

MINUTES

Tuesday/April 13, 2010 9:30AM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – Garden alley Fire Protection District

Regular Meeting

Location: 4860 Marshall Road – Garden Valley, CA 95633 – Training Room

There is a quorum, so the meeting proceeds at 9:31 AM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Directors, Clark, Souza, Karen Smith and Richard Smith and Chairman Rick Nelson are present. Also present are: Chief Bill Dekker, Assistant Chief Linda Szczepanik; Assistant Chief Bob Bement and District Accountant Christina Havens and Board Clerk, Jo Cleaver. Guests are Garden Valley Resident Wayne Ragan, and Scott Vail ISMD (Incident Support Management Division) Member

...pauses or interruption of thought(s)

1.0 - ADOPT AGENDA: – Director Karen Smith makes a motion to adopt the agenda and Director Dave Souza seconds the motion. Passes unanimously.

2.0 – INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS and PUBLIC COMMENTS: - Mr. Ragan, appeals to the board regarding his development impact fees. After a brief discussion the board must deny his request as it would set a precedence this board is not willing to set, at this time. Chairman Rick Nelson makes the suggestion to draft a letter to the building department specifically to address the collections of these and other fees, for this district. The board learns from Chief Dekker there is another agenda item today that will address this matter. He also reminds the board that these development impact fees are kept in trust at the county and would have to be used for two specific purposes with an appeal to the County Board of Supervisors; Capital Building projects, or the purchase of fire equipment. He continues, “right now we have approximately \$60,000-\$65,000 dollars in development fees. It hasn’t gone up very much in the last year, obviously.” Director Karen Smith asks the question, “Can we charge him the difference in his square footage?” Chief Dekker: Yes, however he never was charged development impact fees in 1984, when he first built. The county didn’t start to do that until 1991. Chairman Nelson, again asks the board to table this decision until the board has time to give Mr. Ragan a written decision. Director Richard Smith, “do we have a copy of the written ordinance?” Chief Dekker: Yes. As a matter of fact this has just been updated specifically for each fire district. **NOTE:** At this point in the recording Director Clark is heard on tape to second a motion. Chairman Nelson immediately calls for a vote. The vote is unanimous. The meeting proceeds to old business. However, the above vote was taken in error. There was no motion made, therefore, it must be noted in these typed minutes.

3.0 - OLD BUSINESS:

3.1 – IMSD (Review of 2010 IMSD Guidelines) Chief Dekker wants to make sure the board is aware of all changes and corrections of this paperwork. Chairman Nelson, “what I don’t see here is the change in our administration fee?” Chief Dekker directs the attention of the Board to Scott Vail, Division Chief who will be explaining this and other points, in detail. He adds, “There will be further discussion in my Chief’s report.” Scott Vail takes the floor. “...this administration rate was based on CFFA at 16.53 rate. When I was the Admin Chief for OES we took the ad min rate of the state, Forest Service, BLM, park service, BIA, Fish and Wildlife Service, added them together and divided by six. Now Fish and Wildlife service and BIA, said their admin rate was about 20%. USFS and Cal Fire was down to 12% and they squaked and now their rate is 16.53. A year ago they got a new administration person who came out of the Washington office and said, ‘wait a second, this is not right’ these little guys shouldn’t be ‘driving’ this; it should be CALfire and/or USFS. So they took away the average and took the two big organizations. So it dropped. The USFS says it will cap at 10% this year. All eighteen units of California decided this. Now the problem is the yearly admin rates went higher, but no one has done due diligence to prove that their higher. The Chief and I talked last night and we probably could come up with real costs for these four people, real time, just keeping track

