



Long Valley Fire Protection District  
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**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Date: Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: 3605 Crowley Lake Drive, Crowley Lake, CA 93546

Members Present: Lorinda Beatty, Ron Day, Kim Czeschin, Dan Gordon

Members Absent: David Melchior

Others Present: Fire Chief Scott McGuire, Division Chief Fred Stump, Secretary Kathryn Durgin (via Google Meet), Billy Czeschin, Hap Hazard, Rich Booher, Becky Davis

Others Absent: None

1. Call to order, roll call, Pledge of Allegiance, and announcements. The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. Commissioner Czeschin led all in attendance to the Pledge of Allegiance. No announcements were made.
2. Opportunity for the public to address the Board on items of interest to the public that are not agendaized and within the jurisdiction of the Board. Sunny Slopes resident Hap Hazard clarified a previous statement made during the last regular Board meeting related to the issue of notifications and responses in the event of a Rock Creek Lake dam failure. He explained that he had mistakenly identified the meeting he attended, which was actually the Mono County Hazardous and Mitigation Committee meeting. He further noted that, since the department's last few Board meetings, he found references in the county's emergency plans addressing risks to Mono County residents in the event of a Rock Creek dam failure. Hap shared his observations that these plans do not include information on notifications in such an event, but only highlight that there is a risk factor for residents. No additional comments were made.
3. Report and provide direction on the progress of the Sunny Slopes Station 2 project. Commissioner Beatty opened the discussion with staff reports to be followed by public comment. Chief McGuire reported that R.O. Anderson Wilson Soils Engineering is finalizing the site survey for Sunny Slope Station 2. He mentioned that R.O. Anderson has submitted the second invoice for Phase 1. He noted that once the site survey is

completed, the project will proceed to obtaining the Conditional-Use Permit. Chief McGuire noted that the project is progressing well and remains on track with the projected timeline. No public comment was made.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Regular Meeting. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER GORDON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DAY, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 REGULAR MEETING. Motion passed 4-0, with one Board member absent.

5. Chief's Report.

Volunteer Report. Chief McGuire updated the Board on department activities since the last meeting, reporting nine calls during that period. He noted a 20% increase in calls year-to-date and improved response rates, with an average of nine responders per call compared to seven at the same time last year. Chief McGuire highlighted one of the emergency calls regarding a second fire incident in the McGee Creek area. He also discussed a recent call that required sending the 3281 Water Tender to Lone Pine for two days. He shared that a new Sunny Slopes volunteer firefighter went to Long Pine as well, which served as a great opportunity for him to acquire valuable experience. Chief McGuire shared that the department is in a transition period in personnel, as a few volunteers have departed, but new members are expected to join soon. He also provided an overview of current volunteer training, which includes hypothermia response, ice rescue, live fire burns, and handling liquid fuels. Looking ahead, he noted that CalFire will be coming in the spring to work with Long Valley Fire volunteers for wildland training.

- A. Report on Current Fire Department Activities, Assignments, and Schedule for potential Board direction. Chief McGuire reported that Mono County has given him permission to do radio programming. He shared that the necessary software and capabilities are now in place to program the California Radio Interoperability System (CRIS) radios internally. Chief McGuire reported that Commissioner Beatty had provided new information to him and Secretary Durgin regarding the need for the department website to be ADA compliant. He emphasized the importance of achieving compliance, explaining that special districts have been targeted with legal action for non-compliant websites. He shared that he has reached out to John Kokado to address this issue and noted his appreciation for John Kokado's quick response in working to bring the website into compliance. Chief McGuire reported that he applied for the Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) grant last year but was unsuccessful. He shared that he decided to seek assistance from Lexipol for the grant application and writing process. He further reported that he has contracted with Lexipol for the services of a professional grant writer who will provide support throughout the grant-writing process.

- B. Long-Range Planning Discussion.

(a) Personnel. Chief McGuire reported that the department will be sending two of the volunteer firefighters to a three-day training event being held in Corona, California. The event will focus on extrication training.

(b) Airport. Chief McGuire reported that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Town of Mammoth Lakes and the Airport is currently before Town Council.

(c) Geothermal. No news.

(d) Station Maintenance. Chief McGuire reported that he has not yet transitioned to the new cleaning service. He shared that he had a conversation with the current cleaner, Cruz Vela Florez, and has decided to continue to have Cruz handle the station cleaning going forward.

(e) Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance. Chief McGuire shared that he has ordered a new computer for Secretary Durgin given her current laptop has been giving her issues. Chief McGuire reported that 3233 will be getting new batteries.

(f) County and Community Updates. Chief McGuire reported that Mono County and the Town of Mammoth Lakes began the Hazardous Waste Mitigation Program. He shared that Mono County is encouraging community members to complete the online survey, which asks for input on what residents consider to be hazards and their ideas for mitigating them.

Commissioner Beatty opened the agenda item to public comment. No public comment was made.

