



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



**MINUTES OF THE STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING  
PAJARO VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

**February 17, 2021**

**Call to Order/Roll Call at 10:02 a.m.**

**Chair Martone  
Director Murphy**

**Others Present  
Unit Chief Larkin  
Deputy Chief Armstrong  
Battalion Chief Murray  
Mr. Don Jarvis**

**Public comments (not to exceed 3 minutes) for items not listed on the Agenda**

**1. Approval of Minutes**

**NONE**

**2. Old Business**

**NONE**

**3. New Business**

**A. Review and discuss LAFCO Comprehensive Study on Fire Protection Services**

*BC Murray explained that the LAFCO Fire Survey was mostly complete but, the Committee still needed to address the following topics in the survey. These topics are section B. Boundaries, section E. Population, and section L. Other Information. BC Murray went on to explain that public comment had been received from Mr. Jarvis. Chair Martone commented that the side letter from Mr. Jarvis should be summed up by the Committee to be included in the LAFCO response. The letter should include wording to explore expanding all District boundaries to include all sphere of influence in order to consolidate governance and representation. Director Murphy commented that she would like to receive comment from BC Murray or Chief Larkin regarding what that would mean for day to day operations for the District? Chief Larkin explained the challenges regarding the funding mechanism with expanding the District. Would the revenue resources be able to sustain the service level? Chief Larkin further explained the different tax and assessment fees as compared to the District, CSA-4, & CSA-48. Mr. Jarvis commented that from his experience from the recent merger of Aptos and Central Fire Districts all the voter approved assessment fees and taxes go towards the successor District.*

*Mr. Jarvis further commented that at this point prior to expanding service this is primarily a governance question. He stated that the current governance is split between the Pajaro Valley Fire District and the County Board of Supervisors and the model is very inefficient. Mr. Jarvis gave examples on how having two governing Boards are inefficient. Mr. Jarvis gave examples of the inefficiencies. He posed the question of is a single Board of Directors with a single Fire District a better governance model? The discussion continued whether consolidation would be a good idea. It was identified that the topic of consolidation would need to be initiated by the District Board of Directors.*

*Director Murphy asked Mr. Jarvis what are the downsides to this type of consolidation? The discussion continued how this could possibly change the make-up of the Board of Directors. The Board could move from an At-Large Elected Board to Electoral District Board.*

*Deputy Chief Armstrong noted that the District would need to consider additional support staff to manage the expansion of the District.*

*The discussion continued how to approach the subject with Supervisor Caput, Supervisor Friend, and the LAFCO Commission. Director Murphy commented that she didn't see any downsides in bring this topic to the Board and inquired on what the next step would be. Chair Martone reiterated that the importance of this conversation was not to change the service level or provider but, to look at the overall governance of the Fire District.*

*BC Murray inquired if the committee would be adding any additional information to the LAFCO survey and will they be presenting the committee report to the Board of Directors. It was decided that further review of the LAFCO survey would need to be completed before presenting to the Board and another committee meeting would need to be scheduled.*

**4. Agenda items for the next meeting**

A. Finalize LAFCO Survey and Report

**5. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn @ 10:59 a.m.

Motion Director Murphy Second Chief Armstrong

**Next Strategic Planning Committee Meeting**

**March 10, 2021 @ 10:00 a.m.**

*Sean Murray*

Board Clerk



Board Chair