

Pine Hill Fire District #1
Workshop Meeting Minutes
August 1, 2024

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order by Chairman Waddington at 5:35 P.M. Chairman Waddington led the salute to the flag and read a statement regarding the Open Public Meetings Act.

ROLL CALL: Commissioner Hagarty – present, Commissioner Hassett – not present, Commissioner Harris – present, Commissioner Wakeley – present, Commissioner Waddington – present.

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT: Chief Hunter, Battalion Chief Pizzo

OPEN THE FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC: Chairman Waddington asked for a motion to open the floor to the public. A motion to open the floor to the public was made by Commissioner Hagarty and seconded by Commissioner Wakeley. All were in favor. Motion passed.

There was no public participation.

CLOSE FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC: Chairman Waddington asked for a motion to close the floor to the public if there were no other questions. There were none. A motion to close the floor to the public was made by Commissioner Hagarty and seconded by Commissioner Wakeley. All were in favor. Motion passed.

WORKSHOP: Chairman Waddington explained that the topics for the workshop will include personnel, equipment and response issues and turned the floor over to the chiefs.

Chief Hunter said that he is waiting for a meeting to be scheduled with Erial. Erial promoted Matthew Buchhofer to volunteer battalion chief.

Chief Hunter said that Battalion Chief Pizzo put a lot of work into his presentation and turned the floor over to Battalion Chief Pizzo. Battalion Chief Pizzo handed a packet out to each commissioner and explained the handout materials. Chief Hunter said that the fire district may be sued for not having enough firefighters responding to an emergency call. Commissioner Wakeley asked about special operations. Battalion Chief Pizzo said that the chiefs want to conduct training for special operations in order to respond to all types of emergency calls.

Battalion Chief gave a detailed PowerPoint presentation. He provided sample emails for call-outs and answered the written questions provided by the commissioners. Commissioner Hagarty thanked Battalion Chief Pizzo and said that he presented a tremendous amount of information; it was put together nicely and well thought out.

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Commissioner Wakeley asked what the total number of calls were for 2023. Battalion Chief Pizzo said about 1100. Chief Hunter said that the fire department is averaging 100 calls per month. Commissioner Wakeley asked what the number of calls were just in Pine Hill. Chief Hunter said that he will get the number for him. Commissioner Wakeley asked for the out-of-town calls as well and the number of EMS life threats and lift assists. Battalion Chief Pizzo said that he will get the answers.

Commissioner Wakeley asked where the ambulances are stationed. Chief Hunter said Glendora, Erial and Pine Hill.

Commissioner Wakeley asked how many towns respond to calls in Pine Hill. Battalion Chief Pizzo said that we have automatic aid but 85 and 86 are the only companies that come to Pine Hill for alarm systems, gas leaks, and other incidental calls. For a 1st alarm fire, we get many companies responding depending on what side of town the fire is located – those companies are 61, 63, 88 (consists of 82 & 84), 85, 21, 86, 25. There was a discussion.

Commissioner Wakeley asked how many volunteer firefighters Pine Hill has. Battalion Chief Pizzo said about 30 pack-qualified volunteers. Chief Hunter said that we are sending 8 new members to fire school. Chief Hunter said that we have had 18 new members join since January.

Commissioner Wakeley asked if Pine Hill responds to any EMS calls outside of Pine Hill. Battalion Chief Pizzo said yes, but only if special called.

Commissioner Wakeley asked if we lose any more volunteers, are we going to sell one of our fire trucks. Battalion Chief Pizzo said yes, because we will not need three trucks. Chief Hunter said that having three trucks allows the fire department to have two trucks in the station when the ladder truck is out of town.

Commissioner Hagarty said that he would like to caution the chiefs about using Winslow as a template for the referendum because the demographics are very different. Chief Hunter said he and the BC will make some changes. Commissioner Harris thanked the chiefs for the great job on the presentation. Chairman Waddington said the chiefs did a great job and suggested a few changes. Battalion Chief Pizzo agreed.

Chairman Waddington said that after the Board reviews the updated changes, they will have some more questions. Battalion Chief Pizzo said that he will provide the answers to all the Board's questions.

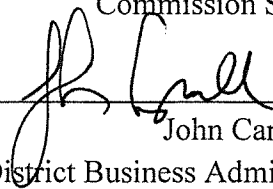
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ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Waddington asked if there were any other issues that needed to be addressed. There were none. A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Wakeley and seconded by Commissioner Hagarty. All were in favor. Motion passed

The workshop meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.



Christopher Harris
Commission Secretary



John Campanella
Fire District Business Administrator