

The Palomar Mountain Community Fire Association

Minutes of the monthly meeting of The Board of Directors, May 1, 2021.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by President Kellogg. Board members present by Zoom teleconference: Cliff Kellogg, Glenn Borland, Keith Ronchetti, Michael Pique. Also on the call were CAL FIRE Captain Dean Kowalski, Kathy Bates-Lande, Lafe Ball, CERT Coordinator Bill Leininger, and Community Center of Palomar Mountain officer Rosie Lopresti.

Public Comment: None offered

Minutes: The minutes from the 04/03/2021 board meeting were approved.

Financial Report: Keith Ronchetti's written report (available at palomar-fire.org) showed a balance of \$97,719.94 (with \$12,010.96 held for CERT), both unchanged from the month before. The report was approved.

Station 79 Report: Captain Kowalski reports that the construction is going well with the concrete retaining wall completed. Work now is proceeding on the drainage system in the back and on compacting soil before pouring the concrete foundations. Station calls were slow for a while, then, in the last two shifts had to fly two people out for medical treatment. Our crews have not started Defensible Space Inspections (DSI) as we are waiting for the county to send the necessary Apple iPad tablet. Bill Leininger asked to have CERT informed when the DSIs start so CERT can get the word out to residents about what to expect. Rosie Lopresti will post a copy of the DSI inspection sheet on the community bulletin board.

County Fire Advisory Board Meeting Update: Cliff Kellogg said he continues to bring up the problems that Palomar, Julian, and Mt Laguna have faced with snow removal at their stations.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT): Bill Leininger reports CERT is getting background checks done in Kearny Mesa, especially needed for helping on paperwork at county vaccination sites. The trailer is still being outfitted. County CERT teams are helping at food banks and vaccination stations. Upcoming events include resuming the CERT Academies when restrictions by CAL FIRE are reduced, and organizing a Neighborhood Evacuation Team to make sure residents are ready to evacuate.

Palomar Mountain Fire Safe Council (FSC): Michael Pique reported on the April 24 Fire Safe Council meeting. Our dumpster sessions, funded by the Neighborhood Reinvestment Program (NRP), now span two weekends each. Chipping work will resume when weather improves, also funded from the NRP grant, with four full days budgeted. These funds must be spent by June 30. Our next NRP grant request will include dumpster & chipping days, evacuation signage, Barricade gel kits, and 12 to 14 Knox boxes for gates.

Community Center of Palomar Mountain (CCPM): Rosie Lopresti said that she and Jack Weisgerber redid the Community bulletin board, located outside the left side of the post office. Glenn Borland commended them on how attractive it is. The Community Center Board of Directors will be holding quarterly meetings. She will inform us of the dates and times.

Old Business:

Land Donation: Cliff reports that he received email April 24 from Chris Blankenhorn, one of the owners of the parcel across Crestline Road from the station, who are attempting to donate it to the PMVFD. She said they are making progress on the grant deed but “not fast”. The first set of county-requested corrections has been submitted.

Mission Statement: Cliff Kellogg wants to update our Mission Statement, which would need approval at an Annual General Meeting as a change to the by-laws. We might have a special public meeting this spring to discuss this. The current statement is: *The Palomar Mountain Volunteer Fire Department dedicates itself to providing a professional service that protects life and property and preserves the Palomar Mountain quality of life.*

One suggested mission statement revision is: *The Palomar Mountain Community Fire Association coordinates fire and emergency preparedness to protect life and property and to preserve the Palomar Mountain quality of life.*

Adjournment: 09:56 AM 05/01/2021. The next meeting is Saturday 06/05/2021, at 9:00 AM, likely by Zoom.

- Michael Pique

Minutes approved by PMVFD Board June 5, 2021.