



## West Plainfield Fire Protection District

24901 County Road 95, Davis, CA 95616

(530) 756-0212

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### STANDING COMMITTEE – BUDGET AND BENEFITS – MEETING - MINUTES April 14, 2023 at 1:00 PM

#### In Person

West Plainfield Fire  
24901 County Road 95  
Davis, CA 95616

#### Via Zoom

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/98831083439>  
One tap mobile – +16699006833,98831083439#  
Dial by your location – (669) 900-6833 US (San Jose)  
Meeting ID: 988 3108 3439

#### 1. Call the meeting to order (Chair Stiles)

Meeting called to order by Chair Stiles at 2:01 PM.

Present were:

Committee Members:	Commissioner Beth Stiles
Staff:	Fire Chief Cherie Rita
Proposed New Board Member:	Warren Roos

#### 2. Public comment

NONE

#### 3. Discussion/Action (All)

##### a. Review Current Budget Usage - FYE 2023

All present reviewed the current ledger printout.

##### b. Projected Budget Usage - Remainder of FYE 2023

##### c. Continue Work on Proposed Budget – FYE 2024

Chief Rita presented the updated numbers, which she advised were different from those in the Committee packet. She reported that morning she had received updated proposed insurance premium numbers that will be addressed by YCPARMIA at their board meeting next week.

Chief Stiles presented three projects he wants to complete next year: (1) add well bladder, (2) build shed, (3) fixing E30 step damaged some time ago.

Mr. Roos asked what kind of budget would be needed for a “dream” department and budget. Very rough estimate: \$1,450,000 (6 new full-time

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firefighters, putting at least \$100,000 per year into equipment replacement reserve, and allowing \$300,000 for services and supplies).

Chief Rita reported on her benefits research. After talking to several brokers, including her own, and to Captains Bravo and Osborn, Chief Rita recommends that instead of offering a cafeteria plan and/or retirement account we offer a Health Reimbursement Agreement (HRA) EBA, Keenan can administer the accounts. The administration fee would be \$900 per year, which is thousands less than a cafeteria plan would likely incur. Based on current budget numbers, Chief Rita recommends that we offer this plan and that the Department contribute \$400 per month, per member; this would replace the current taxable \$350 per month each member now receives. The member would then be free to contribute whatever additional he or she desires.

Commissioner Stiles asked if the new budget would support an increase for the relief firefighters. Chief Rita confirmed it would.

**d. Recommendations to Board, if any**

- i. Set up HRA for each employee and contribute \$400 per month per employee. In order to get this set up in time to make first contributions in July, we would need plan designed and contracts signed by the end of May. Therefore, this item should be placed on the May Board agenda.
- ii. Increase relief firefighter hourly from \$17.00 to \$18.00 beginning first full pay period in July 2023. This, too, would be placed on the May Board agenda.

**4. Calendar**

**a. The next Budget Committee meeting to be determined**

The next Budget Committee meeting is scheduled for June 7, 2023, at 2:00 PM.

**5. Adjourn (Chair Stiles)**

Meeting adjourned by Chair Stiles at 2:10 PM.

Approved April 18, 2023



Beth Stiles, Chair, Commissioner



Cherie Rita, Fire Chief, Recorder