

Pine Ridge Volunteer Fire Department

Fresno County Fire Protection District Company 68



MEETING MINUTES – QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING **Thursday, July 31, 2014, 1800 Hours, Goble Residence**

POT-LUCK PIZZA SUPPER: The evening commenced with a delicious Pizza supper. Leroy and Victoria Goble provided the pizza, drinks and residence and our members provided salads and desserts. It was a wonderful way to start the evening.

Call To Order: Chief Pearsall thanked the Goble's for the pizza and use of their home and the members for all the salads and desserts. Handouts were distributed and **the meeting was called to order at 1843 hours.**

ATTENDANCE: The following 24 PRVFD members were in attendance: Abb Adkisson, Glenn Alldridge, Dave and Melanie Banton, Jason and Sher Beard, Mike Brady, Leroy & Victoria Goble, Howard and Laurel Hendrix, Pete and Cindy Holeman, Ross Johnson, George Lewis, Gary and Sue Martin, Larry and Virginia Pearsall, Chuck Reynolds, Gene and Royella Van Dyne, and Hank and Dory van Loon. **The 24 members present constituted a legal quorum.**

APPROVAL OF APRIL 22, 2014 MEETING MINUTES: The April 22, 2014 meeting minutes had been sent to all members. Copies were available at the meeting as well. **Since there were no additions or corrections brought forth by the members, the April 22, 2014 meeting minutes were approved by acclimation.**

JULY 30, 2014 TREASURER'S REPORT: Sec/Treas. Virginia Pearsall delivered the July 30, 2014 Treasurer's report. **Since there were no additions or corrections brought forth by the members, the July 30, 2014 Treasurer's report was approved by acclimation.** One member suggested that it would save time if the Treasurer didn't read all the details of the report since everyone had a copy to read. Virginia asked if all the members felt that way. There was not a large response, but **Virginia said that she would simplify her report in the future.**

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Progress Report On Our Tribute To Our Overseas Troops: Leroy Goble reported that he has received \$1,540.00 so far. He displayed two typical cartons filled with books, sundries, hygienic items, snacks, and a copy of the US Constitution. He mentioned that it cost approximately \$40.00 to fill each box. Shipping will cost \$15.00 per box. Our mail girl, Cindy Holeman is supplying the post office cartons and will deliver the filled cartons to the post office. At the conclusion of his talk, Leroy was given a round of applause and **Chief Pearsall thanked him for all his good work..**

Lewis Family Memorial: On May 17th, twenty five of our members attended the tree planting memorial for Doris Lewis. Photos of the event were circulated. We received a very nice thank you card from the Lewis family in recognition of the very meaningful service. **Chief Pearsall thanked Pete Holeman for the exceptional job he did in purchasing the tree and stone plaque, preparing the site and planting the tree. Wonderful job Pete!** Pete received a round of applause from the members.

Cal Fire "Cressman Improvement Project": Cpt. van Loon reported that Cal Fire Battalion Chief Jim Fitzgerald has proposed a follow-up clearing operation on the downhill side of Cressman Road. This would include pile burning of the slash and a broadcast burn of the brush. Miramonte Inmate crews would do the work. All property owners along Cressman Rd. and Lower Cressman Rd. must provide their permission before work can begin. Apparently there is a possibility the a similar clearing can be performed on the uphill side of the roads depending on how it goes on the

downhill side. The Pine Ridge Property Owner's Association (PRPOA) would be primarily responsible, but PRVFD would play a major role during the work phase.

French Fire Update: Assistant Chief Martin gave an up to date report on the status of the *French* fire which was providing smoke and ashes in our community.

Outdoor Emergency Care Technician Certification: Ross Johnson reported that China Peak will allow firefighters to take the ski patrol medical training class. This certification is very close to EMT certification. The class will meet in the valley, two times per week, 6 to 10 pm, from August 11th to November 1st. The cost is only \$60.00 plus a \$200.00 book. He asked that anyone interested to **please contact him for more information (841-8780)**.

