

## PALOMAR MOUNTAIN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Minutes of the monthly meeting of The Board of Directors, October 5, 2019.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by President Kellogg. Board members present: Cliff Kellogg, Robert Carlyle, Glenn Borland, Michael Pique, Keith Ronchetti. Also present were CalFire Captain Dean Kowalski, US Forest Service (USFS) Palomar District Ranger Amy Reid, USFS District Fire Management Officer Clay Howe, Palomar Mountain Fire Safe Council (FSC) Secretary Cecelia Borland, and Palomar CERT Program Manager Bill Leininger.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. Clay Howe said that the new USFS Supervisor Scott Tangenberg regrets he cannot attend our meeting today.

Public Comment: None offered.

Minutes: The draft minutes from the 08/03/2019 board meeting were approved with correction of the location of the County Fire Authority meeting.

Financial Report: Keith Ronchetti's written report (included as part of these minutes) showing a balance of \$107,219.75 was approved.

Station 79 Report: Captain Kowalski says our engine is out of service so we have a "Type 1" engine up here, which he prefers. We have been promised a new engine but do not know when it will arrive. He said the Defensible Space Inspections are complete for 2019. Each year, disregarding the road access problems, the yards look better. We passed our narcotics security inspection.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT): Bill Leininger says CERT just finished National Preparedness Month exercises. The small Conex container is clear of Barricade gel kits and all CERT gear. Old Barricade gel at residents' houses will be exchanged for new gel over the next week. Grant applications to the Office of Emergency Services are ready to submit once some final forms are completed. Cecelia Borland has offered 75 cases of non-perishable supplies which might make up an emergency depot. CERT plans another round of reflective sign sales, along with advertising standardized water tank fittings.

Palomar Mountain Fire Safe Council (FSC): Michael Pique said our Wildland-Urban Interface fire preparation workshop was held August 24. Palomar attendees offered the opinion that the workshop was less focused on our specific "living in a forest" situations than in past years. The FSC and the PMVFD are still discussing where to put the two 2500-gallon water tanks we were given. Cliff Kellogg will look for funds for fittings, pads, and installation, about \$5000 at most. Cliff asked Joan Jones of the San Diego Regional Fire Foundation whether they had grants for this purpose; she will ask CalFire Unit Chief Tony Mecham. Captain Kowalski wants one tank at the station; Alan Serry says the Lodge owners have agreed to host the second tank. Cliff will coordinate the station

tank placement site with the county designer, since they also need to have space for a 5000 gallon fire sprinkler tank. Clay Howe advises rust-resistant metal (not plastic) fittings.

Dumpster for residents' use today is the last one that FSC has budgeted. The PMVFD Board voted to pay for a November day, \$610. Chipping for residences to help owners clear their properties for fire safety still has a few more days budgeted and a few more properties to chip, according to Robert Carlyle.

Cliff Kellogg opened discussion of a mountain-wide alert mechanism. Bill Leininger and Cliff will continue to evaluate a multiple-siren concept. A Sentry Siren sales representative, Aaron, advises us that our environment would require "lots of sirens" because of trees and topography, and should be considered effective to alert only people who are outside their houses, not inside. Individual sirens are so loud they should be placed 100-200 feet from any residence. Initial per-siren costs might be \$7250 including back-up batteries (but not a solar charger), with expected battery replacement costs of roughly \$1000-\$1200 every five years.

Old Business:

Station Construction Progress: Cliff says the request for bids is out, with our station construction contract bundled in with construction and improvements at Sunshine Summit and Mount Laguna.

Adjournment: 10:05 AM 10/05/2019. The next board meeting is Saturday 11/02/2019, at 9:00 AM.

- Michael Pique

Minutes approved by PMVFD Board 11/02/2019