



GOLD RIDGE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

4500 Hessel Road, Sebastopol, CA 95472

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Sta. 2 - Fire Prevention 707-823-5401 Fax 707-829-7304

Daniel J George, Fire Chief

January 2, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes

1) The Regular Meeting of the Gold Ridge Fire Protection District was held at Station 1. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. with Robert Gloeckner leading the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

2) **Roll Call of Directors:**

Mike Doyle	Steve Petrucci
Robert Gloeckner	Domenic Carinalli
Charlie Lachman	Joe Petersen
Christopher Tachouet	

Directors Absent: None

3) **Public Input:** Item 9 A was moved ahead of general business.

2017/18 Fiscal Year Audit: Blake Goranson of Goranson & Associates presented the 2017/18 draft audit to the Board of Directors and asked if there were any questions before she gave a brief breakdown of the audit. Director Gloeckner inquired about the CalPERS unfunded liability. Blake mentioned that CALPERS unfunded liability is not catching up as PERS expected. Director Gloeckner also pointed out that the board meeting dates were noted incorrectly. Director Petersen mentioned his name was misspelled and Director Lachman stated that the board members term dates needed to be updated. Chief George stated that he will have the administrative assistant Lisa Guerrero provide Goranson & Associates with the correct information.

Blake Goranson stated that the income has been consistent and the only difference is within the strike team money, which raised the salaries for personnel.

Discussion Ensued.

Blake Goranson commented that overall it was a good year with paying off vehicles and buying equipment. The audit shows the District is in good financial standing and is able to budget responsibly.

A motion was made by Director Tachouet to accept the 2017/18 draft financial audit with changes noted above. The motion was seconded by Director Doyle and passed unanimously.

4) Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings:

The minutes from the December 5, 2018 regular meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Director Petrucci to approve the December 5, 2018 regular meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Doyle and passed unanimously.

5) Correspondence – Chief George mentioned that the Sonoma County Fire Districts Association meeting will be at the end of the month. The announcement will be sent out shortly.

6) Approval of the December 2018 Revenues and Expenses:

The revenues and expenses for the month of December were reviewed and discussed. Chief George mentioned that we received the December tax roll along with the backfill and it was about \$90,000.00 more than the previous year. December 2018 Bank Register was reviewed. Director Carinalli made a motion to approve the revenues and expenses listed on the Bank Accounts Register Report. The motion was seconded by Director Petrucci and passed unanimously.

7) Operations Reports:

Equipment Maintenance – Battalion Chief Schroth-Cary reported that 8169 is at Twin Oaks Garage and should be back by Friday. 8181 and 8192 had issue with their starters, and 8182 had a problem with the inverter. Director Tachouet inquired about the two starter issues. Chief George stated it was just wear and tear, and that 8181 has had issues starting for a while.

Battalion Chief Schroth-Cary mentioned that Ron Lunardi has purchased the pick-up for \$8,000. We are just waiting on the check before we deliver.

Building Maintenance – Battalion Chief Schroth-Cary stated the new roof at the rental next door to Station 1 is complete. There was a letter sent to the tenant to clean up the property. Battalion Chief Schroth-Cary will follow up on this issue. He also noted the next project for this property will be paint. Director Tachouet asked if there has been a current walk through of the property. Chief George stated in the letter that was issued it mentions a property inspection.

Discussion ensued.

Director Gloeckner asked if there was any news from the neighbor at Station 2. Chief George stated the neighbor inquired again about using the parking lot. Chief George will speak with the neighbor again as well as ask about putting up the fence that is required.

Personnel – Battalion Chief Schipper mentioned that they have acquired a few Cal Fire employees, though there is still a problem with staffing sleepers. Lieutenant Greg Harlan mentioned that he went to the SRJC recruitment program for interns, and handed out 15 applications and only received 1 back. Lieutenant Greg Harlan also noted that interns at other departments are getting paid. Director Gloeckner thanked Lieutenant Harlan for attending the recruitment program at the SRJC.

General Information – Chief George mentioned that at the 1st of the year we are heading toward paperless (going green).

Financial Report – Chief George spoke about the finances earlier in the meeting under finances and expenses. Otherwise there was nothing more to report.

Training – Battalion Chief Schroth-Cary mentioned that the 2019 training schedule has been set for the year, along with some upcoming EMT training with Bodega Bay.

Fire Marshal's Report – Chief George stated burn season has started and it has been quite.

Firefighters Associations – Janney Kovacs mentioned there was nothing to report, though there is an association meeting tomorrow. Chief George noted that he has received great feedback on the Christmas party, and wanted to thank everyone who helped with cooking, setup, clean up, etc...

Explorer Post – Nothing to report

8) Old Business:

- **Update on County Fires Services:** Chief George gave a brief update on County Fire Services, and stated that there was a meeting a few weeks ago in regards to the VFC's. Gold Ridge Fire is looking at taking on the 11 VFC's, though eventually we will end up with only 6 of the VFC's. He also mentioned that we are looking at going to 2/0 staffing with hiring a Captain and Engineer. With this change we may need to increase the salaries. Discussion ensued

Director Gloeckner inquired about the cost going up, and if there will be any need to update some of the fire station structures. Chief George stated, of the VFC's we are taking on, not a lot of structure work will need to be done.

Discussion ensued

Director Lachman inquired about the additional administrative work, and who will be taking on that job. Chief George stated we will be hiring on the part time Bennett Valley administrator Leslie McCormick.

9) New Business:

A. 2017/2018 Fiscal Year Draft Audit: Item (9a) moved to beginning of the agenda.

B. Fire Chief's Salary and Benefits: Chief George presented to the board the salary and benefits spreadsheet from January 1, 2019 through June 30, 2019. Chief George stated he will stay on for the next 6 months as the VFC program gets into place, though the board will need to look into hiring a Fire Chief going forward.

Director Gloeckner stated this is a critical time going forward and Director Carinalli mentioned we need the Chief to see this out. Director Tachouet inquired about what will happen in 2020, and Chief George mentioned he will still be involved but on a part time basis. Chief George stated he will not be going anywhere and plans to help out in the coming years.

A motion was made by Director Carinalli approving the Fire Chief's Salary and Benefits for the next 6 months. The motion was seconded by Director Petersen and passed unanimously.

C. Establish a committee to look at funding options and possible consolidations: Chief George mentioned we will need to get a committee together and appoint members for this committee. There are three main things we need to keep in mind:

1. **Funding**
2. **Consolidation**
3. **Hiring of a New Fire Chief**

Chief George asked if anyone would be interested in joining the committee. There was a brief discussion about who would like to sit on the committee. Director Gloeckner, Director Petersen, and Director Tachouet stated they will join the committee.

Director Lachman inquired about how we will keep the residents informed of what is going on. Chief George stated we will need to get a newsletter out to our residents

keeping them informed. We will also provide an updated report each month on the agenda regarding the long range planning committee status.

Discussion ensued.

Director Lachman made a motion to establish a long range planning committee. The motion was seconded by Director Tachouet and passed unanimously.

10) **Good of the Order:** None

11) **Adjournment:** There being no further business, Director Lachman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. The motion was seconded by Director Carinalli and passed unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa Guerrero

Robert Gloeckner, Chair

Steve Petrucci, Director

Charles Lachman, Director

Domenic Carinalli, Director

Joe Petersen, Director

Christopher Tachouet, Director

Mike Doyle, Director

Date Approved