Station Wear Report: Melanie Banton reported that she has various shirts and hats currently available and she will be placing a new order soon. Please get your orders in as soon as possible. PRVFD now owns our inventory, so **please make clothing checks out to PRVFD**.

Tract Map Update: Chief Pearsall thanked Dory van Loon for updating our tract maps and placing them in our apparatus. This is not an easy task to accomplish; it requires an enormous amount of time and energy and is very much appreciated. Dory received a round of applause from the members.

Available Firefighting Water Source Project: Chuck Reynolds, as the Engineer of our water tender, has taken on the task of locating and detailing all sources of water that are available to us for firefighting purposes. He is doing this on his own with the help of Glenn Alldredge. Chuck is to be commended for undertaking this very important and very difficult project. **Chief Pearsall thanked Chuck and Glenn for their valuable service.** They both received a round of applause from the members.

Edison Science Days: We again participated in the Edison Science Days at Camp Edison. This year the theme of the event was "Fire". Twelve of our members participated and it was a very successful event. Photos of the event were circulated.

Incidents: We have had eight incidents since the last meeting:

- #164 – MVA (cancelled).
- #165 – Burn and standby a large burn pile for a needy resident.
- #166 – Medical.
- #167 – Illegal campfire.
- #168 – MVA on four lane.
- #169 – Wildland Fire (lightning strike).
- #170 – MVA on 168.
- 171 – Patrol the Shaver Lake fireworks event.
- #171 Supplement – James and Janet Parr were called away from patrol duty to a rescue/recovery incident in the same area. It was a very serious "High Angle" rope rescue involving many agencies; SO Search & Rescue, Cal Fire S&R, 4352 and a CHP helicopter. **James performed very well and obtained some valuable experience.** Two of the incidents were described for the members.

Apparatus Status:

- **P68:** Available at Chief Martin's
- **P268:** Available at Chief Pearsall's
- **E68:** Available at Chief Pearsall's. Chief Pearsall is repairing the rotating red lights, rear clearance lights and some reflectors. It will be returned to Engineer Goble's when repairs are complete.
- **E468:** Available at Engineer Van Dynes.

- **WT68:** Available at Engineer Reynold's. The Allison transmission is leaking ATF. This issue was discussed at length. Engineer **Chuck Reynolds will purchase and put in Lucas transmission sealant. Chief Pearsall will follow up with Edison Co. about using their facility for analysis and possibly repair.**

Window Decals: Window decals for your personal vehicles are available at no cost from Leroy Goble.

August, September, and October Birthdays: Dave Banton-8/8, Suzanne Haas-8/21, Royella Van Dyne-8/29, Sue Martin-9/1, Grant Georgeson-98, Janet Parr-9/12, Warren Colbert-919, Melanie Banton-9/24, Gary Howell-10/20, Gene Van Dyne-10/21,

Cheryl Reynolds Resignation: With regret, Chief Pearsall announced that Cheryl Reynolds has resigned her PRVFD membership as a Road Ranger. Chief Pearsall accepted her resignation with regret at the time and thanked her for her service. **Thanks again Cheryl, for your contribution to our department.**

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE REPORT:

Grants: Chief Pearsall reported that we submitted an application for a 50/50 Cal Fire Volunteer Assistance Program grant for seven hose nozzles and some training props and books for our training officer. We just received word that the grant has been approved for \$2,096.00. The grant requires 100% initial PRVFD funding for purchasing. This could be as much as \$4,200.00. The grant will return 50% or a maximum of \$2,096.00. We will need membership approval for the expenditures. This will be covered during the *New Business* segment of this meeting.

Fundraising Barbecue: The Annual BBQ was cancelled this year due to a number of issues; the most significant being a lack of appropriate leadership.

American Ambulance Donation: We will be receiving two new Zoll AEDs from American Ambulance. They will be placed on E68 and E468 replacing the Life Pack 500s. This is required by the Health Department.

