

OLYMPIC VALLEY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES #930  
JUNE 25, 2024

<https://www.ovpsd.org/board-agenda-june-2024>

**A. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Pledge of Allegiance.**

Director Cox called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**Directors Present:** Dale Cox, Katy Hover-Smoot, Bill Hudson, and Katrina Smolen

**Directors Absent:** Fred Ilfeld

**Staff Present:** Jessica Asher, Program Manager & Board Secretary; Gary Bell, Legal Counsel; Brandon Burks, Operations Manager; Brad Chisholm, Fire Chief; Chris Dedeo, Fire Captain; Jessica Grunst, Account Clerk II and HR Specialist; Eric Fushlin, Seasonal Firefighter; Kurt Gooding, Engineer-Paramedic; Scott Halterman, Engineer-Paramedic; Tim Hoover, Firefighter-Paramedic; and Charley Miller, General Manager.

**Others Present:** Leah Hoover, Richard Koffler, Jean Lange, and David Stepner.

David Stepner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**B. Community Informational Items.**

**B-1** Olympic Valley Watershed Alliance (OVWA) – None.

**B-2** Friends of Olympic Valley (FoOV) – Mr. Stepner announced that the Fourth of July barbecue will have a wildfire preparedness component, with Chief Chisholm scheduled to speak on the topic.

**B-3** Olympic Valley Design Review Committee (OVDRC) – Mr. Stepner noted that the committee is considering an AT&T cellular tower replacement and a new Palisades water treatment building.

**B-4** Olympic Valley Municipal Advisory Council (OVMAC) – Mr. Stepner briefly reviewed the most recent meeting and noted that the OVMAC will meet in a town meeting format to review the responses to the Village at Palisades Tahoe Specific Plan Partially Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report. The Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors considerations may closely follow this fall. Mr. Stepner requested that UES present the groundwater model update related to climate change to the OVMAC.

**B-5** Olympic Valley Mutual Water Company (OVMWC) – Mr. Stepner reported that the Company's rates and budget were approved. Mr. Koffler reported that while operating costs are level, rates are increasing by 9% due to the repayment of the USDA Loan and capital improvements.

**B-6** Firewise Community – Chief Chisholm said the District continues collaborating with the Firewise Community regarding the upcoming green waste disposal days.

**B-7** Tahoe-Truckee Sanitation Agency (T-TSA) – Director Cox reviewed the T-TSA Board Meeting summary, focusing on the Town of Truckee's expressed interest in the potential surplus land owned by the Agency. According to Carollo Engineering's preliminary risk assessment study, approximately 220 out of 1,000 acres could be deemed surplus to the Agency's operational requirements. Director Cox shared his position against selling the land to meet budgetary needs. He proposed that member agencies be given a first right of refusal and a portion of the surplus land. The suitability of the land for a regional fire training center was discussed, although it was

noted that regional fire agencies likely lack capital funding for such a facility. Some members suggested that the land should be preserved as open space. The Board emphasized the importance of transparency in addressing this issue with the public and that the Agency not rush any decisions. It was decided that following the finalization of the Carollo report, the issue should be placed on the agenda for the Board to provide formal direction on how best to represent the District's interests to TTSA.

**C. Public Comment/Presentation.**

Kurt Gooding expressed gratitude to the Board on behalf of himself and the Fire Department members represented by Local 39. He noted appreciation for the negotiation process, highlighting that the members felt truly valued.

Mr. Stepner requested the District consider applying for transient occupancy tax (TOT) funding to renovate the fields and play structure in Olympic Valley Park. He said Placer County has suggested a community-wide fee to fund park improvements. Director Smolen provided background on previous attempts to secure funding in 2017, highlighting the field's outdated condition and the playground's non-compliance with safety codes. It was noted that the District does not currently have a Parks and Recreation Committee or funding or staffing for parks and recreation services.

Mr. Stepner also suggested utilizing community-raised funds or a long-term loan to preserve the Post Office property, which is currently for sale. He suggested its potential as a community space or future employee housing.

**C-1 Fire Department Badge Pinning Ceremony**

The Fire Department conducted a formal ceremony to honor the hiring of Firefighter/Paramedic Hoover. The ceremony included administering the Oath of Office and the badge pinning.

**D. Financial Consent Agenda Items.**

Directors Hudson and Smolen convened with staff on June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024, from approximately 8:00 – 8:20 A.M. to review items D-1 through D-12, and other finance-related items on the agenda. Director Hudson summarized the meeting.

