



PENRYN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES

Chair Hotaling, Vice-Chair Hardesty, Secretary Shields, Directors Heimlich and Verdugo

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING May 19, 2025

1. **Call the meeting to order and Roll Call:** Chair Hotaling called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Directors in attendance: Cheryl Hotaling, Danielle Hardesty, Diego Heimlich, and Larry Shields, and Robert Verdugo

Directors absent: N/A

Staff in attendance: Fire Chief Gow, Fire Marshal D'Ambrogi, District Manager Armstrong, Battalion Chief Slusher, and Battalion Chief Williamson.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Chair Hotaling led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Director Heimlich moved to approve the agenda. Director Shields seconded the motion that passed unanimously.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Director Shields moved to approve the minutes for the meeting on April 21, 2025. Vice-Chair Hardesty seconded the motion that passed unanimously.
5. **Financial Report & Bill Approval:** Director Heimlich moved to approve the financial report and expenses. Director Verdugo seconded the motion that passed unanimously.
6. **Correspondence:** N/A
7. **Public Comment:**

Brian Myers – Formed a group called Placer Citizens for Neighborhood Rights, filed articles of incorporation with the Attorney General. By creating an organized group it will allow for the collection of donations.

Vic – Disappointed by the level of community engagement by the administration.

8. **Informational/Non-Action Items:**

A. Nevada County Professional Firefighters, Local 3800 (Local 3800): N/A

B. Fire Chief Gow's Report:

1. Newcastle plans to install a fuel vault, offering a more affordable fuel option for Penryn Fire District.
2. Anticipate receiving the final document for the financial study that is being completed for the Placer Hills and Newcastle Fire reorganization. Command staff will be meeting with the County CEO to discuss tax sharing negotiations.
3. During the renewal process for our Workers Comp insurance they review some policies and procedures. They are encouraging us to develop and improve upon our Illness and Injury Prevention Policy. The plan will be to send out an example to the union and the board and discuss a first reading at next month's board meeting.
4. Evaluating 3 vendor options for physical exams, anticipate a draft report will be shared with the board next month. Labor will be included on the review process, as it will be considered a change of work condition.

Public Comment:

Brian Myers – Can provide assistance with LAFCo and support to the fire district. Encourage for others to read and review the Municipal Services Review report.

Vic – Shared that they used county public health for evaluations for his agency

Janice – You can get an IIPP through your workers comp carrier

Fire Marshal D'Ambrogi's Report:

1. Planning Projects; 1 parcel split, adding an ADU, on La Tierra
2. Mitigation Fee report was approved by the Board of Supervisors on May 13, a new fee of \$2.01/sq ft will go into effect July 12
3. Local Hazard Mitigation Plan; On a 5 year cycle where a review and update is required. Penryn did not previously get added with its own annex, which we intend to include in this new update. The plan addresses natural disasters and what to do in the event of one. If there is a disaster and FEMA funding is available by being in this plan you have a better chance of qualifying. The process will take around 2 years, including receiving approvals.

Battalion Chief Williamson report:

1. Update on projects; windows ordered for the station, need to order the gravel for the driveway, hydrant maintenance has been assigned to a staff member who will be putting together a process for completing

Battalion Chief Slusher report:

1. Provided an operation report, call volume consistent with previous years.
2. Participated in a ride to school with Penryn elementary and have been invited to the 4th of July parade on Legacy Lane
3. New SCBA's going into service within the next few days, all equipment has been received
4. Engine 38 went in for annual service, have some minor repairs, Placer Hills engine was loaned while it was under repair

C. Director Committee Reports

1. **Personnel Committee:** Chair Hotaling reported that the committee met with the labor negotiation team, will review during closed session.
2. **Administrative Contract & Finance Oversight Committee:** Vice-Chair Hardesty reported that the committee met last week, reviewed some general adjustments for revenue accounts related to preparation for the prelim budget and amended budget for FY 24-25.
3. **Ad hoc committee for future cooperation with other fire departments.** Director Shields reported that the directors recently met, working to get in front of the Board of Supervisors with an Ad Hoc committee. Reviewing all districts revenue streams, getting a better understanding of how everyone operates and anticipate eventual benefits.

- D. Update on Hope Way Project:** Fire Marshal D'Ambrogi reported that the project is still in the planning review process, have a call into the lead planner for updates. Have met with legal counsel to receive guidance on what fees can be collected, determined that we are eligible to collect mitigation/impact fees and special assessments. Have met with the developer twice to discuss our fees and review the process. Negotiations will take place once a project is submitted, as the project may change over time. Only item that has recently been addressed was the secondary access, proposed a secondary access in a different location that meets the fire code.

Public Comment:

Brian Myers – The developer has indicated that they won't have to go through the planning process and told that they do not have to pay special taxes. Been told that this is a plot to bankrupt Penryn Fire. Our community is getting 20% of the affordable housing.

