

# Central Calaveras Fire & Rescue Protection District

19927 Jesus Maria Road, Mokelumne Hill, CA 95245  
(209) 754-4330

Bill Wennhold  
Fire Chief

[w www.centralcalaverasfire.org](http://www.centralcalaverasfire.org)



## Minutes REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Station 1, 19927 Jesus Maria Road, Mokelumne Hill, CA 95245  
6:00 P.M. Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024

### 1) Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Director Clark. Other board members present were Directors Krieg, Cook, and Miller. Director Morris was absent. Others in attendance were Chief Wennhold, Lt. Carpenter, Capt. Williams, WTO Tyler, WTO Tyree, Support Tyree, and Staff Member Lloyd.

### 2) Introduction of Guests and Public Comments

There were no comments.

### 3) Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

### 4) Approval of February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, meeting minutes

Corrections to the minutes were minimal, reflecting typos and grammar only.

**MOTION, approve the minutes of February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 –**

**Motion by** - Director Cook, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Director Miller

Ayes: 4 - Nays: 0 - Abstain: 0 - Absent: 1 - **Motion carried**

### 5) Regular Agenda, Action Items

#### a) Safety Equipment Order

Chief Wennhold reported that CCFRPD is still receiving ordered items. There were some misspellings on jackets. Payment has not been made to the supplier yet. Capt. Harris is working with the vendor. There was a brief review of the invoicing setup.

#### b) JPA/Sales Tax Initiative Report

Cheers were shared by all over the passage of the Sales Tax Initiative. It was noted that all yard signs, etc. are to be removed within 30 days. There was a JPA Committee meeting. All are waiting for the County to issue regulations. They could be effective as early as fiscal year end (June 30). Many details are still to be ironed out. CCFRPD's share is estimated to be between \$470K - \$490K

per year. There were questions as to whether this is a five-year tax. The JPA will meeting again in April. Chief Wennhold asked the Board to consider a working group to focus on possible spends. He suggested that the workgroup consist of a board member, the fire chief, and a staff member. One thing to remember is that the 70% that must be used for staffing has to include administrative, workers' compensation insurance, benefits, and other related costs. With his financial background, Director Krieg will be a vital member of the focus group. At this point, there are not enough details to further speculate.

c) El Dorado Engine

Chief Wennhold updated the Board regarding status of the engine. He noted that Lt. Carpenter had taken care of the oil leak. For insurance purposes, the engine will be valued at \$200,000. The CalFire agreement has been updated and the new engine is now listed. E-125 has been removed. Some vehicles have been renumbered.

The new engine will be going to Herds Welding next week. It will be another 4 – 6 weeks before all work has been completed. The new engine will be numbered E-125.

6) Chief's Department Report:

There is a detailed review of department activities in the Chief's report.

Highlights are noted as follows:

We have had 3 strike teams within the past month. We now have paperwork from last year as well. There will be around \$160,00 coming to CCFRPD for this activity. All the extra food costs incurred by the extra personnel are well-covered by the food allowance granted.

WTO Tyree mentioned that he knew of someone in Antioch who could possibly help with the leak problem on WT121. He will be giving the information to the Chief for follow-up.

Chief Wennhold informed the group that all the "dead" cars in the upper parking lot of Station 1 will be going away to a scrap yard. We hope to have this complete by the end of next week.

7) Payment of Bills/Claim Transmittals:

Chief Wennhold informed the Board that CPPA has an energy program to improve efficiency, replace windows, insulation, etc. Director Cook volunteered to follow up on the opportunity. He will need to get the initial contact information in order to begin.

Chief also mentioned that future transmittal recaps will be showing more revenue, as many funds are pending.

**MOTION to approve all transmittals for payment** – 1<sup>st</sup> Director Cook, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Director Krieg  
Ayes: 4 - Nays: 0 - Abstain: 0 - Absent: 1 - **Motion carried**

8) Directors' Comments:

Director Cook expressed his pleasure at the sales tax initiative outcome. All Board members are on board with positive feelings about the future of the District.

