

The Palomar Mountain Community Fire Association

Minutes of the monthly meeting of The Board of Directors, July 1, 2023.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by President Robert Carlyle. Board members present in person at the Community Center (Station 79 grounds): Robert Carlyle, Tom Mendenhall, Michael Pique, Keith Ronchetti, Mark Thompson. Also present in person were Yvonne Vaucher, Cliff Kellogg, Rosie Lopresti, Bill Leininger, John Lucia, and Lynda & Gary Lockhard. Elizabeth Getzoff joined our Zoom teleconference.

Pledge: Robert led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment: None offered.

Minutes: The minutes from the 06/03/2023 board meeting were approved.

Financial Report: Keith Ronchetti's written report (available at palomar-fire.org) showed a balance of \$88,053.80 (plus \$1682.86 held for CERT) including a \$70,000 11-month certificate of deposit paying 5% annually. Robert Carlyle will soon go to Valley Center to update his signature authorization on our bank account. Recent expenditures were for CERT Supplies \$570.85 and Zoom Annual Fee \$149.90. The report was approved.

Station 79 Report: Captain Kowalski is away; no report.

County Fire Advisory (CFA) Board, Cliff Kellogg: Next meeting isn't until September; no report.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Bill Leininger: next event is first-aid training. Next week he will pick up twelve A-frame sign holders, evacuation guidance signs, and flashing lights. These will all go into the large CONEX box.

Palomar Mountain Fire Safe Council (FSC), Yvonne Vaucher: The council has about \$70,000 cash including \$20,000 in unrestricted funds. We have three chipping days left in our NRP Grant, which runs until July 31. We have plenty of dumpster money. We still have three boxes of Barricade fire gel. We have NRP (Neighborhood Reinvestment Program) funds for buying more fire gel. Barricade home defense kits cost \$600 each, 36 kits per pallet, plus \$1600 shipping and tax. Former PMVFD fire chief George Lucia is now producing and selling an alternative product, "FireSafe", for \$590 per kit with no shipping charge if we pick up in Valley Center. It is not clear from the descriptions if the ingredients are different - FireSafe says "no toxic ingredients". Brian Wagner and Denise Yaeger got our website online, see palomarfiresafecouncil.org. The FSC written report will be posted at palomar-fire.org. Next meeting 9 AM August 26, before the PMPO board meeting.

Community Center of Palomar Mountain (CCPM): Rosie Lopresti says the CCPM is well into plans for the Labor Day weekend event, to be held Saturday September 2. She and her family along with Robert Carlyle and Cecelia Borland have done a lot of raking and general cleanup. CERT and FSC will have information tables there, Chris Clark and his band will play live music. If we attract a real crowd, we can spill over into the nearby USFS Crestline Picnic Ground. Robert will use his tractor to clear soil that has piled up on the concrete dance floor. We won't be able to use the elevated bandstand until we replace the decayed plywood floor.

Two dead oak trees hanging over the area make a big safety hazard. She sent a request to Captain Kowalski to ask the county to take them down. Cliff Kellogg has talked to the captain and the county is not interested since the trees are not a hazard to structures. Discussion of whether the PMCFA can, or should, take the trees down on our own. Captain Kowalski will make another request to the county referring to the public safety hazard caused by the trees.

Rules for use of the Community Center building: Cliff emailed out the version adopted at the June 10, 2023 meeting and there have been no questions raised.

Board Insurance: Robert Carlyle got a quote on "Board Officers Liability" policy, \$1076 per year for \$2,000,000 coverage from Burns and Wilcox. Cliff Kellogg believes the quote is not for the kind of policy we need. Robert will call the agent next week.

Palomar Mountain Planning Organization (PMPO), Michael Pique (Secretary): The next board meetings will be at 10 AM August 26 and November 18, 2023, February 10, 2024, and the next Annual General Meeting May 25, 2024.

Adjournment: 09:57 AM 07/01/2023. The next PMCFA meeting is Saturday August 5, 2023, at 9 AM, at the Community Center. We expect to have Zoom call-ins available.

- Michael Pique, Secretary. Minutes approved by PMCFA Board 08/05/2023.