Public Comment – None.

Director Hover-Smoot motioned to approve the financial consent agenda, which Director Hudson seconded. The motion passed.

Cox – Yes | Hover-Smoot – Yes | Hudson – Yes | Ilfeld – Absent | Smolen – Yes

**E. Approve Minutes.**

**E-1 Minutes for the Regular Board of Directors meeting of May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024.**

The Board reviewed the items, accepted public comment, and approved item E-1.

Public Comment – None.

Director Hudson moved to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024, which Director Hover-Smoot seconded. The motion passed.

Cox – Yes | Hover-Smoot – Yes | Hudson – Yes | Ilfeld – Absent | Smolen – Abstain

**F. Old and New Business.**

**F-1 PUBLIC HEARING: Approve FY 2024-2025 Budget**

The Board reviewed the items, accepted public comment, and approved the FY 2024-2025 Budget by adoption of Resolution 2024-18.

The item was reviewed in detail during the Finance Committee and in previous Board Meetings; this was the fourth opportunity for budget review.

Public Comment – None.

Director Hover-Smoot motioned to adopt Resolution 2024-18, approving the FY 2024-2025 Budget, which Director Hudson seconded. A roll call vote was taken; the motion passed.

Cox – Yes | Hover-Smoot – Yes | Hudson – Yes | Ilfeld – Absent | Smolen – Yes

**F-2 PUBLIC HEARING: Request Placer County to Collect Delinquent Charges.**

The Board reviewed the item, accepted public comment, and adopted Resolution 2024-19, requesting Placer County to collect delinquent charges.

Mr. Miller reviewed the report.

Public Comment – None.

Director Hover-Smoot motioned to adopt Resolution 2024-19, requesting Placer County collect delinquent charges, which Director Hudson seconded. A roll call vote was taken; the motion passed.

Cox – Yes | Hover-Smoot – Yes | Hudson – Yes | Ilfeld – Absent | Smolen – Yes

**F-3 California Special Districts Association (CSDA) Election – Sierra Network.**

The Board reviewed the item, accepted public comment, and voted for Noelle Mattock.

Ms. Asher reviewed the staff report, and the Directors discussed the candidate's qualifications. The Directors determined that the incumbent was well qualified.

Public Comment – None.

Director Hudson made a motion to vote for Noelle Mattock, which was seconded by Director Hover-Smoot. The motion passed.

Cox – Yes | Hover-Smoot – Yes | Hudson – Yes | Ilfeld – Absent | Smolen – Yes

**F-4 Fire Department Long-Term Modeling**

The Board reviewed the item and accepted public comment.

Chief Chisholm and Mr. Miller reviewed the staff report highlighting the Municipal Service Review (MSR) process.

Public Comment – None.

**F-5 Employee Services Sharing Agreement between Northstar Community Services District (NCSO) and Olympic Valley Public Service District**

The Board reviewed the item, accepted public comment, approved the agreement with NCSO to share Fire Prevention Officer services, and authorized the General Manager to execute contractual documents.

Chief Chisholm and Mr. Miller reviewed the staff report, noting that Counsel had reviewed the agreement. Staff explained the contract terms and outlined the position's responsibilities and how they would alleviate the workload for the fire chief, the captain overseeing prevention, and the office supervisor. Chief Chisholm spoke highly of the candidate's code compliance education and the benefits it will provide the Department and Community.

Public Comment – None.

Director Hudson motioned to approve the agreement with NCSO to share Fire Prevention Officer services and authorize the General Manager to execute contractual documents. Director Hover-Smoot seconded the motion, which passed.

Cox – Yes | Hover-Smoot – Yes | Hudson – Yes | Ilfeld – Absent | Smolen – Yes

**F-6 Fuels Management Program.**

The Board reviewed the item and accepted public comment.

Chief Chisholm and Ms. Asher reviewed the staff report, providing details regarding the OV-1 and OV-4 fuel reduction projects, green waste programs, and defensible space inspections. There was a discussion about the challenging access to OV-4, particularly on the north side of the Valley. For that reason, the project will be separated into two phases, with the south, east, and west portions of the project bid first while the design of the northern portion is further analyzed. The Board suggested that rebuilding trail access be included as a contract requirement. Additionally, there was a discussion on the potential use of pile burning for the OV-4 project, with concerns about its impact on air quality.

Public Comment – None.

