



Quincy Fire Protection District

Board of Commissioner's Minutes

Meeting March 11, 2021 Feather River Bulletin Conference Room

- I. Chairman Taborski called the meeting to order at 7:30 am with Commissioner Johnny Mansell, Chief Cassou, and Administrative Secretary Karrie White present.
- II. Public Comment: None
- III. Commissioner Johnny Mansell made a motion to approve February 11, 2021 meeting minutes, Chairman Taborski seconded, motion approved. Secretary White informed the board of a revision that needs to be made to the meeting minutes dated January 14, 2021. Noting that the board members previously approved Robert (Charlie Read) increase in his Medicare, supplemental Healthnet, and Well Care prescription cost (January 14, 2021 meeting minutes).

The Plumas County Auditor's office is requesting the increase in Robert Reads insurance to be more specific in the dollar amounts to reflect the changes for auditing trail purposes, the auditor's office is also requesting bank statements to reflect that he paid for the insurance every month and added to the claim for supporting documentation before they reimburse Robert Read

Secretary White added the verbiage "Secretary White informed the board regarding annual insurance premium increase for Robert Read from Medicare \$135.50, supplement \$125.38, prescription \$15.00 the new increased amount to Medicare's \$148.50, Supplemental \$140.59, Prescription \$17.20".

Chairman Taborski and Chief Cassou discussed making some changes to Robert Read's reimbursements on his medical, supplement, and prescription insurance. Chief Cassou will explore the possibility of instituting a cost-of-living increase at Charlie's next anniversary date.

- IV. Financial Report:
 - a. No financials to approve.
 - b. No claims to be signed

V. Fire Chief's Report -Chief Cassou

- a. Chief Cassou- for last month's calls we had 35 EMS Calls, 4 Fire Calls, and 2 Hazmat calls for a total of 41 calls. It has been the standard for a couple of months

b. Drills-

Chief Cassou – On 2/9/2021 we had Swift Water Rescue training with Mike Grant via Zoom. We had 28 participants and the class went well.

Chief Cassou – On 2/23/2021 we had training on ladders. Attendance was fairly light with two engines practicing out of Station 2 and two crews combined at Station 1 to practice out at the airport.

Chief Cassou – On 3/2/2021 regular Officers meeting

Chief Cassou – On 3/9/2021 we trained on ropes, knots, hoisting equipment, and lashing patients into stokes stretchers. The instructors were Captains David Schmid, Matt West, Kevin Correira, and Tony Arcangeli. Chief Cassou noted that, since we are in the Orange Tier for COVID restrictions, this drill was the first one where all the volunteers were back at the station with masks and social distancing.

Chief Cassou – On 3/16/2021 we'll be training on Pig Rigs, which is a piggyback rigging system used as a mechanical advantage for over-the-side rescues.

Chief Cassou – On 3/23/21 we are doing documentation and SOG's where I'll be showing the volunteers how to fill out the paperwork we use for incidents and vehicle logs. We will be adding a new form for patient care reporting. We have just renewed our contract with NORCAL EMS. With the new contract, we will be required to do a lot more work in documentation and computer reporting.

We will also be doing an inventory of all our wildland clothing so we can close out our 50/50 Volunteer Firefighter Assistance Grant through CalFire.

- c. Chief Cassou – I spoke with Tracey Ferguson at the Planning Department, she met with the Development Review Committee on March 24th and discussed granting the parcel on LaPorte Road to the Quincy FPD to build a water storage facility. Jim Graham is working with County Counsel to work out the process to list the parcel as County surplus property and to take that action to the County Board of Supervisors. It looks like the process is pretty, straightforward and should appear on the Board Agenda in April.
- d. Chief Cassou – regarding the LaPorte Road project, I spoke with American Valley Community Service District personnel regarding types of water tanks, regulations, resources and things we need to think about when installing water tanks. I also spoke

with Nick Boyd at FRC where they've put in a couple of water tanks. He sent me some documentation for projects they've done to help give me some idea of the process. I will be meeting with Chuck White at the building department on the same topic. Chief Cassou spoke with Rob Robinette at Environmental Health. Robinette is putting together some information for us on-air gaps separators and other considerations for the installation of water tanks. Since it will be a non-potable water tank, he does not think that there will be any environmental impact issues for us.

- e. Chief Cassou – I have a meeting on the fifteenth with Environmental Health regarding above-ground fuel storage tanks, due to the cost of burying fuel tanks underground and all the environmental concerns associated with that, the County is looking to create some procedures for the installation of more above-ground fuel tanks. I will be discussing my concerns regarding the dangers associated with above-ground fuel storage tanks.
- f. Chief Cassou – I will be meeting with several members of the Plumas County Fire Chiefs Association and a couple of new retired firefighters who have moved into the area and joined local departments. Chris Baker, who retired from Roseville Fire, is now with Graeagle Fire, and Kenny Osborn, who retired from Truckee Fire is now with Beckwourth Fire. We will be discussing the resurrection of the Plumas County Fire Chief's Association. Due to COVID concerns, the PCFCA did not meet in 2020. The goal is to breathe new life into the organization and explore new ways to pool our resources to benefit all Plumas County Fire Agencies.
- g. Chief Cassou informed the board that Indian Valley's Fire Chief Tony Balbiani resigned on Tuesday the ninth of March. He is moving out of the area.
- h. Chief Cassou – Every year we do a Salary Survey for the State of California on what we charge when we go on mutual aid calls with state and federal agencies. Currently, we are using the base rate mandated by the State, plus a ten percent for administrative fees. We also have negotiated fees for the rental of district owned vehicles.

