



**PAJARO VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT
562 CASSERLY ROAD
WATSONVILLE, CA 95076
831 722-6188**

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
PAJARO VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

September 17, 2020

Call to Order/Roll Call at 5:00

**Chairperson White
Vice Chair Erbe
Director Moules
Director Murphy**

Director Martone- Absent

Public comments (not to exceed 3 minutes) for items not listed on the Agenda- None

1. Final Budget for fiscal year 2020/2021

A. Receive staff report

BC Murray reported that he met with the Finance committee and presented the following:

- 4% increase in the new fiscal year.
- The actual revenue will be taken into consideration when preparing the budget.
- Slight increase in fund budget to \$306K- an increase of \$23K. This is due to the contract line item slight decrease in professional services.
- Contingencies are still fully funded at \$100K.
- New equipment account holds \$100K contingency for emergency repairs.

Chairperson Murphy asked if County gave information on the impacts to property taxes with leniency due to COVID-19. BC Murray reported that the impact may be minimal.

B. Open public hearing

C. Receive public comment

D. Close public comment

E. Board Discussion

Consider adopting resolution 2020-05 approving the final budget for FY 20-21

**Motion approving resolution 2020-05__ Chairperson White__ Second__ Vice Chair Erbe__
All in favor__ All_____**

2. Presentations:

A. Chief's Report, Pajaro Valley

BC Murray reported on the following:

- Crews assisted with the CZU Lightning Fire.

- Water tender had paint scratch due to branches.
- Training completed.
- FAE's Guerrero joined last month. FAE Pullman will be joining next week.
- The reserve engine is assisting at the CZU Lighting Fire.

B. Incident Report, City of Watsonville

No questions from the Board.

3. Minutes

A. Approval of the minutes from the regular meeting on July 16, 2020.

Motion approving the minutes ___ **Chairperson White** ___ **Second** ___ **Vice Chair Erbe** ___
All in favor ___ **All** ___

4. Consent Agenda

- A. Expenditure report, vendor & deposit summary
- B. Year to date County report – no comments or questions from the Board
- C. American Express statements - no comments or questions from the Board

Motion approving consent and expenditure report ___ **Chairperson White** ___
Second ___ **Vice Chair Erbe** ___ **All in favor** ___ **All** _____

5. Old Business

I. Pajaro Valley Board of Directors Response to the Grand Jury's "Ready? Aim? Fire! Santa Cruz County on the Hot Seat" Report

Chief Larkin reported on the draft response that was submitted to the Board. No questions from the Board on the draft that was submitted. Chairperson Moules asked if the report will impact the CZU Lighting Fire. Chief Larkin advised that it may impact it because defensible space was an issue. The private property landowner has a responsibility to maintain their property. Some areas are state maintained, and others are county maintained. Looking to see how to maintain those areas the best way possible. Vegetation management needs to be looked at. There were some issues that came up with CalFire not being able to access certain areas through State Parks and they had to be given access through private property. Chief Larkin advised that the Grand Jury did not ask all agencies to participate so the report does not provide a complete picture.

- A. Review and respond to the findings and recommendations of the Grand Jury report
 BC Murray stated that Chief Larkin asked the Grand Jury for a 30-day extension to submit the response but has not been able to reach anyone. Chairperson Murphy will email the Grand Jury attorney to try to get a response on the extension. A special meeting will be scheduled in October.

II. Solar Panel Proposal

BC Murray discussed the proposal with the Finance Committee and recommends deferring the solar panel work and instead working on changing to LED lighting and looking at other energy reduction options.

A. Review Solar Panel Staff Report

6. New Business

I. Approve resolution 2020-06 approving the Volunteer Fire Assistance Program (VFA) grant in the amount of \$5,100.00.

BC Murray reported that for several years the District has applied for the grant annually. This grant allows the District to buy PPE and other equipment. It is a 50/50 grant meaning that the District pays for 50% of the costs for needed items.

**Motion approving resolution 202- 06__ Chairperson White_Second__Director Moules____
All in favor__All_____**

7. Correspondence

A. LAFCO Response to the Grand Jury’s “Ready? Aim? Fire! Santa Cruz County on the Hot Seat” Report

LAFCO’s responded that they would support the Districts and continue to support the agencies vegetation management programs.

8. Discussion

9. Agenda items for the next meeting

- A. 2021 Board Meeting Schedule
- B. Paulsen Road – Director Murphy

10. Adjournment 5:45pm

**Motion to adjourn __ Chairperson White__ Second__Director Moules_____
All in favor__All_____**

**Next scheduled Board meeting
November 19, 2020 @ 5:00 p.m.**

Board Clerk

Board Chair