**G. Management Status Reports.**

**G-1 Fire Department Report**

Chief Chisholm reviewed his management status report, highlighting staffing, prevention work, vehicle transitions, recent Department-sponsored and sponsored events, and grant applications. He expressed appreciation for the Board's awareness and recognition of the Fire Department members and spoke positively of the interest-based MOU negotiation.

## **G-2 Water & Sewer Operations Report**

Mr. Burks reviewed the report covering various aspects, including current staffing related to operators on parental leave; system chlorination, which was completed; backflow prevention testing; the 2023 consumer confidence water quality report; manhole inspections and high-priority sewer cleaning; and water meter installations.

## **G-3 Engineering Report**

Mr. Miller reported that Ms. Kinsinger, Assistant Engineer, has greatly supported the Department while Mr. Hunt has been out of the office.

## **G-4 Administration & Office Report**

Ms. Asher and Ms. Grunst reviewed the report, focusing on the records destruction completed last month, the new workplace violence prevention plan, and short-staffing. They noted the need to prioritize workload and expressed gratitude for a collaborative administrative team.

## **G-5 General Manager Report**

Mr. Miller reviewed the report, echoing previously expressed sentiment of the positive Fire Department MOU negotiation and the Board's support of staff. He voiced excitement about new Fire Department personnel and provided a brief update on the kickoff of the cost of service and rate study underway with HDR engineering.

## **G-6 Legal Report (verbal)**

None.

## **G-7 Directors' Comments (verbal)**

The Board requested consideration of exploring how the District could support important community resources such as the Post Office, Olympic Valley Park, and youth recreational programming. The Directors agreed on the value of the General Manager's opportunistic engagement with Placer County to address community issues and the role of the District in advocating for the community's interests, especially as related to County services. The Directors also emphasized that the District must prioritize its core services and mission to provide water, sewer, garbage, fire protection, and EMS services.

Mr. Bell explained the items that would be discussed in the closed session, noting the basis for item H-2 that there are facts that may not be known to potential plaintiffs.

Director Hover-Smoot made a motion, seconded by Director Smolen to adjourn to closed session at 10:41 A.M. The motion passed.

Cox – Yes | Hover-Smoot – Yes | Hudson – Yes | Ilfeld – Absent | Smolen – Yes

## **H. Closed Session.**

### **H- 1 Closed Session – Public Employment.**

The Board met in Closed Session pursuant to Government Code §54957 et al. regarding District labor negotiations. Only the agenda item was discussed, and no action was taken.

## **H-2 Closed Session – Conference with Legal Counsel; Anticipated Litigation.**

The Board met in Closed Session pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(2) regarding one potential case. Only the agenda item was discussed, and no action was taken.

Director Hover-Smoot made a motion, seconded by Director Hudson, to adjourn to the open session at 11:19 A.M. The motion passed.

Cox – Yes | Hover-Smoot – Yes | Hudson – Yes | Ilfeld – Absent | Smolen – Yes

### **I. Possible Action from Closed Session.**

Mr. Bell noted that there was nothing to report from the closed session.

#### **I-1 Fire Department Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).**

The Board reviewed the item, accepted public comment, and adopted Resolution 2024-20, approving the MOU with the International Union of Operating Engineers, Stationary Engineers, Local 39, for the Fire Department Personnel.

Mr. Bell highlighted one proposed change which will be subject to bargaining unit approval. The proposed change is to the text “*as available*” on page 11, “...which they are currently not on, *as available*.”

Public Comment – None.

Director Hudson motioned to adopt Resolution 2024-20, approving the MOU with the International Union of Operating Engineers, Stationary Engineers, Local 39, for the Fire Department Personnel. Director Smolen seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed.

Cox – Yes | Hover-Smoot – Yes | Hudson – Yes | Ilfeld – Absent | Smolen – Yes

#### **I-2 Approve FY 2024-2025 Employee Salary Schedules.**

The Board reviewed the item, accepted public comment, and adopted Resolution 2024-21 approving FY 2024-2025 Employee Salary Schedules.

Director Hover-Smoot motioned to adopt Resolution 2024-21 approving FY 2024-2025 Employee Salary Schedules, which Director Hudson seconded. A roll call vote was taken; the motion passed.

Cox – Yes | Hover-Smoot – Yes | Hudson – Yes | Ilfeld – Absent | Smolen – Yes

### **J. Adjourn.**

Director Hover-Smoot made a motion, seconded by Director Hudson, to adjourn at 11:25 A.M. The motion passed.

Cox – Yes | Hover-Smoot – Yes | Hudson – Yes | Ilfeld – Absent | Smolen – Yes

By, J. Asher