Chief noted that the post on CCFRPD's Facebook page was picked up and publicized by myMotherlode.com.

9) Adjourn

**MOTION to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:56 p.m. and move to a Closed Session**– Director Miller, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Director Krieg  
Ayes: 4 - Nays: 0 - Abstain: 0 - Absent: 1 - **Motion carried**

**10) Closed Session, 54956.9 Govt. Code, Personnel Matter**

Closed session began at 6:58 p.m.

**MOTION to return to an Open Session at 7:13 p.m.-** Director Miller, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Director Krieg  
Ayes: 4 - Nays: 0 - Abstain: 0 - Absent: 1 - **Motion carried**

**Next regular meeting is April 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Lloyd - CCFRPD Staff

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Fire Chief



## Minutes REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Station 1, 19927 Jesus Maria Road, Mokelumne Hill, CA 95245

6:00 P.M. Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024

### 1) Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Director Clark. Other board members present were Directors Krieg, Cook, Morris, and Miller. Others in attendance were Chief Wennhold, Lt. Carpenter, Capt. Williams, WTO Tyree, Support Tyree, and Staff Member Lloyd.

### 2) Introduction of Guests and Public Comments

There were no comments.

### 3) Correspondence

An envelope was dropped off at Station 1. The background is that since our wildland gear was out of date and being replaced, Chief Wennhold had mentioned it to some folks at the swap meet that he and Lt. Carpenter had attended. A rancher in that area expressed interest in the gear, mentioning that his sister lived near Station 1. He wanted it for their use at the ranch for burn pile work and other cleanup. Arrangements were made for the sister to pick it up at the Station. As a thank you, she had come back and dropped off a gift card for Sender's for the use of our firefighters. Chief Wennhold passed it along to the operations staff to purchase household items. Director Cook expressed an interest in some of the gear as well. It is no longer appropriate for professional firefighters to use the gear.

Director Clark reported that a check had been received at Station 1. It had been addressed to the Firefighters' Association with a notation that it was a golf tournament donation. No such activity had been planned by the Association, but after some research, Director Clark that the check should have been directed to Calaveras Search & Rescue. He ensured that it was returned for proper distribution.

### 4) Approval of January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024, meeting minutes

**MOTION, approve the minutes of January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 –**

**Motion by - Director Cook, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Director Krieg**

**Ayes: 5 - Nays: 0 - Abstain: 0 - Absent: 0 - Motion carried**

### 5) Regular Agenda, Action Items

a) Safety Equipment Order

Chief Wennhold stated that the entire order was still being filled. Helmets have arrived. Jackets and pants will be the last to show up. CCFRP wishes to submit a single invoice to CSFA for reimbursement. The order should be complete by the end of February or the first week in March. He noted that the jackets are custom-made and are more sophisticated than the previous gear.

b) JPA/Sales Tax Initiative Report

Chief Wennhold noted that there has been more media coverage. There are two yard signs available from Linda Burns. He added that he had attended a Mountain Ranch Community Club meeting at which Measure A was a hot topic. All 4 County Board of Supervisor candidates have voiced support for the Measure. There was also a meeting at the Jenny Lind Veterans Memorial District Hall in Valley Springs. This was sponsored by Calaveras Consolidated Fire District and the JPA committee. It seemed as if a good percentage of attendees ended up more in favor. One more handbill is planned to go out. If the Measure passes, CCFRP's share would likely be \$479,000 per year, 70% of which must be spent on personnel. Director Krieg asked if CCFRPD has to prove that the funds have been spent on the designated categories, those processes need to be carefully worked out. Director Cook asked about the Public Records Act request. Chief Wennhold explained the response that was sent. He recommended that when funds make their way to the district, we should create a separate account to receive, track, and expend according to the measure's promises. Director Cook noted the Angels Camp City Council meetings that he records for public access TV, had a presentation from the Angels Camp Fire Chief along with 12 other fire staff on the impact to their department. All members expressed caution about planning for future spends.

c) El Dorado Engine

The bill of sale for the engine has been received. It has been set up for payment through the County. The check will then be hand-delivered by Chief Wennhold when we pick up the engine.

d) Policy Manual

Many aspects are still to be addressed. Work continues on the project.

