Board of Directors’ meeting called to order at 1802 hrs.

Roll call as follows:

Those present are:
Patrick Williams
Gary Cooper
Richard Boylan
Chief Ransdell
Deputy Chief Earle

Absent:
Paul Watkins
Peter Moffett

A motion to approve the Agenda was made by Gary Cooper. Motion seconded by Richard Boylan. Motion approved.

Time Sensitive Matter

1. Director Williams opened the Public Hearing prior to the first reading of the 2019 Fire Code Ordinance at 1803.

Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes from the September 11, 2019 board meeting was made by Richard Boylan. Motion seconded by Gary Cooper. Motion approved.

Director Williams opened the Public Forum at 1805.

Correspondence:

1. Thank you note from a retired doctor who called 911 after being bit by a spider.
2. Appreciation from Jenny Cruz, the wife of a cancer patient thanking Austin Russell & Mike Franzen for their service.
3. Letter from Wendy Thomas, District 3 Board of Supervisor candidate thanking Chief Ransdell for meeting with her about fire service needs.

Consent Items:

Motion to approve the consent items as presented was made by Gary Cooper. Motion seconded by Richard Boylan. Motion approved.

Chief’s Report –

- Operations/Admin – Discussions continue with El Dorado Hills & County Fire for a Joint Fire Authority (West Coast Fire Authority). Joint Defense Council has been created. Looking at cost savings. Unions to meet as well. The Fire Chiefs are building a presentation for the District Boards. Looking at other County’s that have merged.
- Brian Marshall with Cal OES sent a letter congratulating us for getting certified as a Firescope ICS-US-R120 Type 2 Rescue Department to handle medium to heavy rescue. The Chief recognized Captain Gallagher and the crew for their hard work to make this happen. We are the only one on the West Slope.
- We will be taking delivery of the new Type 3 engine in the next couple of weeks. Expected to have it in service in a couple of months.
- The Chiefs Command Vehicle is in service. A few outstanding issues are being dealt with.

Deputy Chief’s Report –
- Citation Program approved by District Attorney & Court System. Will begin issuing pre-citation warnings first. Then bump up to misdemeanor citations requiring a court appearance.
- We have seen an increase in requests for defensible space inspections. Form letter and process to be uploaded on the web page. Casey & Tony great at interfacing with community.

New Business

1. Resolution 2019-10 – Findings of Fact – Chief Earle reviewed the findings with respect to local conditions which make certain modification and changes to the California Fire Code necessary for preserving fire and life safety in the Diamond Springs-El Dorado Fire Protection District – Climatic, Geological, Topographical & Administrative. Board needs to recognize our need to enforce a more restrictive amendment to the code. Seismic zone, canyons, valleys, slope & drought conditions yielding potential for more fires are all examples of reasons to have a more restrictive code in some instances. (Per Health & Safety Code 17958.7). A motion to approve Resolution 2019-10 adopting the Findings of Fact was made by Richard Boylan. Motion seconded by Gary Cooper. Motion approved.

2. Fire Code - Ordinance 2019.01 - First Reading of the 2019 Fire Code Amendments – Chief Earle gave a presentation of the 2019 Fire Code Amendments. Ordinance 2019.01 will be presented for approval at the November Board Meeting. The International Fire Code is revised every three years and California adopts it as the California Fire Code. Local Districts then review it and can make amendments based on specifics to their districts as per the Findings of Fact. Once adopted, the new Ordinance will take the place of the one adopted in 2016.

Old Business

1. Resolution 2019-09 - Health Insurance Premiums –Resolution fixing the employer’s contribution under the Public Employees’ Medical and Hospital Care Act (Pursuant to Government Code Section 22892.b.1). Chief Ransdell read a letter form the union requesting the district to increase the monthly rates as follows: Employee enrolled for self - $1128, employee and one family member enrolled - $2256 and employee and two or more family members enrolled - $2,933. The employees agreed to work with the district to come up with a more sustainable plan to control the cost of health insurance in the future. They will discuss health insurance during negotiations of their MOU which expires soon. In the last three years the premiums have not gone up as high. For 2020 the increase is 11%. It has been the past practice of the district to approve an annual increase of up to 10%. Chief recommends granting the request and looking into a long term solution to keep employees covered and the budget healthy. Director Williams appreciates the language in the letter regarding the employees’ willingness to work with the district. A motion to approve Resolution 2019-09 was made by Gary Cooper. Motion seconded by Richard Boylan. Roll call vote: Williams – aye, Cooper-aye, Boylan-aye, Moffett-absent and Watkins-absent. Motion approved

New Purchases: None

Employee / Union Input: Union president, Travis Parsons expressed his gratitude to the directors for approving the Health Insurance Premium Resolution. He said it is a big step towards beginning to think about changing past practice and to find a solution to the increasing cost of healthcare.

Director Williams closed the Open Forum at 1901 and adjourned the meeting to go into closed session.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Tuthill, Board Secretary