

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
GROVELAND COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT  
GROVELAND, CALIFORNIA  
September 3, 2009  
8:00 a.m.**

The Board of Directors of Groveland Community Services District met in special session on the above mentioned date with Directors Wes Johnson, President, John Graham, Vice President, Dick Lennen, and Steve Perreira being present. Also present were General Manager Jim Goodrich, District Engineer Randy Klaahsen, Groveland Fire Chief Shane Warner, Assistant Fire Chief Jim Burdick, District Treasurer Vicki West and Board Secretary Lena Spilman.  
Absent: Director Gus Allegri

District Counsel Dave McMurchie joined the meeting by teleconference

Director Johnson called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

***Agenda Approval***

General Manager Jim Goodrich asked that Item 4 be removed from the agenda  
*Director Lennen moved, seconded by Director Graham, and the motion passed unanimously to approve the agenda as amended.*

*Ayes: Directors Johnson, Lennen, and Graham      Absent: Director Allegri*

***Public Comment***

No members of the public were present. General Manager Jim Goodrich asked that public comment be postponed until after the closed session.

(The Board adjourned into closed session at 8:02 a.m.)

***Closed Session***

- A. Conference with Legal Counsel – Significant Exposure to Litigation  
(Pursuant to Govt. Code Sec. 54956.9)  
One Case
- B. Conference with Legal Counsel – Significant Exposure to Litigation  
(Pursuant to Govt. Code Sec. 54956.9)  
One Case

(The Board Reconvened into open session at 8:30 a.m.)

***Announcement of Any Action Taken by Board in Closed Session***

*No action was taken by the Board*

*Director Johnson called a 15 minute recess at 8:34am, the meeting reconvened at 8:49am*

## Action Items

### **Consider Approving Purchase of Fire Department Utility Vehicle in an Amount not to Exceed \$45,439**

Fire Chief Shane Warner presented this item to the Board. Chief Warner explained that the Fire Department has been researching information for the purchase of a new Utility Vehicle to replace Utility 781. This vehicle would replace the '81 Ford Pick-up (retired to the GCSD maintenance yard) and the '90 Ford Bronco (currently in use as Utility 781). Although the Department continues to use the '90 Bronco as their Utility Vehicle, it has become increasingly unreliable. Chief Warner stated that given the mileage of the vehicle and the safety concerns, he no longer feels comfortable sending the firefighters out of town for conferences or training in the Bronco.

Given the need for a reliable and safe Utility Vehicle, Chief Warner presented bids for four different trucks that would meet the needs of the Department. Originally, the focus was placed on locating used vehicles that would meet the Department's needs. Unfortunately, many of the available used vehicles were in poor condition and would require a significant investment to restore.

Having decided to pursue the purchase of a new vehicle, several factors were considered prior to the presentation of the bids. Chief Warner explained that while responding to emergency service calls, firefighters often require extended idle time in order to run emergency lighting. As several of the District's recently purchased Ford trucks have had problems due to extended idling, the Department decided to exclude Ford as a dealer. Dodge was also excluded based on the fact that they have no dealerships within reasonable distance, and that many of their dealerships are not honoring any warranty work at this time. After both Ford and Dodge had been eliminated from the bidding process, the Department sought out four different Chevrolet bids.

While Debt service for the new Utility vehicle was included in the FY 09-10 operating budget, Chief Warner proposed to pay the down payment with net earnings from Strike Team pay and finance the balance at 6% for 5 years.

Assistant Chief Jim Burdick also addressed the Board. He explained that after having inspected all four trucks, he believes the Sierra Motors truck to be the best option. The Sierra Motors truck has both heated mirrors and stability control, both very important for winter driving.

Director John Graham asked what type of signage the truck would have. Chief Warner responded that the truck would display the Department's logo, and that it is not a large expense.

Director Johnson asked what is being done with the rest of the net earnings from the Strike Team activities. Mr. Goodrich responded that several options are being discussed, and that it is very important to the Fire Department that the money is put wherever it can earn the most interest.

Director Perreira asked what medical function the new Utility Vehicle would serve. Chief Warner explained that often times the '91 Bronco is used to respond to medical aids instead of an engine to reduce fuel costs. Similarly, the new Utility vehicle would be outfitted to respond to medical aids.

Director Graham asked how soon the vehicle would arrive, if approved today. Chief Warner stated that it would be purchased immediately, but that it would take some time to outfit the vehicle.

Director Perreira commented that while he neither approves or disapproves of this purchase, and while it is clear that the Fire Department has done a great deal of research, he is a very big proponent of used vehicles. Assistant Chief Burdick explained that a great deal of time went into researching used vehicles, and that the used vehicles available required too much work and money. It was decided that it would be more prudent to purchase a new vehicle that would be higher quality, require less maintenance, and would have a much longer lifetime.

*Director Lennen moved, seconded by Director Graham, and the motion passed to approve the purchase of a new Fire Department Utility Vehicle in an amount not to exceed \$45,439 with a down payment of \$12,000 and the balance financed over 5 years at 6% interest.*

*Ayes: Director Johnson, Graham, and Lennen      Abstain: Director Perreira*

*Absent: Director Allegri*

### **Information Items**

#### ***Director's Comments***

None

#### ***Adjournment***

*Director Graham moved, seconded by Director Lennen, and the motion passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 a.m.*

*Ayes: Directors Johnson, Graham, Allegri, and Perreira*

*Absent: Director Allegri*

APPROVED:

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Wes Johnson, President

ATTEST:

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Lena Spilman, Board Secretary