*GOLD RIDGE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT*

4500 Hessel Road, Sebastopol, CA 95472

Sta. 1 – Headquarters 707-823-1084 Fax 707-829-1175

Sta. 2 - Fire Prevention 707-823-5401 Fax 707-829-7304

*Dan George*

*Fire Chief*

**January 6, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Gold Ridge Fire Protection District was held at Station One. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m., and Chairman Al Fiori led the pledge to the flag.

Directors in attendance: Robert Gloeckner Charles Lachman Ronald Balzer

Steve Petrucci Al Fiori

**Public Input** – none

**Minutes** of the November 2015 meeting were reviewed. Discussion was held. Director Steve Petrucci made a motion to approve the November 4th minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Robert Gloeckner, and passed unanimously.

**Correspondence** – Thursday January 28th the Sonoma County Fire Districts Association will be meeting at the Wolf House Restaurant at the Jack London Lodge in Glen Ellen. The FAIRA General Manager, Susan Blankenburg will be speaking. Let Fire Chief, Dan George know if you would like to attend.

**Approval of the January 2016 Revenues and Expenses**

Ruth Newman reported on the Bank Accounts Register Report and Petty Cash Fund. Discussion was held. Director Robert Gloeckner made a motion to approve the revenues and expenses listed in the Bank Accounts Register Report. The motion was seconded by Director Charles Lachman, and passed unanimously.

Expense Report #15-16-06 was reviewed. The propane tank at Station #3 was discussed. Director Robert Gloeckner made a motion to pay expenses #53 through #62 totaling $46,530.53. The motion was seconded by Director Steve Petrucci, and passed unanimously. Expense Report #15-16-07 was reviewed. The invoices were discussed. Director Robert Gloeckner made a motion to pay expenses #63 through #74 totaling $49,588.04. The motion was seconded by Director Charles Lachman, and passed unanimously

**Operations Reports**

**Equipment Maintenance –** Assistant Chief Andy Pforsich reported that the semi-annual oil sampling was completed. We did two oil changes. The electrical problem with #8131 was solved. There was a problem with the electrical panel. Discussion held.

**Building Maintenance –** Fire Chief Dan George reported that Leete is doing their annual services. They are repairing a bad relay timer. Next week Gary will be coming to check the Station #2 well. .

**Personnel –** Fire Chief Dan George reported that he would like to hire a replacement for Ruth who will be retiring in May. His goal is to find someone who is familiar with fire districts. Larry McLaughlin said that he does not have to advertise the position. The board said agreed it would be okay.

**General Information –** none

**Financial Report –** Ruth Newman reviewed the Budget/Expense Reports and the fund balance. Discussion held. She also gave a report to the board on the property taxes received from Sonoma County. Fire Chief Dan George reported on Strike Team revenues. Discussion held.

**Training –** Battalion Chief Darrin DeCarli reported that the 2016 Training Schedule is out. We have a couple new volunteers. Most of the training is being done at Station #2. We are going to Sebastopol to go over water rescue equipment. Discussion held.

**Fire Marshal’s Report –** Battalion Chief Darrin DeCarli said that burn notification forms are rolling through. We are doing some inspections for burn permits from Bay Area Air Quality. Discussion held.

**Firefighters Associations –** In March we will have a joint corn beef and cabbage dinner with Sebastopol Fire. The Associations thanked the district for the Christmas Dinner. Discussion held.

**Explorer Post –** They are getting the applications and paperwork ready for the Academy. Discussion held.

**Old Business**

**UPDATE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY FIRE SERVICES AD-HOC COMMITTEE:** Chief Dan George reported that he will be meeting with Veronica next week. He would like letters from the directors to keep a little pressure on the Supervisors not to forget us. An e-mail or phone call would also do. The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors agreed to pay the dispatch fees. They agreed to $800,000 of the $1.2 million the districts asked for. Since everyone has paid the third quarter, we may get checks instead of the funds going to REDCOM. Lexipol, which the Police Department uses, is now moving into the fire Service. Chief Dan George reported that it could cost $10,000 to $15,000 to get started .plus an annual fee. Discussion held.

**UPDATE ON THE PROPERTY ADJACENT TO STATION #2:** Fire Chief Dan George reported that he and Attorney Larry McLaughlin met with the new owner, Stephen Smith this morning. He did not realize what the issues really were. If we were to sell him 2500 square feet of property the County will require a 10’ set back that will allow him enough parking for his tenants. If he has a legal easement he will be liable for injuries. If he decides to take us to court he will lose but it will cost us money. We would have to hire an appraiser. He cannot argue an appraisers cost. Mr. Scott sold it for $335,000, all cash. Larry McLaughlin thought an easement would be the best way. We would still have a little liability with an easement. Director Gloeckner would be more comfortable without an easement because they end up thinking it is their property. What is the easiest way to be done with this problem? If we give him enough by selling him some property he can deal with the parking. Chief Dan George said that he will come up with a map. We will have to go 10’ off the building. The board will cease and desist from allowing him to use the parking lot. We want to get this done. Discussion held.

**New Business**

**A. AUDIT REPORT FOR 2014/2015 FISCAL YEAR**: Our auditor, Sue Goranson, Goranson and Associates, Inc. came to the board meeting to review and discuss the audit. She asked if the directors had any questions. Director Gloeckner said that the audit was very easy to read. Discussion was held. Sue said that Gold Ridge Fire was one of the best run districts she has been to. There are good checks and balances. The board minutes were very clear. She recommended that we have personnel files with W4s and I-9s as permanent files separate from the payroll files. Sue also recommended that we work on reducing our liability for uncompensated absences (vacation pay accrual). Director Robert Gloeckner made a motion to accept the audit. The motion was seconded by Director Domenic Ronald Balzer and passed unanimously.

**B. ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS FOR 2016:** DirectorCharlesLachman nominated Director Al Fiori for Chairman of the Board and Director Robert Gloeckner for Secretary/Clerk of the Board in 2016. The nomination was seconded by Director Steve Petrucci and passed unanimously.

C. **RESOLUTION 15-16-03 ESTABLISHING THE 2016 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE:** The board reviewed the board meeting schedule for 2016. Director Ronald Balzer made a motion to approve the 2016 board meeting schedule. The motion was seconded by Director Charles Lachman, and passed unanimously.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, Director Steve Petrucci made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Director Ronald Balzer and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Robert Gloeckner, Director Ronald Balzer, Director

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Charles Lachman, Director Steve Petrucci, Director

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Alfred Fiori, Chairman