6) Chief's Department Report:

There is a detailed review of department activities in the Chief's report. Highlights are noted as follows: Major changes in personnel at County OES have caused delays regarding the generator purchase and work. The payment to Gold Electric is currently being held until these issues are straightened out. Both FEMA and the State have approved the expenditure, but the County Board of Supervisors has not.

Director Clark noted that we now have a cellphone booster at Station 4, Glencoe.

CCFFA (the Association) may pay \$4,100 toward the purchase of winter jackets but this has not been approved by their membership yet. The jackets have not been ordered, but once ordered, the District would split the cost with the Association. In related Association news, there is going to be a breakfast fundraiser this coming Saturday. The electronic sign will be put up a day early.

An Office of Traffic Safety grant is being applied for, in conjunction with other fire districts. This is for the purchase of spreaders, cutters, etc. at a cost of \$30,000 to \$40,000 dollars. The cost to hire the grant writer was \$250.

Grant windows have opened for national grants. There are 3 major grants. They are for Recruitment & Retention, SAFER (staffing), and AFG. Chief Wennhold recommends that we apply for one of these. The SAFER grant would help us gain more firefighters and officers. AFG would pay for another engine or water tender; we could possibly go for a wildland engine. The Recruitment & Retention grant covers a large variety

of expenditures. Chief Wennhold feels that we would need to bring someone in to do this for us. Director Cook asked if there had been a review of the various grants and how effective they had been. Chief Wennhold stated that staffing issues have been a problem across the country. California is the focus of full-time firefighters. Unions have made a huge difference in staffing costs. The SAFER grant would give CCFRPD a stronger position, but it is an extremely competitive grant. It's difficult to achieve a balance between the different major aspects of running a fire district. We will spend between \$400,000 and \$500,00 this year on staffing. There are two ways to pay a grant writer – either a flat rate or a percentage of the grant awarded. We can start on any path now. Chief Wennhold asked the Board for the direction they wish to take on this matter. Directors Cook, Morris, and Krieg expressed that the outcome of Measure A could be the biggest factor in determining direction. If called upon to “score” the 3 grants, 1<sup>st</sup> is the R&R grant, AFG is 2<sup>nd</sup>, and SAFER is last (in addition to its being national). Our current equipment needs are for a new pumper/engine, which could cost up to \$600,000. Much further discussion concluded that the R&R grant should be our focus for now.

7) Payment of Bills/Claim Transmittals:

**MOTION to approve all transmittals for payment** – 1<sup>st</sup> Director Cook, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Director Morris  
Ayes: 5 - Nays: 0 - Abstain: 0 - Absent: 0 - **Motion carried**

8) Directors' Comments:

Director Clark noted that he will be out of town for the next two weeks, Directors Krieg, Miller, and Morris had no concerns. Director Cook thanked all for the efforts on Measure A and current direction of department operations.

9) Adjourn

**MOTION to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:26 p.m. and move to a Closed Session**– Director Cook, 2<sup>nd</sup>  
– Director Krieg  
Ayes: 5 - Nays: 0 - Abstain: 0 - Absent: 0 - **Motion carried**

10) Closed Session, 54956.9 Govt. Code, Legal Consultation, Potential Litigation

Chief Wennhold was given guidance during Closed Session but no formal actions were taken.

**MOTION to return to an Open Session at 7:52 p.m.**- Director Miller, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Director Cook  
Ayes: 5 - Nays: 0 - Abstain: 0 - Absent: 0 - **Motion carried**

**Next regular meeting is March 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted, Diane Lloyd - CCFRPD Staff

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Fire Chief



## Minutes REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Station 1, 19927 Jesus Maria Road, Mokelumne Hill, CA 95245

6:00 P.M. Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

### 1) Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Director Clark. Other board members present were Directors Krieg, Cook, Morris, and Miller.

