

PALOMAR MOUNTAIN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Minutes of the monthly meeting of The Board of Directors, February 1, 2020.

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, CERT coordinator Bill Leininger, former PMVFD Board President Suzann Leininger, Community Center of Palomar Mountain Board member Rosie Lopresti, Jim Walls, Ruth Hornseth, and Palomar Observatory Superintendent Rick Burris.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment: Jim Walls said "You're doing a great job".

Minutes: The minutes from the 01/04/2020 board meeting were approved with the spelling correction of 'Glen' to 'Glenn'.

Financial Report: Keith Ronchetti's written report (included as part of these minutes) showing a balance of \$102,558.70 (with \$11,444.67 held for CERT and \$2000 on reserve for water tank plumbing parts) was approved. Cliff Kellogg said we sold three more copies of the Palomar Mountain Views 2-book set. We want to order more copies to sell but are still unable to determine who printed them.

Station 79 Report: Captain Kowalski said Station 79 crews assisted the US Forest Service on Canfield Road and Fry Creek burns. Yesterday a resident was flown from the summit helipad for medical treatment.

County Fire Authority (CFA): Suzann Leininger and Cliff Kellogg attended a fire advisory board meeting. A new web-based mapping app, INTTERRA, shows vehicle locators and travel-time bubbles. The Julian fire department is forming a subcommittee to work with the County Service Area (CSA) 135.

Construction Update: Cliff Kellogg says Liz Johnson told him the county has selected a contractor, but is not yet ready to announce who. Cliff: Which of the three stations will get built first? Liz: "All at the same time". Cliff emphasized getting the one on Palomar closed in before winter weather.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT): Bill Leininger said the Palomar Mountain Planning Organization (PMPO) began selling the Palomar Resident car tags last week. CERT was there advertising their house number easement road signs. Three main projects this spring are 1. refresh residents' stocks of Barricade gel, 2. make sure homeowners' water tanks have the correct fittings for fire emergency connections, and 3. the statewide preparedness program.

Palomar Mountain Fire Safe Council (FSC): FSC President Yvonne Vaucher sent a written report (attached). The FSC submitted a grant request to the Neighborhood Reinvestment Program for 36 fire gel kits, 8 dumpster days, and 6 chipping days.

The FSC sent the following letter to the PMVFD Board: "The Fire Safe Council and the community appreciate your generous offer to sponsor the November [2019] dumpster. In the six previous dumpsters, over 20 tons of refuse was removed from the mountain and even more since the seventh one. We look forward to offering similar services next year. Thank you for your continued interest and support. - Cecelia Borland, Secretary Palomar Mountain Fire Safe Council".

Community Center of Palomar Mountain (CCPM): Rosie Lopresti said the Labor Day weekend picnic will be held Saturday, September 5, at the Palomar Mountain County Park. An date will be announced soon for the annual planning meeting.

Old Business:

Donation of 2500-gallon water storage tanks: The two 2500 gallon water tanks are now on pads across from the lodge; not yet anchored or plumbed.

New Business:

Cliff says we have again declined the 'Terrorism Supplement' insurance option.

Palomar Observatory: Superintendent (since 2017) Rick Burris says he wants to continue and increase public outreach. He wants especially to collaborate with the US Forest Service, the La Jolla Indian Reservation, and mountain landowners on fire safety. The observatory is updating its emergency action plans, and recently received a \$1 million Forest Health grant to maintain the High Point fire break and to clear brush around the observatory buildings. The instruments at the observatory are busy: the Hale 200-inch is oversubscribed by a factor of three, and the Oschin 48-inch telescope has been equipped with new CCD image sensors that can collect 2 terabytes of data every night.

CalFire Battalion Chief Robert Reynolds arrived and was introduced to those who had not yet met him.

Adjournment: 9:45 AM 02/01/2020. The next board meeting is Saturday 03/07/2020, at 9:00 AM.

- Michael Pique

Minutes approved by PMVFD Board 03/07/2020.