

The Palomar Mountain Community Fire Association

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Sunday, September 4, 2022

The meeting, held at Station 79 and by Zoom teleconference, was called to order at 12:03 PM by Board President Cliff Kellogg.

Board members present in person: Glenn Borland, Robert Carlyle, Cliff Kellogg, Michael Pique, Keith Ronchetti.

About 12 community members were present in person, including Cecelia Borland, Rosie Lopresti, Patrick Coffey, Tricia Flaherty-Coffey, John Lesac, Kathy Bates Lande, Tom Mendenhall, and Susie Kellogg along with Station 79 CAL FIRE firefighters Mark Hanki and Travis Acrey. Attendees participating by Zoom teleconference included Karen Fraser, Sharon Dall, Yvonne Vaucher, Elizabeth Getzoff, and CAL FIRE Captain Dean Kowalski.

Public comments: None offered.

Approval of last Annual General Meeting minutes:

The minutes of the September 5, 2021, Annual General Meeting were approved.

Financial Report:

Keith Ronchetti reported on the current financial status of the Department as submitted in his written report, available on our palomar-fire.org web site. Our current balance is \$88,950.26, down from September 2021's \$94,836.63. This excludes \$2,253.71 of CERT funds held in our account. No noteworthy recent or upcoming expenses. The report was approved.

Station 79 Report:

Firefighter Mark Hanki reported that station staffing is good although still "2-0" not "3-0". We are finished with the defensible space inspections (DSI) for this year. Cliff Kellogg says the next County Fire Authority Advisory Board meeting is September 12.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) report:

CERT Program Manager Bill Leininger says September is National Preparedness month. The CERT academy has been resumed; if you are interested, contact palomar.mountain.cert@gmail.com to be placed on the academy schedule mailing list. We will have a community outreach event on October 22, in conjunction with the Lotus Club road rally on South Grade Road.

Fire Safe Council (FSC) Report:

Yvonne Vaucher said the FSC has \$19,000, about \$6000 of which is unrestricted. We are suspending work on our evacuation flyer. The web site is still being worked on. Our Annual Meeting will be at the end of October; our next monthly meeting is 10 AM Saturday September 24, probably in-person at the Community Center and also Zoom.

We received a renewal of our Neighborhood Reinvestment Program (NRP) grant to pay for chipping and dumpsters this season. If you need chipping done, call Robert Carlyle. We still have some cases of Barricade gel that residents can take to protect their homes. We at last received spending authority for our \$42,000 road-clearing grant and about 10 big trees were cleared in the area around the Lodge in the past two weeks. Yvonne said that the US forest service is clearing in Jeff Valley (east of Birch Hill). The gold-spotted oak borer (GSOB) beetle is still devastating Palomar's oak forests, especially evident along Highway 76. Tom Scott will lead a special GSOB Workshop here at Station 79 at 10 AM Saturday September 10.

Palomar property owners are eligible for a no-cost chipping program: go to the Fire Safe Council of San Diego web page to sign up. This is separate from the local FSC chipping program described above.

Community Center of Palomar Mountain (CCPM) report:

Rosie Lopresti says the CCPM has about \$5000 in its treasury. Not enough people offered help to do an official CCPM event for the Saturday of Labor Day weekend. Overall, we are still waiting to learn the timeline of when the community will regain independent use of the "little house" on the Fire Station grounds.

License Agreement with County on Community Center use:

Cliff Kellogg continues to work with Monica at the county to simplify the draft license, which groups wanting to use the "little house" must agree to. Currently it includes requirements for worker's compensation, periodic "storm water management training", and individual group insurance covering the county as additional insured. Also the draft does not grant groups license to use any outside areas, such as the bandstand. The county will be informed (through Captain Kowalski) that the Community Center building needs painting and gutter repair, and the wooden fence along the East Grade road needs painting.

PMCFA/PMVFD Insurance:

We have received a notice of non-renewal for our fire insurance policy. We understand “That’s routine: all the fire departments are getting one”. Cliff and Robert are working to adjust our Board policies now that we are no longer answering calls and sending out our volunteer fire crews. The insurance will lapse in November-December; Robert will work on finding a replacement. The county will pay for the policy, but we have to arrange it as we are still the owners of the property; the county uses it under a 50-year lease.

Board Elections:

Cliff Kellogg is stepping down from the board at the end of this meeting. Nominations Committee Chair Robert Dowell obtained two nominations for the three open board positions: incumbents Glenn Borland and Robert Carlyle. Tom Mendenhall, the new manager of the Bailey Resort, offered to serve. His nomination was seconded and the three were voted in by show of hands from the community members.

Next board meeting 9:00 AM Saturday October 1, 2022.

Next Annual General Meeting noon Sunday September 3, 2023.

Adjournment of Annual General Meeting 12:52 PM

Cliff Kellogg thanked the CAL FIRE crews for setting up tables and chairs.

Minutes approved at 2023 Annual General Meeting, September 3, 2023.

Special Board meeting September 4, 2022; 12:56 PM

A brief meeting of the PMVFD/PMCFA Board members was held to elect officer positions. It was agreed that this would be as follows:

President: Glenn Borland

V.P.: Robert Carlyle

Treasurer: Keith Ronchetti

Secretary: Michael Pique

Member-at-large: Tom Mendenhall

Items to be passed from outgoing to incoming president: Insurance documents, post office box key, CONEX storage unit keys, CERT trailer title/registration papers, liability insurance certificate from PMFSC, bank account signature authority.

Adjournment of board meeting 1:07 PM

— Michael Pique, Secretary

