



MINUTES of the Regular Meeting of the Pliocene Ridge CSD Board of Directors

Date: Thursday January 20, 2022 6:30 pm

Station 2 in Alleghany

1. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:40 pm by Vice President Bruce Coons. Board members present Bruce Coons, Larry Allen, and Chris Mills. Director Grace Knowles had informed the Secretary that she could not attend. Also in attendance: Alleghany Assistant Chiefs David Arbogast & Ned Cusato, Pike Community Support Foundation President Roland Robertson and Treasurer Denise Ruane, member of the public Vicky Tenney and PRCSD Secretary Rae Bell Arbogast who took the minutes. Flag Salute.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR:

Agenda, Minutes and Treasurer's report

A motion was made to approve the consent calendar as presented by Larry Allen, 2nd by Chris Mills

Ayes: Allen, Coons, Mills Nays: none Absent: Knowles Abstain: none ~ Motion carried.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT: Denise Ruane wanted to know about the letter regarding water supply issues in Alleghany that was listed on the correspondence. Rae Bell explained that the 150,000 gallon water storage tank that normally supplies the town's water had to be taken out of service because of leaks. The tank is only 3 years old and is under warranty. The town is currently on two smaller tanks that provide 12,000 gallons of water storage. During the last cold snap some customers had frozen pipes that caused leaks once the temperatures rose and the 12,000 gallon tanks were drained between normal pump times. She offered to forward the letter to Denise.

4. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

a) *Correspondence* See Staff report for list.

b) *Committee/Member/Business Reports:*

1. *Chiefs Report* ~ Chief Dorn was sick and could not attend the meeting.

2. *Assistant Chief's report:* Assistant Chiefs Arbogast & Cusato reported that they have been busy dealing with the snow, power outages and downed power lines and falling trees. Trainings were cancelled during this time. Alleghany held a training on Monday for the first time since before Christmas. Alleghany had a medical call the day before that was a transport to Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital.

3. *AVFD Inc. Non-Profit Corp:* ~ No board representatives were present, but Vicky Tenney reported that their Chairman has been seriously ill and in and out of the hospital. They are still waiting on the paperwork for the board of equalization audit and name change.

4. *Pike Community Support Foundation* ~ Roland reported that they formalized their name change with a resolution at their last board meeting. They are still working on getting the banking under the new name. They cancelled the Christmas Party due to a lack of interest. They are working with members trying to get everyone's dues up to date. They have received some nice donations.

5. *Firewise Community Projects* ~ Provided in writing on Staff report. Roland stated that some people have been mailing their hours to him and he has been forwarding them to Rae. He wanted to know if anyone had followed up with Cai Sorlien and Rae confirmed that she had, along with another resident who requested a site visit. Chief Dorn will perform the requested inspections once the weather has improved.

Roland also mentioned seeing news about lots of grant \$ being available for wildfire clearing and was wondering if any of this is being pursued. The response was: “yes, but so far every grant application that has been looked at has requirements that the district has not been able to meet.” Rae needs to follow-up with the Nevada County Firesafe council on this topic because they had offered to help with grants for residents. Nevada County is dialed-in better than Sierra County. Rae also reported that there is a Nevada County Coalition of Firewise communities, and she has been attending their meetings via zoom.

6. *Board Member/Staff reports:* A report was provided in writing. Additionally, Streetlight Manager Bruce Coons reported that a streetlight was out in Forest City and he had called it in to PG&E.

7. *Firehouse Projects & ADA Compliance:* Written report provided. There was further discussion about the possible need for bathroom plans for the engine bay at the Pike firehouse.

Regarding the Alleghany Firehouse Station 1 project Rae is going to try and get an idea of what it would cost to build a new firehouse of a similar size so that the cost of the proposed project can be compared to that.

9. *Pending Grants:* Report provided in writing.

5. ACTION ITEMS

a) Unfinished Business

1. *Bylaws-Policies* – A draft record retention policy was provided in the meeting documents for adoption in February.

2. *MOU between the District and the non-profit corporations:* Nothing new to report, still waiting for the Alleghany non-profit to change their name.

Roland wanted to know about the plan to put together an information packet showing the evolution of the issue. This was discussed prior to the receipt of the draft MOU back from the attorney. Rae stated her opinion that the MOU as adopted explains why it was necessary to adopt it. She was not sure what other documentation would be helpful in the future.

Denise voiced concern over the fact that google searches for Pike City Volunteer Fire Department still bring up the district’s website. Rae stated that she had gone through the website and removed the word volunteer from the name of both departments several months ago. She will see what else can be done.

b) New Business

1. *Consider motion to rescind resolution 2021-086 to administer the wayman dam project:* Written report provided explaining why the terms of the permit are not feasible. **A motion to rescind Resolution 2021-086 was made by Larry Allen, 2nd by Chris Mills Ayes: Allen, Coons, Mills Nays: none Absent: Knowles Abstain: none ~ Motion carried.**

No action was taken on the proposed alternative project to install two 5,000 gallon water tanks at the Pike Firehouse because it was not properly agendized. It was mentioned that the title III money can be used for other things besides water storage. Staff was instructed to move forward with getting a quote for the tanks.

2. *Resolution 2022-087:* A draft resolution to allow remote meetings based on the template provided by the California Special District’s Association was provided before the meeting. **A motion to adopt Resolution 2022-087 was made by Larry Allen, 2nd by Chris Mills Ayes: Allen, Coons, Mills Nays: none Absent: Knowles Abstain: none ~ Motion carried.**

3. *Adopt meeting calendar for 2022: A motion to adopt the meeting calendar as presented was made by Larry Allen, 2nd by Chris Mills Ayes: Allen, Coons, Mills Nays: none Absent: Knowles Abstain: none ~ Motion carried.*

4. *Approve Sierra County Agreement # 2021-125 MOU to forward funds for the use of Station 2 in Alleghany to the district. The agreement as approved by the Sierra County board of supervisors was read out loud. The agreement restricts the district's use of the funds to repair and maintenance of Station 2 only. It was agreed by consensus that the original deal discussed with the county was to allow the money to be used for the maintenance and repair of either firehouse in Alleghany. The Secretary was instructed to send a letter to the Board of Supervisors to see if they would consider making this change to the agreement.*

Roland wanted to know if any money was ever given to the district for the outside community resource center that was set up in Pike over a year ago. The answer was: "no" Rae will look into it.

5. *Appoint Officers Tabled until next month.*

6. *Accept Daniel Guyer's letter of resignation: Tabled until next month to see if he might consider resuming his board seat now that the district has absolved itself from overseeing or funding the Wayman Dam project.*

7. *Discussion of generators given to the district by Sierra County OES: It was reported that PG&E had given generators for residential use to Sierra County OES to distribute during the recent storm event. OES then gave four generators to Pliocene Ridge CSD: two for Pike and two for Alleghany. After discussion: **A motion to have the fire chiefs maintain the generators and lend them out at their discretion was made by Larry Allen, 2nd by Chris Mills Ayes: Allen, Coons, Mills Nays: none Absent: Knowles Abstain: none ~ Motion carried.***

ANNOUNCEMENTS, NEXT MEETING DATE & AGENDA ITEMS

The next regular meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2022. It was decided by consensus to hold a remote meeting.

Agenda items: Adopt records retention policy, adopt follow-up resolution to resolution 2022-087 to extend remote meeting authorization.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rae Bell Arbogast
Secretary