS ambulance service was opened by Board President Michael Pigoni, who introduced the subject and turned the floor over to the Fire Chief. Chief Pigoni reminded the Board of the purpose of the proposal, to reduce firefighter burnout and provide a higher level of service. The Chief wondered if this was an avenue worth pursuing, and estimated it would take nine to twelve months to put the project together.

President Michael Pigoni commented on the report's numbers, and Director Rob Stewart appreciated the benefits of ALS service, but expressed interest in pursuing less costly options, such as an engine paramedic or partnership with existing providers. He reported that his greatest concern regarding the project is the controversy generated by the proposal.

Director Paul Bernier had several questions. He asked for clarification on certain communications between the Chief and the Casino, and noted he was previously unaware of any concern with the current service. The Chief explained that he asked individuals' opinions on the ambulance, and the volunteers were okay with it. There was some discussion of the current relationship between Bell's Ambulance and Geyserville volunteers, and clarification by the Chief regarding his use of Cloverdale Ambulance as an example of a potential partnership. Director Paul Bernier pointed out certain remarks in the proposal, and the Chief stood by all comments in the report.

Director Harry Bosworth expressed concern over the division of the community over the proposal, and wished to wait on any decisions until the subject had cooled. Director Tim Barnard understood how ALS service could help with firefighter burnout, but expressed concern over some of the wording in the report and uncertainties of the project. He remarked he would prefer to explore a partnership with existing providers.

At this point the Board opened up the discussion to the public. Mary Anne Turbeville of Geyserville wondered if the ambulance would become a burden to the taxpayers if the casino failed to give the Department money, and if future casinos could affect this income. Scott Sibary, also of Geyserville, asked for clarification on the status of the grant, and suggested referring the proposal to a lawyer. Another member of the public, Paul Grill of Alexander Valley, wondered why involved parties had not previously met to discuss the proposal.

Volunteer Fred Peterson discussed communication between the Chief and the Board, and Volunteer Ryan Petersen wanted the Board to focus on better service, not the report.

Fire Chief Paul Pigoni emphasized that putting off the decision to provide ambulance service would be ignoring the issue of providing better service.

A motion was made and seconded (Stewart/Barnard) to table discussions on ALS ambulance service until next month. All ayes.

10. NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

11. GOOD OF THE ORDER

Michael Pigoni announced that mandatory ethics training will take place on June 1st at 6:30 in the Senior Center of Cloverdale.

Open House is on May 20th.

Ronald Du Preez, Association Treasurer, asked if the Board has a five year plan for the Campaign money, and the Board explained that the money is to pay off the building. Michael Pigoni noted that he appreciates Ronald's work.

Tim Barnard reminded the Board that three Board members are coming up for re-election this year.

12. ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING

A motion was made and seconded (Bosworth/Stewart) to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 P.M. All ayes.

Minutes approved as written- Motion/Second: _____

Clerk of the Board: _____

Date: _____