



July 10th, 2024

Chair Julia Marsili called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. at the West Point Fire Station, 195 Spink Rd West Point, Ca 95255

PRESENT: Chair Julia Marsili, Director John Hesketh, Director Tim Adams, Chief Terry Miller, Assistant Chief Michael Downs, Chaplain Carolyn Oliver, Chaplain Bruce Forrest, and Clerk Bronwynne Wolf.

ABSENT: Vice Chair Steve Schoenthaler and Director Dorrie Klith

Public Comment:

- a. A member of the community had a question regarding whether employee wages are public information. He was instructed on how to submit a public record request to obtain this information.

Announcements from West Point Fire Protection District Partners:

Partner reports – Chaplain’s Oliver and Forrest shared their concerns regarding the need to recruit more chaplains to serve within Calaveras County; as Chaplain Forrest has been responding to calls not only within our local district 2 but throughout Calaveras County as a whole.

Consent Agenda—

1. The following items were motioned for approval by Director Adams, seconded by Director Hesketh and passed with 3 votes.
 - a. Approve regular meeting minutes from June 12th, 2024
 - b. Acknowledge receipt and review of financial statements for June 2024
 - c. Approve monthly expenses for June 2024

New Business:

- a. Auditor Inquiry: Wolf, Action

The directors voted to approve payment in the amount of \$1,500 to hire Cathy Castillo as the district’s independent auditor. Director Adams motioned to approve payment of the retainer, seconded by Director Hesketh and passed with 3 votes.

- b. Auditor-Controller Direct Charge Packet 24-25: Wolf, Action

Clerk Wolf presented the 24-25 direct charge packet received from the county auditor/controller’s office which included the tax rolls for the fire district’s two special property taxes, the transmittal’s detailing the total amounts expected to be collected, as well as Resolution 2024.01 which requests the county to once again place the two special taxes on the tax roll for the 24-25 year.



Chair Marsili motioned to approve Resolution 2024.01, seconded by Director Hesketh and passed with 3 votes.

Reports, Director, and Staff Comments:

Fire Chief Report/Announcements: Assistant Chief Downs shared that the county will begin collecting revenue for Measure A beginning this October and the funds collected are expected to be available for district use sometime in January 2025. The estimated annual amounts are currently expected to be \$149,940 for staffing, \$64,000 for equipment and facility maintenance, and \$21,000 to potentially rollover.

Chief Miller shared that the old ‘retired’ ambulance he placed up for sale, sold for \$150 and the GMC for \$100.

Earlier this week, Engine 313 sustained damage to the front bumper while parked, due to an ambulance hitting it. Chief Miller stated that the ambulance company will cover the cost of repair for 313’s bumper.

Over the month, the district lost one employee but gained three more.

Chief Miller attended the Chief’s Association meeting where he was made aware that the Board of Supervisor’s passed the TOT tax, of which, the district will receive 25% at \$73,000 as well as 10% of Prop 72 at \$32,436 for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

Calls were down a bit in June at 39 calls total for the month, and 241 calls to date for the entirety of 2024.

Adjournment to Closed Session at 6:20 p.m.- Personnel Matters Government Code § 54957(b)

- a. Public Employee Appointment, employment, performance evaluation, discipline, dismissal or release (§ 54957(b))-Marsili

Reconvene in Open Session at 6:32 p.m. – No vote to report.

Installation of New Chief

Chair Marsili swore in Michael Downs, who has served as West Point Fire’s Assistant Chief for the past year, as the newly appointed Chief of the West Point Fire Protection District. The badge pinning ceremony was attended by Chief Downs wife Jessica, their son Emmett, as well as many of his fellow firefighters.

Former Chief Terry Miller now serves as West Point Fire’s Assistant Chief, who has been heavily encouraged to enjoy time off with his lovely wife. During his time as Chief, he routinely went above and beyond and set an excellent example for all.

Adjournment: meeting was adjourned at 6:46 P.M.