6. Board review/approval of payment warrants since the last meeting. Commissioner Beatty shared regarding the payroll warrants that in the past Commissioner Czeschin has been signing off on the payroll warrants, however given Billy Czeschin is on payroll, it is a liability for both Commissioner Czeschin and Billy Czeschin. Commissioner Beatty shared that Secretary Durgin has spoken with Commissioner Czeschin about this and asked the Board if anyone would be willing to be the designated approver of the payroll warrants moving forward. Commissioner Gordon offered to review and approve the payroll warrants going forward. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER DAY, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GORDON TO APPROVE PAYMENT WARRANTS SINCE LAST REGULAR BOARD MEETING. Motion passed 4-0, with one Board member absent.
7. Discussion and possible action regarding AirMed membership for the department. Chief McGuire introduced the discussion, explaining that AirMed is an organization providing emergency medical transportation, including Life Flights, and offers membership plans that cover these services. He proposed purchasing AirMed memberships for the volunteers and Board members as a beneficial way to show appreciation. Chief provided a brief description of the membership plans available. Rich Booher commented that AirMed offers additional discounts for organizations that purchase memberships. The Board discussed the options and Chief proposed two possibilities: the department

purchase the membership as a benefit for the firefighters, or the Long Valley Volunteers Association use volunteer firefighter dues to purchase the membership. The Board agreed to purchase the membership as a benefit for the volunteers. Chief McGuire will proceed with obtaining a quote for the membership. No public comment was made.

8. Discussion and possible action concerning the dedication of a portion of Highway 395 to former Captain Vidar Anderson. Division Chief Fred Stump reported that he has forwarded the responses from Cheri West, Capitol Director for California State Senator Marie Alvarado-Gil, to the Board. Fred Stump provided a brief overview of Cheri's response being that they have not yet had time to follow up on the matter. Fred Stump shared that he sent a follow-up email, providing Hap Hazard's contact information and emphasizing the department's commitment to the issue. Due to the busy holiday schedule, Fred plans to follow up after New Year's. Hap Hazard commented that in the emails that Fred forwarded, there was comment they had trouble reaching people. Hap further commented that he contacted Fred and explained that there has been no indication of the Senator's office contacting him. He noted that if there is a delay, it has not been due to his response.
9. Discussion and action on refurbishment of the Memorial Garden. Chief McGuire reported that he spoke with Delfino Leguna last week and that Delfino is still working on drawings for the Memorial Garden. According to Chief, his goal is to have something drawn up for the department by the end of the year.
10. Board Secretary Report. Secretary Durgin provided updates on various activities since the last regular meeting. She reported that the requested paperwork for the State Fund Workers Compensation End of Year Audit has been submitted. Secretary Durgin also reported on correspondence that she received from Queenie Bernard with the Mono County Clerk Recorders Office. She shared that the department is supposed to be receiving the Oath of Office documents for the appointed Board members. Secretary Durgin is waiting on Queenie to get back to her with a question she had on it. She has requested that the Oath of Office documents be mailed to the station. Secretary Durgin further reported on correspondence from Shannon LeGrand with Mono County Finance Department, requesting information for the California State Controller's Office Financial Transactions Report. Secretary Durgin has responded, and all necessary information has been submitted. Looking ahead, Secretary Durgin is anticipating the initial information requests for the Fetcher Financial Audit to be coming soon. Also, at the start of the new year, Secretary Durgin reported that she will be sending out all W2s and submitting the Quarterly Tax Reports for quarter four 2024. No public comment was made.
11. Review correspondence received since the last regular meeting. All correspondence was included in prior agenda item reports.
12. Review and adjust current fiscal year budget line items as necessary and accept. Chief McGuire noted that the budget has been modified based on the Board approved salary and compensation increases, including the corresponding payroll taxes and workers compensation line items that are associated with the salary increases. He noted that the

Office Supplies (#202) has also increased due to the Xerox settlement. Chief shared that there will be a check coming from the Long Valley Volunteer Association as well as a reimbursement check for the engine and staff sent to the Lone Pine incident. Fred Stump asked if the Education Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF) Agreement payout has been received yet. Secretary Durgin shared that it has not yet been reflected in the general ledger sent from the county. The Board directed Secretary Durgin to send out a follow-up email to the Mono County Department of Finance staff as a reminder to process the payout.

13. New business and Board member reports. Chief McGuire reported that the Long Valley Fire Christmas party will be on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. Rich Booher addressed the Board regarding a program with AT&T for first responders namely First Net. Rich Booher briefly explained the benefits of this program and asked if the Board has discussed this before. Chief McGuire provided additional information, noting that the program is available directly to first responders through AT&T.
14. Call for Agenda items for the next regular meeting. Staff report on the progress of the Sunny Slopes Station 2 project; Discussion and action on refurbishment of the Memorial Garden; Discussion and possible action concerning the dedication of a portion of Highway 395 to former Captain Vidar Anderson; Discussion and action regarding AirMed membership for the department.
15. Adjournment. A motion was made by Commissioner Day, seconded by Commissioner Czeschin, to adjourn the meeting and reconvene in regular session on January 8th, 2025, at 7:00pm at the Long Valley Fire Station, 3605 Crowley Lake Drive, Crowley Lake, California. Motion passed 4-0, with one Board member absent. Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.

Katie Durgin  
Secretary to the Board  
Long Valley Fire Protection District