Though there appear to be no changes at California OES this year, the Forest Service is not using the formula established by California as dictated by the FIRESCOPE (Firefighting Resources of Southern California Organized for Potential Emergencies) Committee. The Forest Service is opting to have individual contracts with all fire departments. I have received a letter from the State Fire Marshalls Office warning us of the situation and recommending that we carefully review our new contract with our fiscal personnel and legal representation. I have made attempts to get a copy of the Forest Service's proposed agreement with Quincy Fire, but have yet to receive it.

In my opinion, this new course of action by the Forest Service will be problematic for us and all fire agencies in California. For wildfires, most of the Quincy Fire Protection District is under the jurisdiction of CalFire (SRA lands). Since there is no CalFire presence in Plumas County, all SRA lands are served by the USFS. The USFS and Cal Fire trade coverage in State Responsibility Areas (SRAs) and Federal Response Areas

(FRAs) due to a lack of resources in their given jurisdictions. As an example, the USFS covers SRAs in Plumas County and CalFire covers FRAs in Butte County where there is no Forest Service Presence.

Chief Cassou ensued in a lengthy conversation regarding the State reimbursements and the Fed's new contracts. Chief Cassou informed the board he is going to continue to use the States agreement and negotiate further with the Forest Service, just as soon as the Forest Service provides its proposed local agreement.

- i. Chief Cassou – Regarding the possible annexation of the Butterfly Valley, Keddie, Old Keddie Highway and Black Hawk Road areas. Chief Cassou informed the Board that he had spoken with Tommy Miles regarding next steps. The annexation committee has requested that the Quincy Volunteer Fire Department Inc. serve as a repository for donated funds raise to support the annexation process. Chief Cassou and the Board Members had a lengthy conversation regarding procedural, fiscal, and legal requirements, and other issues relating to the proposed annexation.
- j. Chief Cassou – We have recently renewed our contract with our regional EMS authority, NORCAL EMS. NORCAL EMS contracts with small counties to oversee the operation of fire agencies, ambulance services, emergency rooms, and hospitals, with regard to how they respond to emergencies, certification and Licensing issues, continuing education and quality control. As a result, we are revamping our records management system and updating our medical equipment and supplies inventories.

I am considering speaking with Jenny McGuire or Julie Cassou about getting us up to speed on the new requirements, Jennie McGuire is with Plumas Eureka fire and on the board at NORCAL EMS. Julie Cassou is performing reporting and CQU (continuing Quality Improvement) duties with Graeagle, Plumas Eureka and Beckwourth fire departments.

- k. Chief Cassou – With respect to membership, we are hoping to do a mini, in-house, fire academy this year for our auxiliary firefighters so that they can become full members. I have concerns regarding our membership because between retirements, other commitments and members leaving the area, we may lose up to nine firefighters and support team members in 2021. John Gay retired on December 31st, Chase Hume is moving to Colorado, Cathy Newton is moving to Oklahoma. Jonathan Medrano got a job with Caltrans so he's working (and living) in Chester most of the time, Kaylee Chandler received a position with Careflight which will have a huge impact on her time, Anessa Arcangeli has resigned from the Auxiliary Program, David Windle will retire on March 31st, Parker Carey is moving to New Mexico, Kevin Griffin (Support Team Leader) is moving out of state and there are others in transition.
- l. Chief Cassou – With David Windle retiring, Frank Carey is taking over some of his duties including organizing coverage for the races, maintaining 8151, and coordinating

third Tuesday, rescue squad training activities. Assistant Chief Carey will be retiring from PUSD and going to work full-time with Careflight.

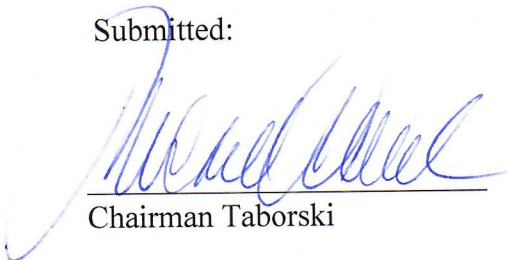
Chief Cassou informed the board that he will be accepting applications for the Deputy Chief position. Resumes will be reviewed, and interviews will be conducted. The board offered to assist in the interview process when the time comes. Chairman Taborski wanted to know the difference between then the Deputy Chief and Assistant Chief positions. Chief Cassou explained in detailed the requirements of both positions.

VI. Other Business

- a. Chairman Taborski opened the floor for discussion on Station 2 and any other business. No Discussion at this time.

VII. The meeting adjourned by Chairman Taborski at 8:39 a.m.

Submitted:



Chairman Taborski

4-8-21
Date