

**Ross Valley Fire Board
Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2015
Ross Valley Fire Department**

Open time: no members of the public addressed the board.

Board present: Weinsoff, Kelly, Reed, Small, Shortall, Finn and Hoertkorn
Board absent: McInerney

Staff present: Toy, Mills, Lewis

Meeting called to order by President Reed and adjourned into Closed Session.

President Reed reopened the meeting and reported that direction was given to staff regarding closed session discussion.

Board Requests for future agenda items, questions and comments to staff, staff miscellaneous items: Chief Mills asked for direction from the board regarding Town of Ross study regarding the rates of the JPA and new council members are requesting this study. They are asking how the numbers that were arrived at during the JPA process back in 2012. This item will be brought before the board at a future agenda item.

President Reed asked about chipper days for Fairfax and Executive Officer Toy has arranged upcoming dates for the Town of Fairfax. Currently Fire Safe Marin is utilizing Grant funds available through the state and PG&E for chipper projects. Member Shortall explained Fire Safe Marin grant process. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the chipper, its use and how the process works to obtain and utilize available grant funds.

Consent Agenda: M/S Weinsoff/Hoertkorn to approve as presented. All ayes.

Discussion and direction regarding fee reduction request – Ross School PTA. Chief Mills presented the staff report. He recommends reducing the fees by 50% as there is staff time involved in the process. The chief to make the decision based on what is equitable. The Chief stated he would use the 25% figure from the Town of Ross policy. Member Shortall asked for recommendation from staff for a policy that is fair and equitable to all. Staff will prepare a policy and bring to the board for consideration and approval at the next meeting.

Review and consideration of CalPERS unfunded liability payments. Chief Mills reviewed the staff report and explained that the increase to the budget would not be realistic as the amounts would drive the contributions for each agency to be too large. Member Hoertkorn spoke on suggestions that are available for the department to finance the amount. Board asked that

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staff look at getting a bond for the unfunded liability and bring it back to the board for discussion.

Review and consideration of the Proposed FY 2015-16 Annual Budget: Chief Mills presented the staff report and explained the various items in the proposed annual budget for FY15/16. He explained the increases to the budget that we are looking at for the upcoming year. There was a discussion about the budget and what changes could be made to reduce costs.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 10, 2015.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

JoAnne Lewis
Administrative Assistant