Clovis Fire Department Donation: We received a generous donation of surplus equipment from the Clovis Fire Department. The equipment included: Fire extinguishers, chucks, hose clamp, bolt cutters, fire ax and new handle, Skill saw, equipment mounting brackets, fuel cans and highway warning signs. Everything appeared to be in very good, useable condition. After we had picked up the equipment, Fire Chief Mike Despain offered us two Motorola HT1000 portable radios with all the accessories. They can replace the old Motorola Sabers that we are phasing out. We just have to have them programmed with our frequencies.

Mar-Val Market Receipts: Virginia Pearsall reported that PRVFD has received 3 payments totaling \$173.67 this quarter. Forms were available for sign up or you can just ask the Mar-Val cashier for the simple form to fill out. You will receive your card immediately.

SCRIP Activity: Virginia Pearsall reported that Scrip profit this quarter will be \$181.88 when one last payment comes in. Please participate in our scrip program; it's so easy and doesn't cost you anything beyond the normal cost of your purchase. Almost all major stores and restaurants provide scrip. Virginia can provide all the details...

Amazon Smile: Chief Pearsall reported that we have a new fundraising program in operation. If you shop at Amazon.com on line you can participate at no cost to you. Amazon will pay us 0.5% of the cost for any item you buy if it is on the *Amazon Smile* list. You must sign up by going to **smile.amazon.com**, fill in the username and password then select Pine Ridge Volunteer Fire Department from the list. From then on every time you visit Amazon, sign in at **amazonsmile.com** and you will automatically be supporting our department.

TRAINING REPORT: Chief Martin gave the training report because Lt. Parr was on vacation. Gary reviewed training activity during the past quarter and distributed the training schedule for the next quarter. The next training is scheduled for Tuesday 8/19/14.

ANY ADDITIONAL REPORTS: There were no additional reports.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

PRVFD Container Cleanup And Organization: Cpt. van Loon reported that the Banton container is now in pretty good shape. Chief Pearsall mentioned that the fire department container on his property is still in need of simple shelving and cleanup. **Cpt. van Loon said he will look into it**

Name For the Neighborhood Before the Tract Entrance: Chief Pearsall had asked Glenn Alldredge to discuss this item with his neighbors and come up with an appropriate name for their neighborhood. Glenn admitted that he hadn't really discussed it with his neighbors, but he felt that his original suggestion of *Cressman Flat* was the best. Chief Pearsall asked the other residents of that area, Mike Brady and Jason and Sher Beard, if they liked that name. They all said they did. **A motion was made and seconded to unofficially name the neighborhood, with entrance off Cressman Rd. just before the Pine Ridge tract entrance, *Cressman Flat*. Following discussion, the motion was unanimously passed.**

ANY ADDITIONAL CONTINUING BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: There was no further Continuing Business from the floor.

NEW BUSINESS:

New Member: Jason Beard has requested membership in our department. He meets all the Constitutional requirements for membership and has agreed with the commitment letter and Drug Policy. The Executive Board recommends that we continue with the membership protocol. Jason was Introduced and asked to tell us about himself and why he would like to join our department. The membership then asked a few questions about his early life in our area.

Chief Pearsall then informed everyone that the Executive Committee has modified the procedure for inducting new members. This was prompted by a suggestion from Lt. James Parr. James felt that new members should not become *Firefighters* until they attended three training sessions and completed the internet ICS course. This is consistent with neighboring volunteer fire departments. The Executive Board agreed to the concept. Details must be determined and Article IV, Section 3, "Admission Procedure", of our Constitution and Bylaws must be amended. This change is consistent with our slow evolution from an amateur fire brigade to a viable fire department. In the meantime, Jason will be voted in as a *Provisional Member* until he fulfills all the noted requirements. This was acceptable to Jason.

