



LINDEN – PETERS FIRE DISTRICT

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Brandon Ruegsegger, Fire Chief

Board Members
President: Paul Castellou Jr.
Vice-President: Kenneth “Kenny” Watkins III
Secretary: David Frison
Member: Ryan Hansen
Member: Robert Dondero

Minutes of Board Meeting Thursday, February 6, 2025

The Regular meeting of the Linden–Peters Rural County Fire Protection District Board of Directors held in the Fire Station Classroom located at 17725 E Hwy 26, Linden, CA was called to order by President Paul Castellou, Jr at 7:00 pm.

Members Present: President Paul Castellou, Jr., Vice President Kenny Watkins III, Board Secretary David Frison, Member Ryan Hansen, and Member Robert Dondero

Members Absent: None

L.P.F.D. staff present: Fire Chief Brandon Ruegsegger, Lieutenant Rod Ruegsegger, Lieutenant K. Dahlenburg, Firefighter/Engineer Martin Garcia, and Administrative Assistant Lorena Coose.

(I.) Call to Order – 7:00 PM

(II.) Roll Taken

Meeting minutes were taken by Administrative Assistant Lorena Coose.

(III.) Approval of the Agenda – A motion to approve the Agenda was made by R. Hansen and seconded by R. Dondero.

The motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: (5) P. Castellou Jr., K. Watkins III, D. Frison, R. Hansen, R. Dondero
NOES: ()
ABSENT: ()
ABSTAIN: ()

(IV.) Minutes

A. Discussion & Possible Action re: Approve January 2, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
A motion to approve the January 2, 2025 Regular Board meeting minutes was made by R. Dondero and seconded by K. Watkins III.

The motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: (5) P. Castellou Jr., K. Watkins III, D. Frison, R. Hansen, R. Dondero
NOES: ()
ABSENT: ()
ABSTAIN: ()

(V.) Public Comment – None

(VI.) Board Committee Reports

A. Training Facility Committee Report – Chief Ruegsegger provided an update noting that the project revisions were approved by San Joaquin County and the project would proceed depending on weather. Vice President K. Watkins III asked how the project changes would

impact the cost of the project. Chief Ruegsegger noted that he would provide additional information on the cost of the project.

(VII.) Financial Summary and Report

- A. Discussion & Possible Action re: Monthly Financial, Current events summary for January 2025 - Presented by Fire Chief Brandon Ruegsegger and Approval of the Financial Report and expenditures.

Mark Croce from Croce, Sanguinetti, & Vander Veen discussed the District's CalPERS unfunded liability. The Board directed Chief Ruegsegger to hold off on paying the CalPERS unfunded liability at this time and re-visit in August 2025 when the CalPERS Actuarial Reports are available.

Vice President K. Watkins III asked about the increase in cost for the JRUG bill, in response Administrative Assistant Lorena Coose noted that two bills were paid in January 2025.

The Board directed Chief Ruegsegger to renew the CD for six months.

A motion to approve the financial reports was made by K. Watkins III and seconded by D. Frison.

The motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: (5) P. Castillou Jr., K. Watkins III, D. Frison, R. Hansen, R. Dondero
NOES: ()
ABSENT: ()
ABSTAIN: ()

(VIII.) Current Events Summaries, Reports, and/or Correspondence:

- A. Departmental Report-Fire Chief Brandon Ruegsegger

Fire Chief Brandon Ruegsegger provided an update on the events and meetings held for the month of January 2025 along with providing an overview of the calls, Prevention, Training, Volunteer, and FIU report. Chief Ruegsegger provided an update noting that the FEMA Regional Radio Grant will pay for the financial audit that is required for the grant. There are additional funds of about \$420,000.00 left in the grant that the District is looking to spend.

- B. Union Report – None

(IX.) Unfinished Business:

- A. Discussion & Possible Action re: Fire Chief Contract. A motion to approve the Fire Chief Contract was made by D. Frison seconded by K. Watkins III.

The motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: (5) P. Castillou Jr., K. Watkins III, D. Frison, R. Hansen, R. Dondero
NOES: ()
ABSENT: ()
ABSTAIN: ()

(X.) New Business:

- A. Discussion & Possible Action re: Approval of Agreement between MacLeod Watts, Inc. and the LPFD to Conduct the June 30, 2025 OPEB Valuation; FYE 2025 GASB 75 Report; FYE 2026 GASB 75 Report for an Amount Not to Exceed \$6,325.00

A motion to approve the Agreement between MacLeod Watts, Inc. and the LPFD to Conduct the June 30, 2025 OPEB Valuation; FYE 2025 GASB 75 Report; FYE 2026 GASB 75 Report for an Amount Not to Exceed \$6,325.00 was made by K. Watkins III seconded by D. Frison.

The motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: (5) P. Castellou Jr., K. Watkins III, D. Frison, R. Hansen, R. Dondero
NOES: ()
ABSENT: ()
ABSTAIN: ()

(XI.) Board Questions and Comments – None

(XII.) Closed Session –

At 7:44 p.m., President Paul Castellou Jr. announced that the Board would enter into closed session to discuss the following items:

- A. Conference with Labor Negotiations (§54957.6)
Unrepresented Employee: Fire Chief
- B. Report of actions taken in closed session

At 8:04 p.m., President Paul Castellou, Jr. announced that the Board returned from closed session noting that no reportable action had been taken.

(XIII.) Adjournment: Motion made by D. Frison to adjourn the meeting seconded by R. Hansen. Being there was no further discussion, the motion passed by the following vote:


The motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: (5) P. Castellou Jr., K. Watkins III, D. Frison, R. Hansen, R. Dondero
NOES: ()
ABSENT: ()
ABSTAIN: ()

Motion carried and so ordered at 8:07 pm.



Paul Castellou, Jr., President



Kenneth "Kenny" Watkins III, Vice President



David Frison, Secretary



Ryan Hansen, Member



Robert Dondero, Member