



PO BOX 281 • MOKELUMNE HILL CA 95245
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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR DECEMBER 17, 2015

CALL TO ORDER: By Chairman Suzie Coe at 7:03 PM.

PRESENT: Chairman Suzie Coe, Directors Del Albright and Ted Shannon.

ABSENT: None: The terms of John Dell'Orto and E. Cavalli Jr. have expired.

ALSO PRESENT: Fire Chief David Spitzer, Battalion Chief Michael Dell'Orto and others.

PUBLIC COMMENT: 1) Santa Claus, aka Mike Moran, stated the "Meet Santa" events at the Mokelumne Hill Elementary School and Léger Hotel were very well attended; he thanked the Mokelumne Hill volunteer firefighters for providing transportation via a fire engine to the events. He also thanked Santa's helpers Chat, Don Bozzo and Liz. 2) Director Coe reported that Olivia Borchin provided 40 sandwiches for firefighters during the Butte Fire. Director Coe also noted that Ms. Borchin has placed a donation jar at the Nut House for financial assistance towards her educational expenses.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: One correction: Under Correspondence, item 1), the correct word "previous" was misspelled "precious." Director Albright made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected, Chairman Coe seconded it and it passed 3-0-2.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1) Board members' signature page rejected at Auditor's Office. Auditor's office wants a resolution that we signed a document.
- 2) Public records request: Smart Procedure requested all our electronic records from 2010 – current. Chief Spitzer advised the company we don't keep our records electronically and they must come to our office to review and/or obtain copies of our paper records.
- 3) Notice from Betty Yee re; claim of a delinquent report. Per Director Coe, the report was not delinquent; it was sent via USPS and electronically by MHFPD's auditor. Our auditor did not send us a report form to fill out; therefore, only one report was submitted.
- 4) Letter from LAFCO advising of open position on LAFCO Board. No action taken.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Monthly bills: Chief Spitzer reported our district had received many bills. After reviewing the bills, Director Albright made a motion to pay them, Director Shannon seconded and it passed 3-0-2.

Fund transfers to pay strike team members; unable to transfer funds because approval of four directors is required. Voted to pay Strike Team and have county make necessary fund transfers.

MHFPD'S meetings do not coincide with Cal Card's billing schedule; the Chief will keep track of all items charged so the MHFPD Board can authorize the payments ahead of the due date, thus eliminating late charges.

- 1) The Chief reported that the current 10 hour a week authorization for maintenance of equipment is adequate for routine equipment checks, but Chat Soule' had worked two extra days repairing one engine. It was decided to pay Chat for any extra hours worked.
- 2) Pay for Bill Dahl and Michael Dell'Orto's firefighting efforts. MHFPD lacks adequate funds in the appropriate account to pay Mike Dell'Orto the partial sum he desired in 2015. It was suggested that, in the future, the district make budget transfers in advance to cover all known or readily foreseeable expenses.
- 3) Monthly bills totaled \$24,102.51, \$18,968.63 of which was for paying firefighters William Dahl and Michael Dell'Orto for their wildland firefighting efforts. Other bills: Batch ID # OH138119 =

\$483.00. (Laundry expenses); Batch ID # OH138071 = \$2,443.89 (Misc. expenses including attorney fees, vehicle maintenance, fuel and firefighter benefits); Batch ID # OH138091 = \$64.49 (other Maintenance).; Employee Pay \$2,142.50.

- 4) Chief Spitzer reported the County Auditor is resisting our current practice of paying cleaning expenses for our firefighters on a mileage basis. He is sure our current procedure is legal. Director Shannon made a motion to continue our current method. Director Albright seconded it and it passed 3-0 -2.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:

- 1) County Fire Dispatch continues delaying recording dispatch times; sometimes, our firefighters are in route prior to the officially recorded dispatch time.
- 2) The County Auditor wants paperwork to document everything. The matter was discussed.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1) Collection fees for certain calls: although Director Coe tabled the matter, Director Shannon briefly reported on information sent by the "HR Fire Recovery" company. It has many fire department clients, including the Central Calaveras Fire Protection District. The company charges 20% of the amount collected.
- 2) Notices of Term Vacancies for two MHFPD directors were posted as required by law. Termed out directors Dell'Orto and Cavalli have reapplied. No others have applied as yet; the deadline is December the 18th one day after the date of this meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Building Committee:

- 1) Paloma firehouse: Director Coe was advised by attorneys MHFPD volunteer firefighters can't directly pay for construction of the Paloma fire house; however, they can donate money to the MHFPD for that purpose. The MHFPD will seek donations for various phases of the project.
- 2) Paloma Strategic Plan: Emergency considerations since Butte Fire. Meeting needed.
- 3) Standing Budgets Committee: No meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) Increase station mechanic hours. See Treasurer's report.
- 2) Station computer issues. The Chief stated upgrades to our computer and router are needed. He will contact a repair company and have the issues resolved.
- 3) Photos of Engine # 153 damage sent to Hi-Tech Emergency Vehicle Service. Estimate is approximately \$6,000. Discussion of best way to proceed.
- 4) Paying firefighters for cleaning expenses. See Treasurer's report.
- 5) New method of paying bills; the county auditor's office wants all invoices. The Chief stated the county's IFIS system is very time-consuming, unreliable and hard to access. The auditor's office wants to transfer their work to us. The Chief is not their clerk and we will not do their work for them.

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ADJOURNMENT: By Chairman Coe at 8:17 PM.

Chairman Suzie Coe

Minutes written by Assistant Secretary Ted Shannon



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