Vic – Disappointed that there was no representation of fire or the sheriff at the community meeting. Request that you represent how your community feels and encourage you to educate the public.

David with the Buddhist Church – Hosted a town hall on April 3rd, was expecting a presence from the fire district and think you missed an opportunity by not being there. Shared that he doesn't think that two exits is not enough access.

Sean Robertson – PCWA has been doing a lot of work on their infrastructure, passed a law that new residential buildings can be held liable for fees.

Holly Tomas – Retired law enforcement, researched in the past and understand that call volume will be increased and the builder isn't required to build to code.

Patty Neifer – Asking for the district to get ahead of the game and communicate what you are asking for in advance, for fire services. Placer County indicated it's up to the fire district to make their own agreement.

Muriel Davis – Surprised that the fire district says the emergency exit meets fire code. Was hoping to hear that the fire department would not provide a will serve.

Public Member – From what I understand there is a 10% call increase this year that may be exponentially increasing. You need to write down what you need to service the development, need a plan with a budget to service that particularly building.

Susan – This project is going to more than double the population of Penryn and there isn't proper services in our community. We support you and the fire department and disappointed that you don't seem to fight the development.

Patti – Wants to know if they can request to go above and beyond fire code and law

Bryan Myers – Hope Way is going to be widened by 20 feet, if there is a fire Hope Way and Penryn Rd will be cut off. Secondary access can't be enough.

Chair Hotaling shared that the Board is regularly involved by attending our monthly meetings, Supervisors meetings, LAFCo Meetings and this item has been on the agenda and discussed for a while now. Encourage the community to continue to attend our meetings and be aware. The board is here and continues to fight the fight to keep our station open. Been attending meetings and submitting letters in support of our district and the station.

Director Heimlich shared that we are all on the same side here and that some things are out of our control.

Director Shields shared that he is a Penryn resident and personally not in support of the project. As a board if we chose to not service the county may have the opportunity to bring in another fire agency.

Fire Marshal D'Ambrogi shared that SB 330 started these conversations 5 years ago. The option we have is to negotiate with the developer and doing the best we can with the tools that we have. Will enforce the fire code to the maximum on all building and development.

E. Update on replacement of the Brush Engine

Battalion Chief Slusher reported that fire engine costs have increased drastically, the board tasked us with looking into potential retrofit options for the Brush. The vendors are not being supportive of providing costs however were able to get some quotes. To retrofit the current type 3 the lowest cost is \$388,000 with a wait period of 3-4 years, the highest was around \$450-500,000 which includes a new cab, chassis and pump module. The cost is still fairly high and we would have to lose the brush engine while they do the upgrade. The costs continue to rise, as they have gone up since last providing a staff report. Chair Hotaling asked if the board wants to take a pause on this item or if it should be brought forward as an action item. The board agreed that it would be best to pause for the time being.

9. Action Items

A. Consider and adopt Resolution 2025-05 approving a funds transfer of \$39,877.49 from Mitigation Net Position to Mitigation Assigned Fund Balance

District Manager Armstrong reported that this was to correct an extra transfer due to a journal entry, from the audit.

Motion made by Chair Hotaling to adopt Resolution 2025-05 approving a funds transfer of \$39,877.49 from Mitigation Net Position to Mitigation Assigned Fund Balance.

Director Shields seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

B. Consider and adopt Resolution No. 2025-06 setting the rate for Measure A special tax and requesting collection of charges on the County of Placer property tax rolls

Motion made by Vice-Chair Hardesty to set the rate for Measure A special tax and requesting collection of charges on the County of Placer property tax rolls. Director Verdugo seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

C. Consider and adopt Resolution No. 2025-07 requesting collection of Measure C charges on the County of Placer property tax rolls

Motion made by Director Verdugo to adopt Resolution No. 2025-07 requesting collection of Measure C charges on the County of Placer property tax rolls. Director Heimlich seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

D. Consider and approve a payment of \$19,876.00 to Fire Risk Management Services (FRMS) for FY 2022-2023

District Manager Armstrong reported that a payment was missed back in FY 2022-2023.

Motion made by Vice-Chair Hardesty to approve a payment of \$19,876.00 to FRMS.

Director Heimlich seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

The public meeting was adjourned and the Board went into Closed Session at 8:26pm

E. Closed Session: Pursuant to California Govt. Code § 54957.6(a) LABOR NEGOTIATIONS; Discussion of the Memorandum of Understanding with Local 3800, District negotiators: Hotaling and Hardesty

The open meeting was reconvened at 9:34pm. Chair Hotaling reported that no action was taken in closed session.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:38pm.

Next Board Meeting: Monday, June 23, 2025 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM (PST)

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michelle Armstrong". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michelle" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Armstrong".

District Manager