

# MINUTES

November 8, 2011

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS – Garden Valley Fire Protection District Regular Meeting

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

Directors, Dave Souza, Karen Smith, Frank Clark and Chairman Richard Smith are present. Also present are Chief Dekker, Assistant Chief Linda Szczepanik. The Board Clerk, Ms. Jo Cleaver is present. District Accountant Christine Havens is absent. In the audience are Teddy Ramos, Captains Frost and Burch, Mike Sampson, and Tim Curwood with Rescue Fire Department.

...indicates pauses or interruptions

The meeting gets underway at 9:30AM.

1.0 - Director Karen Smith makes the motion to adopt the agenda and Director David Souza seconds the motion. Motion passes.

2.0 - No introductions are forthcoming.

### 3.0 - OLD BUSINESS:

3.1 – Letter for Ramos Family waiving Development Fees: This action is a follow-up from last month's board meeting when the Ramos family appeared at that board meeting. Teddy Ramos introduces herself and presents a letter from her mother's doctor explaining his patients need for family care. (Attached herein.) Director Clark asks to be excluded from this vote due to a conflict of interest. Director Souza makes the motion to waive the fee and Director Karen Smith seconds the motion. After allot more discussion no letter will be needed but the fee is waived. Captain Burch will make the arrangements to inspect the defensible space and have them sign off.

3.2 – Letters of Interest from Candidates applying for Board Vacancy: The Board Clerk asks to address the board with an explanation for the Form 700 included in this month's board packets before proceeding with the reading of the letters. The Form 700 is the final technicality required by the Election Department, releasing former Director Rick Nelson from his elected responsibilities. The Board Clerk reads letters from Todd Whicomb and Wendell Smith. (Attached herein.) Director Frank Clark makes the motion to select Wendell Smith, and Director Souza seconds the motion. It is suggested by Director Karen Smith to do a ballot vote. Board Clerk reads the names from the ballots and it is determined Wendell Smith is the appointee to this board. He will be sworn in at the next Board Meeting, December 13, 2011.

### 4.0 – NEW BUSINESS:

4.1 – Financials: Chief Dekker speaks out on behalf of District Accountant Christina Havens. The Chief goes over the paperwork supplied by Havens. Chairman Smith asks the Chief about the issues with the Auditor/Controller's Office he has seen in emails flying back and forth between our Accountant and Joe Harn's office. The Chief goes on to explain he has had a meeting with Ms. Havens last Friday and further informs the board if this situation with the

Auditor's Office. If business continues as is with the Auditor/Controller's office she is going to leave the district. "She is a professional accountant and doesn't like doing business this way," says the Chief. He continues, "That is why I forward you the letter and...Chairman Smith interrupts the Chief with a question, "that's still a valid request?" Chief, "absolutely, time is of the essence. Chairman Smith, "if Christina were to leave us...Chief interrupts with comment, "setback". Chairman Smith, goes on to say he would like to setup a meeting with Joe Harn, "if he is willing to meet with us, but I have a feeling the outcome will be we will be asked to leave, because I'm not a happy camper right now." Chief, "Mr. Chairman, I've been here four years and every single person we have had in her position has received this exact same treatment.

So it is not just a matter of a personality clash with any particular individual; it is a set agenda not to cooperate with this district at all, no matter who is in this position. I really want you to think about that. This is beyond the way government business is suppose to be conducted." The Board Clerk asks the Chairman for permission to turn off the recorder at 10:13 AM. The recorder is turned back on at 10:33 AM. Director Clark makes the motion to accept the financials/bills and Director Karen Smith seconds the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

**4.2 – Minutes are approved for October 11, 2011**

With a motion from Director Souza and with a second from Director Karen Smith, the vote is unanimous.

**4.3 – Resident Firefighter/Greenwood:**

To improve the service in the district, the Chief makes the request for a firefighter to move into the Greenwood Station to expand the district's coverage. The Chief is recommending Jake Koontz and outlines the rental agreement. This will be a 90 day trial period. With a motion made by Director Dave Souza and seconded by Director Frank Clark, the motion passes unanimously. The board will re-examine this arrangement in March of 2012.

**4.4 – Mutual Aid Response:** Chief Dekker, "over the last four or five months my staff has been responding to calls that the Georgetown volunteers are not. Should we be going to routine calls in Volcanoville, absolutely not. However if there is a car accident up in Volcanoville, we should go. But we have got to set some parameters. I think it would be a good idea for this board to meet with the Georgetown board members and express our concerns." A letter will be drafted to the Georgetown Chief expressing the concerns of this district and expressing a desire to meet board to board.

**5.0 – CHIEFS REPORT** : Copy attached. Chief Dekker has asked Captain Charles Frost to be here to talk about the delivery of the new water tender. An Out of Service sign will be placed on the new equipment for travel. "The IMSD total contribution to the District was \$353,954 billed for this fire season, of which our district gets \$95,000 (22% Admin share). This is a very viable program," said the Chief.

**6.0 – IN PROCESSING:**

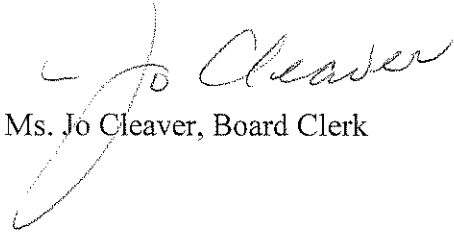
**6.1 – Consolidation:** The Chief talked with Rick Todd (Chairman of the Consolidation Committee) after he had a one-on-one with Supervisor Briggs. "That was five weeks ago and Briggs said he would get right back to Rick Todd. As of today, he hasn't got back to Rick," said the Chief

**6.2 – Water Tender:** Discussed above.

7.0 – **BOARD MEMBER OPEN FORUM:** Director Karen Smith wanted to go on record as to how angry she was that the insurance company paid Bado off. “Everyone along the line had said no...that’s why this country is in the (voice dropped away) ....” Chairman Smith reads a letter from the Volunteer Firefighters Association. Letter Attached.

8.0 – **ADJOURNMENT:** Director Karen Smith calls for the adjournment and Director Frank Clark seconds the motion. The vote is unanimous. Meeting ends at 11:10 AM

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jo Cleaver". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Ms. Jo Cleaver, Board Clerk

12/13/2011

Date: December 13, 2011