

# PANACA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

December 21, 2009  
Commission Chambers  
Lincoln County Courthouse  
181 Main Street  
Pioche, Nevada

## Trustees

Paul Mathews, Chair  
Bill Lloyd, Vice Chair  
Tommy Rowe  
Ronda Hornbeck  
Ed Higbee

### **#1-CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

The Board met in regular session with Chairman Paul Mathews calling the meeting to order at 10:39. Clerk Lisa Lloyd called the roll with Trustees Tommy Rowe, Ronda Hornbeck, Paul Mathews, Ed Higbee and Bill Lloyd being present. There is a quorum and the agenda was posted on 12-15-09 to comply with the open meeting law. Harry Birkmier is present as is Kerry Lee.

### **#2-MINUTES**

**Ronda made a motion to approve the November 16, 2009 minutes; seconded by Tommy. All voted in favor.**

### **#3-DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Harry reported Department of Taxation has notified PFD they might qualify for exemptions from certain budgetary requirements, including filing a tentative budget, filing and independent audit, and an audit report. Kerry commented it is ridiculous that 1/3 of PFD's budget goes to an independent audit. It cost \$6,700 for the audit and PFD has an incredibly small budget. Ronda suggested that Kerry talk to Dan McArthur concerning the amount being charged for the audit. Ronda would like to see some type of audit so that it doesn't come back and cause problems later. Dan has sent a letter to PFD concerning both his and PFD's responsibilities for the upcoming year. The Panaca Fire District has responded to 64 alarms this year. This includes fire, rescue, medical, citizens assist and cancelled en route calls. This number has increased by 21 over last year. Two weeks ago there was a home fire in Panaca. The attic was lost, but Harry commented it was a "good save".

### **#4- VOUCHERS**

**Paul made a motion to approve the vouchers; seconded by Ronda. All voted in favor.**

### **#5-REIMBURSEMENT FOR "F" ENDORSEMENT TESTING**

Harry feels policy should be made that gas and expenses should be paid for anyone that has to travel to Ely. There are no reimbursements to consider at this time, but there will be several more after the first of the year. Ronda asked if the PFD policy specifies reimbursement for travel. No. Ronda suggested Kerry and Harry come up with a policy for presentation to the board. No action is taken.

### **#6-OPEN BURN PERMITTING PROCESS**

Kerry commented a process should be put in place, but it shouldn't be difficult. It should mostly be based on notification. A resolution needs to be put in place outlining the burn process. Harry will work with Deputy DA Daniel Hooge to create the resolution. No action is taken and this will be considered at a future meeting.

### **#7-SAFER GRANT APPLICATION**

The SAFER grant is due by January 15, 2010. This grant pays for a firefighter's salary for 2 years and is 100% of the firefighter's pay. Firefighters that were given lay-off dates before October 1, 2009, are eligible. Ronda commented that PFD wouldn't have to do any work for BLM if this grant was in place to pay for Harry's salary. The reason Harry was hired was to secure the BLM work. Harry remarked he will still be doing the BLM fires and the proceeds from that will go in the bank. The funds from this year's fire season will run out in March and Harry will no longer have a job. There is no cost to the district for this grant. Ronda struggles with this and remarked that the county has to pay for retirement and insurance; all along it has been said "once the money's gone the position is gone". **Ronda made a motion to approve; seconded by Ed. All voted in favor.**

**#8-PUBLIC COMMENT**

Paul called for public comment. Tommy thanked PFD for the Christmas party; it was wonderful. Bill commented on the recent house fire in Panaca. Bill was told that PFD went a long time before they turned the power off. Harry said they attacked the fire at the same time they turned off the power.

**#9- ADJOURN**

There being no further business for the Board to attend to, Paul adjourned the meeting at 11:03.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ Approve: \_\_\_\_\_

DRAG