

SIERRA CITY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

229 Main St., P.O. Box 516, Sierra City, CA 96125

Tuesday, August 11, 2026

4:00 p.m., Sierra City Community Hall

MINUTES

- 1) Call to Order: at 4:00 p.m. Establish Quorum: Present were Commissioners; Rich Smail, Karen Livingstone-Campbell and Sig Ostrom. Commissioners; Bob Latta and Glen Haubl were absent. Quorum established.
- 2) Adopt Agenda: An amendment was added for election of Commissioner Officers for the new fiscal year to the agenda. Motion to adopt the agenda, moved by Commissioner Karen Livingstone-Campbell, Seconded by Commissioner Rich Smail, approved by all Commissioners in attendance.
- 3) Approve the Minutes. Motion to Approve the Minutes for July 14, 2026, moved by Commissioner Rich Smail, Seconded by Commissioner Karen Livingstone-Campbell, approved by all Commissioners in attendance.
- 4) Treasury Report & Bill Pay:
 - a) Bill Pay total for July was \$106,606.14. The Payees included Plumas Bank M/C \$6,441.90, Alpine Fire Services \$359.91, CalKing Pest Control \$200, Eric Kubly \$670.11, EverGuard Security \$210, Ferrellgas \$21.45, ISU Atwood Agency \$1,874, Linda Voracek \$111.75, MTech Inc. \$6,260.03 (medical sled), PGE \$246.97, Sierra County Clerk \$157.82, Sierra County Property Tax (waste mgmt.) \$61.14, MTech Inc. \$90,000 (hold pending wire deposit for 7966). Peggy reported there were receipts of \$21,000 of county transfers, Sierra City Fire Department \$3,317.30 and a miscellaneous of \$50. The bank balance as of August 11, 2026 is -\$97,264 in the red. Peggy recommended a county transfer to cover the bills. The statement date for the Plumas Bank credit cards will change to avoid late fees and finance charges, which last month totaled -\$89.69.
 - b) A motion was made to accept the Bill payments as presented, by Commissioner Karen Livingstone-Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Rich Smail; approved by all Commissioners in attendance.
 - c) Plumas Bank updates:

- i) Commissioner Sig Ostrom will work with the Plumas Bank to provide all the documentation needed to have himself added as a signer on the checking account.
 - ii) Current and remaining signers on the Sierra City Fire Protection District Plumas Bank checking account.
 - (1) Glen Haubl – Commissioner - Treasurer
 - (2) Karen Livingstone-Campbell – Commissioner - Secretary
 - (3) Bob Latta – Commissioner - Grants
 - (4) Rich Smail – Commissioner – Vice President
 - (a) A motion was made by Commissioner Karen Livingstone-Campbell to nominate Commissioner Rich Smail to the office of Vice President of the Commission, seconded by Commissioner Sig Ostrom, approved by the Commissioners in attendance.
 - iii) New signers on the Sierra City Fire Protection District Plumas Bank checking account
 - (1) Sig Ostrom – Commissioner – Chairperson
- d) County Investment Fund – Peggy will contact the County for the balance in the fund.
- 5) Correspondence:
- a) Notification received from the County Clerk Recorder, Sierra Folsom, that the filing period for the November 3, 2026 General Election ends on August 7, 2026. If the incumbent for an elective office does not file nomination papers, the filing period will be extended to August 12, 2026, for other candidates. This applies to Commissioners; Sig Ostrom and Glen Haubl. Sig has already filed his papers. Commissioner Glen Haubl was notified but no response to date was received.
- 6) Announcements: A reminder that the Sierra City Fire Protection Commission meetings will now take place on the second Tuesday of every month at 4pm at the Sierra City Community Hall.
- 7) Public Testimony:
- a) The fund-raising effort for the new Fire Truck has been very successful. There was an offer to match a \$25,000 donation which was matched in 10 days. There was another offer to match a \$10,000 donation which was matched in 11 days. At this time, the total money raised is \$107,894.58. There was an additional offer to match a \$25,000 donation. The ad hoc committee will continue to put out mailings, posters, social media, newspaper articles and events to raise funds. There have been questions from the community asking why the Fire Department is replacing the old truck. As previously discussed in various forums, there is a need to have apparatus that can be driven by the Fire Department Volunteers which does not require Class A drivers licenses. The ad hoc team and Auxiliary were thanked for all their efforts.