Others in attendance were Chief Wennhold, Engineer Carpenter, Capt. Williams, Capt. Miller, Captain Gonzales, Firefighters Stevens, Ortelgel, and Rhodes, Staff Member Lloyd, WTO Tyree, and Support Tyree. Guests Sierra Dickey, Gary and Nikki Stevens were also present.

### 2) Introduction of Guests and Public Comments

There were no comments.

### 3) Correspondence

A resignation letter was received from Firefighter Michael Probst.

A staff memo commended Engineer Ryan Carpenter for his work and long-term commitment to CCFRPD. He was presented with a badge denoting his promotion to Lieutenant. The Board applauded his accomplishments.

A staff memo commended Firefighter Braden Stevens for his contributions to CCFRPD. The memo was read by his mother, Nikki Stevens. He was presented with a badge indicating his new status of Engineer. Again, the Board heartily approved of his promotion.

Director Clark presented a sample of the new letterhead that he had produced for CCFRPD, which is definitely an upgrade to what we have been using in the past. A supply of letterhead and matching envelopes will be forthcoming.

### 4) Approval of December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023, meeting minutes

Staff member Lloyd pointed out a correction that needed to be made to the minutes.

**MOTION, approve the minutes of December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023, as corrected –**

**Motion by** - Director Cook, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Director Miller

Ayes: 5 - Nays: 0 - Abstain: 0 - Absent: 0 - **Motion carried**

### 5) Regular Agenda, Action Items

a) Safety Equipment Order

A copy of the Cascade Fire Equipment invoice was included with the Board packet for review. Chief Wennhold noted that invoices were being generated as product ships. He has asked them to provide a consolidated invoice to present to CSFA for reimbursement. It will be around the end of February or early March before all is complete. The gear that has arrived has already been inventoried and is staged in the upstairs lockup area of the apparatus bay at Station 1.

b) JPA/Sales Tax Initiative Report

Chief Wennhold presented a verbal update on JPA activity. Mailers were sent out this week. Another mailing will be sent either the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week of February. It was noted that this is a nicely organized marketing campaign. More yard signs have been requested. Director Clark will be in contact with Dana Nichols of the JPA regarding campaign buttons, flyers, etc.

c) 2022-2023 Audit

Chief Wennhold has spoken to Larry Bain, CPA, whose firm is located in El Dorado Hills. He mentioned that In order for Bain to begin the audit process for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, we need to provide him with year end financials, a copy of last year's audit, etc. We will need an engagement letter. Chief will make sure Staff Member Lloyd has the necessary information to go forward.

d) Water Tender 125

The pump on WT-125 is not working. There are additional problems with the drive train. The PTO has been replaced. Lt. Carpenter has been inside the water tank, and it is full of rust, the baffles have come loose, and pieces have jammed up the pump shaft. It is drivable, but it will not meet our needs as a water tender. Chief Wennhold asked that WT-125 be placed in surplus status, so as not to throw good money after bad.

**MOTION, approve placing WT-125 in surplus – Motion by** - Director Cook, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Director Miller