paying the bills, dealing with Sacramento, Albuquerque, dealing with any of the cost places, plus the training you have to put in, vehicles running back and forth, telephones...but I have feeling the costs are a little higher, but because no one has actually come forward and said, 'this is what the rate is or what our real admin costs are'...remember I talked about CFFA rates, well their thinking of dropping that rate. So the controversy has already started throughout the different agencies for a reduction in rates. I don't know how they're going to justify that! That's significant. My suggestion to Bill last night was that we do some kind of work at the County level; it just can't be Garden Valley leading the charge within the next month. When it was at 16.53 nobody cared to take a look at the admin costs. So at the chief's meeting tomorrow I'm going to propose we take a look at this, at least talk about it, otherwise people are going to lose money on this. The whole idea was never to lose money!" Chairman Nelson: So nobody has really put together a line item for the cost of admin fees? Vail: Not that I'm aware of. Dekker: No it has been a revenue generator. Chairman Nelson: But we haven't off-set the revenue with actual documentation of our costs to run this? Dekker: No, we haven't. But we need to do it for our own knowledge. And we'll talk some more about this in agenda item 3.2. Nelson: But even at 10% we're still going to make some money. Dekker: I have asked that this topic be put on the Chief's Meeting agenda. Nelson: So whether it's All Risk or Strike Teams we are getting that admin cost? Dekker: Yes, but the state's viewpoint is they just want to break even. Nelson: Well, we're a non-profit organization, and we are not suppose to make money. Director Karen Smith: ...and look at the state our State is in. Nelson: This sounds like another of those little gray areas of operating the IMSD. I think it would behoove us to take a look at the actual costs. It was nice getting that 16.53 but we never did balance that against what we were getting for the peoples' time to do the admin work. Dekker: As the activity increases, so does the people's time. Assistant Chief Szczerpanik is heard to talk about the strike teams and the overhead on one of these incidents, when fuel has to be purchased and or tires are blown. However, once we are on the incident, then we're ok. Nelson: We don't get reimbursed for fuel or....Szczerpanik: Negative. Not going down and not coming home. We are on our own. Nelson: (Loud whistle) Director Richard Smith: Am I hearing this correct. This admin fee also includes the costs of running an engine 1000 miles round trip? Dekker: Absolutely. We get an hourly rate on the engines up to 16 hours a day. About \$104 (plus wages) dollars an hour plus the admin rate on top of that. Vail: Basically there's an admin rate, personnel rate, and equipment rate. Nelson: Boy, that's going to be fun to dive into. Dekker: What I'd like to suggest is...the California stuff is pretty negotiable, the federal stuff is set in stone, it's going to be 10% non-negotiable...continue with the federal stuff this year, review it next winter, and see how it all played out. In any case we'll still be generating some revenue which will be...Nelson: Well, I would like to agree with that, but I just want to be sure were not taking money from someplace else, to pay the cost of...Dekker: Exactly. Vail: You need to show...whether you're paying me something or not, my time is worth something...there are things out there that we do...Szczerpanik: As an example we spent five hours with the USFS, but we donated those hours. We would have to come up with a value or ...nothing went down on a piece of paper Nelson: that's the type of stuff we need to track. Dekker: I think we should have something put together by the next board meeting. I have the AOP and the agreement with the USFS, we'll tie it all together.

3.2 – Review of IMSD roster. Three pages of documentation are handed out. Chief Szczerpanik explains the teams' origin and team member ranks. Director Clark makes a motion to accept the roster, Director Souza seconds the motion. Passes unanimously.

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During a break the raffle for Defensible Space takes place and the winner Sue Brown is announced.

4.0 – CLOSED SESSION: 4.1 – Volunteer Compensation

Meeting reconvenes at 11:16AM

5.0 – ACTION TAKEN: (4.1) Reporting on the action of the Closed Session Chairman Nelson makes the following announcement. All volunteers with the GVFPD will receive a \$14.00 stipend, for all calls attended. And any qualified volunteer in the district will receive \$12.50 per hour to work a shift. This will correct some payment issues with Assistant Chief Bob Bement and Corinne Staves. The board will be reviewing wages for when the Chiefs are out of town on command assignments, Dekker and Szczepanik and Bement.

6.0 – NEW BUSINESS:

6.1 – Correspondence

Director Frank Clark makes a motion to send a letter to the Grand Jury to explain the BOD of Garden Valley position with the promissory note and former Director Bob Rogers. The motion is seconded by Director Karen Smith. Passes unanimously

6.2 – Approve minutes of March 9, 2010. Director Karen Smith makes the motion. Director Richard Smith seconds the motion. Passes unanimously

6.3 – Monthly bills are voted on and passed unanimously with a motion by Director Frank Clark and seconded by Director Richard Smith.

6.4 – Chief Dekker: Many districts collect their own fees. The Chief gives an overview of how Meeks Bay started collecting. The Chief asks permission to research the advantages of doing so. Director Clark makes the motion to allow the chief to start researching the procedures and Director Rick Nelson seconds the motion. Passes unanimously.

6.5 – Chief's Report. Copy attached in front office. Sent electronically to email addresses provided. Reminder: Friday/May 14th academy graduation. Golden Sierra High School auditorium 7PM. 26th Anniversary of Support Group. Chief is going to draft a letter of appreciation to be signed by the board of directors. The suggestion of coffee mugs is made for presentation. Director Clark reminds the Chief the support group breaks for July and August.

7.0 – BOARD MEMBERS OPEN FORUM: Chairman Nelson asks for more discussion of recognition for the Support Group; should be done at the June breakfast. Director Richard Smith asks for a date for the Union Negotiations; discussion to be on the agenda next month. There was a slight discussion regarding the budget with an overview of necessary items that should be in place by the May meeting, for completion in June. Captain Burch asks for the next agenda to also reflect the Life Insurance Negotiations.

8.0 - ADJOURNMENT: By a unanimous vote with a motion made by Director Karen Smith and seconded by Director Dave Souza the meeting is adjourned at 12:02PM

Respectively Submitted:



Ms. Jo Cleaver
Board Clerk

Date: 5/11/2010