- b) A community member communicated that a resident in town would like to donate a 5,000-gallon water tank to the Fire Department for fire use. An appropriate site has not been determined. Concerns were raised about the need for a potential pump system and a base pad. Another option is drafting from the tank to the Tender or other apparatus. This will be added as an action item to the next Commission meeting's agenda on September 8, 2026.

8) New Business:

- a) Reviewed and voted on the resolution to adopt the 2026 SIERRA COUNTY MULTIJURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN. By adopting this plan, Sierra City Fire Protection District becomes eligible for FEMA grants. An email containing the resolution and memo were sent to Megan Brotherton on August 25, 2026.
 - i) Commissioner Karen Livingstone-Campbell motioned to accept and adopt the 2026 Sierra County Multijurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, Resolution #2026-003, seconded by Commissioner Sig Ostrom, approved by all Commissioners present.
- b) Options for Teleconferencing for the Commissioner mtgs – Commissioner Sig Ostrom
 - i) There was a meeting on August 10, 2026, with Jeremy Miller, Chief Technology Officer Information Systems with Sierra County and 5 others to discuss opportunities for teleconferencing for the Commission meetings. Starlink was discussed as an option with the \$50 basic monthly plan for the Community Hall. Jeremy suggested a camera on a laptop. There was also an option suggested to hold meetings at the Sand Shed since Starlink is already installed there with a big screen TV, chairs and tables. There was a suggestion to test it out using the next meeting with some people calling in remotely via Zoom - temporarily using Sarah or Cindys business account. A business account allows more attendees and a limitless meeting time. The cost is approximately \$170 per year. Commissioner Sig Ostrom will follow up with Jeremy for further details.

9) Old Business:

- a) Sierra City Fire Auxiliary.
 - i) There was a Bingo night on Friday, July 24th which a lot of fun and attended well. Another Bingo night will likely be scheduled for Friday, August 28, 2026.
 - ii) There is still interest in obtaining Starlink for the Community Hall even if the Commission moves to the Sand Shed.
 - iii) A new Public Address System will be installed tomorrow in the Hall tomorrow. The old speakers will be re-purposed by Jim Westfall for town events.
 - iv) The topic of connecting to the new septic system was discussed. JoAnn will follow up.

10) Discussion/Action: Fire Chief report – Report by SCVFD Eric Kubly, Co-Deputy Fire Chief.