Ayes: 5 - Nays: 0 - Abstain: 0 - Absent: 0 - **Motion carried**

After some research, Chief Wennhold suggested replacing WT-125 with an El Dorado County apparatus. It is a 2005 HME chassis, built by the same company as E-121. There were two built specifically for El Dorado Co. The one for sale was bought brand new by the current department but it has been very used. Burton's Fire, Inc. has fixed the exhaust leak and has tightened the loose areas of the cab. It has been out of service for a year. Chief noted that we need a 4WD vehicle. They are asking \$50,000, but they are negotiable on the price. We might consider an offer of \$43,000 or \$44,000. The other piece is that we need another good structure rig. We would have to shuffle apparatus locations. We also do not have enough extra gear in order to put all the additional pieces of equipment needed to fight a fire. The flipside is that if we are replacing E-121 with this one, we could move the equipment to the new rig. We could perhaps get \$30,000 to \$40,000 for E-121. This move could impact on our ISO rating positively. It could take 60-90 days for the "new" engine before it would be completely functional. The pros and cons of this action were discussed at length by the Board and the officers attending the meeting. Another plus is that we have a good rapport with the sellers, Pioneer Fire & Rescue. Ultimately there are a number of positive tradeoffs. Chief noted that there will be an additional \$14,000 in vehicle maint. reimbursement funds coming from the County next month. Director Cook wondered if we keep E-121, is it a better engine for this district? He recommended offering \$42,500. Director Miller asked about the 7000 pump hours – any significance? What is the longevity of a pump? Chief stated that it truly depends on how well it has been maintained.



**MOTION, approve making an offer to Pioneer Fire for the purchase of the 2005 HME for a not-to-exceed amount of \$43,500 – Motion by - Director Morris, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Director Miller**

Ayes: 5 - Nays: 0 - Abstain: 0 - Absent: 0 - **Motion carried**

e) Policy Manual - No update to report

**6) Chief's Department Report:**

There is a detailed review of department activities in the Chief's report. Highlights are noted as follows:

AEDs are on a two-year service contract.

CCFRPD has asked the Association to help pay for new jackets for the crew.

There is an issue with the roadway crumbling at the end of the driveway of Station 1. It is being pursued by Admin with County Public Works.

The water heater at Station 4 has gone out. We will need to purchase a new one. There is also an issue with the air compressor, but it will be repaired.

Chief Wennhold has secured a grant writer for the OTS grants. Both Calco and San Andreas Fire are submitting at the same time. Chief Wennhold has heard from several grant-experienced individuals who felt that CCFRPD has asked for too much too often, which could be why no recent grants have been awarded to us. Equipment for another water tender, another SAFER grant, recruitment, and retention – we need to focus on ONE of these grants.

There are a number of small appliances that are now surplus, it was suggested to offer them to dept. members before disposal.

The PRA request was completed and sent to the requestor today. Chief Wennhold recapped the situation.

**7) Payment of Bills/Claim Transmittals:**

**MOTION to approve all transmittals for payment – 1<sup>st</sup> Director Cook, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Director Morris**

Ayes: 5 - Nays: 0 - Abstain: 0 - Absent: 0 - **Motion carried**

**8) Directors' Comments:**

Director Krieg offered his congratulations to the newly promoted Officers. He expressed his concerns regarding the CCFRPD budget and our spending levels. Are we getting the value for the amount of money we are spending. If Measure A does not pass, our reserves will be depleted quickly.

Director Cook noted that he is feeling better. Regarding the possible purchase of the 2005 HME, he especially promoted the 4WD aspect. He noted, however, that we are all getting to the point with insurance, that the ISO rating does not seem to matter as much as before. As far as storage for apparatus, he offered that he has plenty of space on his property. Lastly, he is still concerned about the costs for complete repairs on the new rig, which could total as much as \$60,000 to \$70,000 with this purchase.

Director Miller congratulated Lt. Carpenter and Eng. Stevens. She affirmed that she is still all for the purchase due to the tradeoffs and the balance with other revenue-generating activities.

Director Morris had no comment.

Director Clark added his congratulations as well, again noting the positive moves being made by personnel.

**9) Adjourn**

**MOTION to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:33 p.m. and move to a Closed Session– Director Cook, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Director Krieg**

Ayes: 5 - Nays: 0 - Abstain: 0 - Absent: 0 - **Motion carried**

10) Closed Session, 54956.9 Govt. Code, Legal Consultation, Potential Litigation

**MOTION to return to an Open Session at 8:02 p.m.**- Director Miller, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Director Cook  
Ayes: 5 - Nays: 0 - Abstain: 0 - Absent: 0 - **Motion carried**

**There were no actions taken during Closed Session. Next regular meeting is February 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted, Diane Lloyd - CCFRPD Staff