A motion to accept Jason Beard as a provisional member of the PRVFD was entertained, seconded, and unanimously passed. Chief Pearsall welcomed Jason to the PRVFD.

New Type 3 Fire Engine: Chief Pearsall received an email from the Cal Fire *Federal Excess Personal Property* office advertising an available Type 3 brush truck from the San Pasqual Fire Department in Escondido (near San Diego), "**First Come First Serve**". He contacted the San Pasqual Fire Chief, Chris Kisslinger, and found out that the engine was a 1994 Ford F800, diesel with a 6 speed manual transmission, 4-wheel drive, and air brakes; it carries a 500 gallon poly water tank, has foam capability, new tires, and is in good serviceable condition. It was originally a USFS Model 62 which is similar to our E468. The truck is leased to San Pasqual at no cost which is also similar to our E468 which is leased to us.

Our 1971 brush truck, E468, is 43 years old and is in marginal condition. This 1994 engine appears to be a good replacement for E468. When the new truck is in service E468 will be returned to Cal Fire. Cal Fire will take care of the

transportation. The new truck will become E268.

The Chief felt that we had to act quickly on this and Cpt. van Loon agreed. Our E468 Engineer, Gene Van Dyne also agreed. Chief Kisslinger has agreed to transfer the truck to us and Cal Fire has told the Chief that they will initiate the paperwork when we take possession of the vehicle. The truck is available for pickup now.

There is no cost for the truck, but we will have to pay for the fuel required to drive the truck from Escondido to Pine Ridge, the cost of transporting our people to Escondido and back and perhaps some new magnetic signs with our logo, name, and numbers. The San Pasqual fire station is 370 miles from Pine Ridge which is a 740 mile round trip. If this matter is approved, we will let the pickup Crew determine when and how they travel.

Following a lengthy discussion, **it was moved seconded and unanimously passed to accept the truck and the expenditure up to \$700.00. Cpt. van Loon, and Engineer's Gene Van Dyne, Pete Holeman, and Chuck Reynolds will make the trip to pick up the engine.**

Cal Fire Volunteer Assistance Grant Funding Approval: We need to consider initially advancing funds not to exceed \$4,200.00 for purchasing the requested items in the grant. The grant will return 50% of the expenditure not to exceed \$2,096.00. This will leave a permanent outlay of approximately \$2,100.00 (Our County allotment could cover this outlay). A lengthy discussion ensued. Some felt our existing nozzles were satisfactory and we shouldn't spend our money. Others felt it was a worthy and necessary expenditure. **A motion was made and seconded. A hand vote was taken. The motion passed by an 11 to 6 count. It was suggested that Chief Pearsall wait at least a month before sending in the grant agreement papers.** This will allow us to make sure the expenses of the previous matters are not too high.

Any Additional New Business From The Floor: There was no additional *New Business*.

ROUNDTABLE:

New Member: Jason's wife Sher Beard had attended the meeting up to this point and had met many of the members. She really wanted to join the PRVFD but felt that her work schedule would not allow her to participate enough. Chief Pearsall advised her of our *Auxiliary* membership classification. Sher immediately wanted to join our department as an auxiliary member. Sher told everyone about herself and how she thought she could help us. Sher has grown up in this area and is a practicing attorney working in Fresno. She would like some kind of administrative responsibility. **A motion to accept Sher Beard as a Auxiliary member of the PRVFD was entertained, seconded, and unanimously passed. Chief Pearsall welcomed Sher to the PRVFD.**

Howard Hendrix suggested that Chief Pearsall keep everyone apprised of how all the important decisions from this meeting are progressing. **Chief Pearsall agreed to keep everyone informed.**

Glenn Alldredge expressed concern that the time of midweek training sessions might prevent Jason Beard from attending. Jason responded that it would not be a problem.

NEW ROSTERS: New rosters were distributed to everyone.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 30, 2014, 1800 hours. Location to be determined.

ADJOURN MEETING: It was **MSC** to adjourn the meeting at 2030 hours.