



LITTLE LAKE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



74 E Commercial Street
Willits, California 95490
(707)459-6271

William Carter
Fire Chief

MINUTES

January 10th, 2023

- OPENING:** The regular meeting of the Little Lake Fire Protection District Board of Directors was called to order by Tony Madrigal at 5:02 PM.
- ROLL CALL:** Present: Tom Herman, Nancy Stipe, Arnie Mello, Tony Madrigal and Skip Lucier.
Absent: None
- MINUTES:** Motion to accept the December Minutes: Tom Herman 1st; Skip Lucier 2nd.
- TREASURER'S REPORT:** Motion to accept the January Treasurer's Report: Tom Herman 1st; Arnie Mello 2nd.
- CORRESPONDENCE/PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None
- OLD BUSINESS:**
- FIREHOUSE:** Chief Carter reported a new leak in Office 117. Michelle contacted Marty about the leak, and he will follow through. Chief Carter stated this leak could have been caused by the last repair as the leak may have reverted to the new leak. Chief Carter also reported moisture and leaks through the cement block wall in the bay. Skip Lucier asked if there was a sealer on the cement blocks. Chief Carter does not think so. Chief Carter informed the board the radiant floor heater is working again. There is still a hot water issue in the station, and the engineer requested testing the amount of time it takes to get hot water. Staff will test and send the engineer the results. One of the fans in the association room is still noisy, and the HVAC is working better since opening up the dampers. Gutters still need to be sealed and will be on the list for repairs.
- NEW ENGINE 5469:** No new updates.



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USDA EQUIPMENT GRANT: No updates. Chief Carter stated it has been difficult to get ahold of them and they have not returned calls.

ON-SITE FUEL TANK: Staff is currently working on the canopy that will cover the tank. Deputy Chief Thomen is working on estimates.

ENGINE 5480: Chief Carter stated Engine 5468 needs a rebuild and is waiting for parts. Engine 5480 would not start on a recent call.

PGE UTV GRANT: No update.

SOLAR FUNDING: No update from Chief Carter. Skip Lucier contacted a solar company and they stated they could not complete the project by April to beat the new rate change. Arnie Mello suggested an analysis to see how long it will take to get the money back. Tony Madrigal suggested tabling the solar for another time.

TRAILER AND TRACKS: Chief Carter stated the tracks should be in any day.

NEW BUSINESS: **2023-2024 BUDGET COMMITTEE:** Tony Madrigal is looking for a committee to review the 2023-24 Budget. Tony Madrigal and Arnie Mello will be on the committee.

BILLS: Motion to pay bills: Tom Herman 1st; Skip Lucier 2nd.

TRAINING REPORT: Training Officer Jeff Donaldson reported Brooktrails, and Ridgewood Ranch attended the hospital training with Little Lake Fire. The ladder was used and was a successful training. Training Officer Jeff Donaldson thanked Arnie Mello again for the use of the old hospital. There was a Chiefs Academy over the weekend. Staff built a dollhouse to simulate what would happen in a structure fire. 18 members attended, 2



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firefighters were from Little Lake Fire Department.

FIRE MARSHAL: Fire Marshal Eric Alvarez was not in attendance. Michelle Schnitzius reported Fire Marshal Alvarez is working with Streamline and taking classes for the program. Letters will be going out soon for inspections.

FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOC. REPORT: President Aaron Branscomb thanked Arnie Mello for the old hospital usage for training. The association promoted Mike Frahm, Harry So, Michael Wilder, Mike Cornwall and Dion Beckmann to Captains. Aaron Branscomb was promoted to Lieutenant. The roster is nearly full.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief Carter reported there were 66 calls for December. There was a special incident at Creekside Cabins where a sinkhole blocked the entrance to the cabins. Chief Carter stated he went out and worked with the Sheriff's Office on pre-planning in case of emergency. Chief Carter reported a small nearby bridge still intact, but the property owner wants to avoid people walking on their bridge through their property. Chief Carter can help evacuate residents at this time, but the access will change when the rains come in. Residents want to stay at this time. Currently, the state is not stepping in to help, and EMS will only transport if it is an emergency and needs to go to the hospital. Chief Carter stated there had been multiple calls throughout the day and night but once the firefighters arrived, the patient did not want to leave. The residents can walk on a path to the road; however, if the water rises, they will not be able to. Chief Carter is concerned if the residents wait too long to evacuate, they will not be able to get to them. Chief Carter informed the board the County Fire Chiefs Association is moving forward to become a 501(3C). A Fire Warden position will be available, and the County Fire Chiefs will deduct funds from the fire departments to cover this position. They are currently working on the structure, such as benefits and salary. The Fire Chiefs meeting will be at Little Lake Fire Department in March. Staff went up on the roof at Station 541 and cleaned the roofing vents. The HVAC was resealed, and all the lifted screws were fixed.



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The regular meeting adjourned at 5:56 PM to a closed session.

Closed session adjourned: 6:32 PM

Tony Madrigal, Chairman

Michelle Schnitzius, Secretary/Treasurer

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employer.***



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Report out of Closed:

Chiefs review to be completed at next board meeting