

JACKSON VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*** MINUTES ***

Special Meeting of March 26th, 2018 at 6:00 pm
2701 Quiver Drive, Lone CA

I) Call Regular meeting to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Herfel. Board Members present: Herfel, Cantwell, Thompson, Brown and Farmer. Staff in attendance; Chief Makemson, Assistant Chief Faist, Engineer Burdick, Engineer Cook and Secretary Fogal. Also present, Dennis Tremelling, CAL FIRE Unit Chief Scott Lindgren, CAL FIRE Division Chief Mike Blankenheim and Doug Grandbois of Cal Fire. Guest Jill Curran and Frank Costa present.

II) Approval of Agenda:

Brown motioned to approve the Agenda, Thompson 2nd, all in favor five ayes.

III) Public matters not on the agenda:

No matters to discuss.

IV) Discussion of the Buena Vista Casino Project with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE).

- Chairman Herfel started the meeting with the purpose of the meeting to discuss the potential relationship between CAL FIRE and Jackson Valley Fire (JVFD). The County Administrator has confirmed the Buena Vista Project has begun and the Tribe has provided the County with a two million dollar fund given to Amador County.
- CAL FIRE Unit Chief of Amador / El Dorado County Unit Scott Lindgren introduced himself, Mike Blankenheim as his Administrative Assistant Chief and Doug Gandbois as the Chapter Director for the CAL Fire Union (L2881). Chief Lindgren shared his experience with contracts between CAL FIRE and other Tribes in the past. CAL FIRE has always been responsible for Dispatch in Amador / El Dorado County. Going forward, the discussion of the Cooperative Agreement with CAL FIRE and Amador County for Fire Emergency Services with regards to the Intergovernmental Services Agreement (ISA). Chief Lindgren has expressed a willingness to maintain a relationship with JVFD, with concerns and would require a contractual agreement between CAL FIRE and JVFD going forward, stop gab would not be accepted. This will need to be worked out between Jackson Valley Board and the County. CAL FIRE maintains a required standard as CAL FIRE and their Union obligations.
- Local resident Jill Curran, a member of Friends of Amador County has asked CAL FIRE to clarify the Agreement between the contract with Amador County and Buena Vista Casino Project. Chief Lindgren states that the agreement is between the County and CAL FIRE with regards to the Casino Project. CAL FIRE expressed that they would not agree on a one year contract, for protection of their employees.
- One goal of this meeting is to address areas that were not in the original contract, and to find a working path with JVFD and CAL FIRE. Station 171 is no longer a volunteer Station and is staffed with employees now and will need to be addressed. Chief Makemson will like to see our full time employees to be absorbed into CAL FIRE if that is their choice.
- CAL FIRE requires a three person staff two Engines on duty, no less, and Advanced Life Support Engines (ALS). The signed agreement with the County at this time is fulfilling the Dispatch; there will be more to work out with the County. This will be worked out as this transition goes forward, and an agreement is decided upon.

JACKSON VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- The ISA states the Tribe will be required to provide the funds to the County to maintain the Fire Protection Station to operate; this would provide the cost for the needed equipment and overhead to provide the housing for the staff. These areas will need to be worked out with the Tribe and County to provide the needed provisions.
- Brown recommends that a committee be formed of two Board Members, Chief Makemson, and CAL FIRE to work out the options of the MOU and bring to the Board for review. Herfel has asked that this meeting be a time to talk with CAL FIRE to begin the path of a working relationship if agreed upon. The County would be given the MOU to move forward on the agreement with the Tribe, the County and CAL FIRE.
- Chief Lindgren has expressed his thoughts that JVFD to maintain Station 171, their employees, and to work cooperatively to meet the requirements of both CAL FIRE and the County based on the ISA. To continue to provide the County with Vouchers to maintain Station 171 with the staffing requirements, housing, and equipment to meet the ISA agreement.
- CAL FIRE cannot guarantee a full time position to the Engineers currently staffed at Station 171. Once the agreement is in place, JVFPD staff would be working alongside of CAL FIRE and would have an opportunity to attend training classes, and hear of opportunities to apply for positions that may come up with CAL FIRE. The only way CAL FIRE can guarantee our current employees to become permanent state employees would be if there were a schedule "A" agreement between JVFD and CAL FIRE, this is an eighteen month process and JVFPD does not have the funds. The other option would be a relationship worked out with the County and JVFD to possibly bring current full time employees into CAL FIRE; this will need to be worked out with a LAFCO representative (Joanne) to invite to attend a Board of Directors Meeting to discuss the possibility. Chief Makemson would like the fastest way to bring current employees into CAL FIRE. Chief Lindgren suggest if that the fast way would be the District give those concerns to (Chuck) at the County and the County try to work that into the contract with CAL FIRE.
- Brown expressed that JVFPD can work side by side with CAL FIRE and meet the requirements of the ISA. An agreement will need to be put in place for that path. Chairman Herfel will meet with Chuck along with one Board Member, at the County to discuss the outcome of this Special Meeting. Brown volunteered to attend the meeting, Thompson has asked to be an alternative if needed. There will be more meetings, more discussions and it will be on the fast track as the project has begun. The Board Members are in agreement in going forward working with CAL FIRE. Cantwell has requested a Special Meeting to be held on Monday April 2nd, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

NEW BUSINESS: Discussion items only:

Adjournment to Special Meeting of: **Monday April 2nd, 2018 at 7:00 pm**

Cantwell moved to adjourn the Special meeting, Brown 2nd the motion, all in favor 5-0 at 9:14 pm.

Next regular scheduled meeting to be held of April 11th, 2018 at 7:00 pm at Station 171.

This agenda shall be made available upon request in alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12132 and the Ralph M. Brown Act (California Government Code 54954.2) Persons requesting a disability related modification or accommodation in order to participate in the meeting should contact the Jackson Valley Fire Protection District at (209)763-5848, during regular business hours, at least forty-eight hours prior to the time of the meeting."