- a) For the months of July and August, there were several medical incidents. This started with two diabetic emergencies. There was an 80-year-old exhausted hiker on the PCT for which a response team was dispatched for assistance. He was very appreciative of the response and assistance and then donated to the Department and the Fire Truck fund. On July 26 there were four calls in one day which included a camper at Gold Lake Campground with severe back pain who was transported to the hospital and 2 mountain bikers that crashed with severe injuries and needed to be flown out. There was a reported down powerline in town. For the Foot Race and the Bike Race, Jenny and Linda were stationed at Packer Saddle for any potential incidents.
- b) Apparatus -
 - i) Water Tenders – no issues reported
 - ii) Side By Side 7901 – The medical sled has been installed by Q-Tac. A storage box was installed on the roof to house all the medical equipment. An \$8,000 check was presented to the District Treasurer for last month's expenditure from the Volunteer Fire Dept.
 - iii) 7900 – currently has the water pump plus 500 feet of hose.
- c) Eric met with Josh Handel and LeTina Vanetti to discuss the Hilda Repeater. Josh visited the Hilda Repeater to review its status. It was agreed to have a short- and long-term plan to address the concerns. A trip will be made in 7901 on Friday, August 14 by Chuck Holman, Commissioner Sig Ostrom and John Rangel to the Hilda Repeater to meet with Josh Handel and SPI for a repair assessment and vegetation removal. A follow-up meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 17 to discuss next steps with Eric, Josh and LeTina. Eric is hopeful that the County will fund at least a portion of the repair cost.
- d) The Holmatro Extrication Tools were serviced due to mechanical issues. Two of the three tools were serviced successfully but the third was taken back to their shop because of a recall notice.
- e) A new Vitals Machine has been purchased due to the current machine having mechanical issues. It will be tested and if proven to be the correct fit, another machine will be purchased for 7900.
- f) A new AED is being considered for purchase for the Sand Shed fire house. The NEAR Registry app, provides maps of nearby defibrillators and emergency resources. Sarah Kubly has updated the app with the location of all the Sierra City Fire Departments AEDs.
 - i) The Sierra County Chamber of Commerce has donated \$4,000 to pay for the new Vitals Machine and a new AED for the Sand Shed. Commissioner Karen Livingstone-Campbell agreed to write a thank you to the Chamber for their generous donation!

g) Discussion about 7966 and the new Fire Truck.

- i) 7966 was taken to Siddons-Martin in McCarren, NV to have the pump and foam systems tested since a “pump test” certification was part of the sales agreement with Brindlee Mountain. Part of the preparation for sale was that the truck had to pass the test as part of the agreement. The pump and foam systems initially failed because probably the truck was never serviced or maintained. It was repaired and cost about \$3,500 for labor and parts with the test costing \$1,700. The truck then passed the pump test on August 6 and was returned to Sierra City.
- ii) The \$105,000 funds for the purchase of 7966 is expected to be wired into the checking account at Plumas Bank on Thursday, August 13, 2026 after which it will be picked up by a lowboy trailer truck from the Sand Shed.
- iii) The Pink slip has been signed and all pertinent maintenance records collected.

h) Fire Hydrants –

- i) Follow up is needed with all water companies and landowners for evidence in the form of a report on water pressure, capacity and flushing for all 70 hydrants. There was proposal to submit a formal request to all hydrant owners from the Commission.

11) Discussion/Action: Grants report: Commissioner Bob Latta, Commissioner Sig Ostrom.

- a) Commissioner Bob Latta reported that SAMS must be updated. Commissioner Sig Ostrom to be added to SAMS at some point – no status.
- b) Commissioner Bob Latta reported that paperwork has been submitted for one grant for the Hayes System for \$1.2 M – no status.

12) Discussion/Action: Water Protection and Water Companies:

- a) Commissioner Glen Haubl assigned to create the letter to all water companies requesting a report on water pressure, capacity, flushing and flow of all hydrants – no status.
- b) Chris Campbell will verify that the Fire Water in the Sierra Water Resources area is available and flowing.

13) Discussion/Action: Bylaws: Commissioner Glen Haubl

- i) The updated Bylaws were approved on June 13, 2026. The signatures page will be completed. A clean copy is needed for the Fire Office file.

14) Discussion/Action: Website for the Sierra City Fire Protection District: - Commissioner Karen Livingstone-Campbell

- a) The new website has been created by the company SierraHosts. The new website is now live at: <https://sierracityfireprotectiondistrict.org/>. Commissioner Karen Livingstone-Campbell demonstrated the site and links on her laptop for those present. This site can be further developed and customized, but it will cost more. It was patterned by the Sierra County Fire Protection District #1 site. All input for improvements is welcomed.

15) Adjournment: Commissioner Karen Livingstone-Campbell motioned for adjournment of the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Rich Smail, approved by all Commissioners in attendance. The meeting was adjourned at 5:12 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday August 11, 2026, at 4:00pm at the Sierra City Community Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Livingstone-Campbell