

*Rich*  
*2-4-2015*

Rich I am passing through LR tomorrow and can post this

ALBION LITTLE RIVER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
AGENDA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL  
ANNUAL EVALUATION SESSION

Wednesday February 4, 2014 7:00 PM

Albion School, 30400 Albion Ridge Rd., Albion Ca.

The Board of Directors Special Annual Evaluation Meeting of the Albion Little River Fire Protection District as specified in district bylaws to be held in January to "critique board performance of the past year, evaluate the performance of the fire chief, and discuss planning strategies for the coming calendar year".

Call to order and roll call.

**Public Communication to the Board.** An opportunity is provided for members of the public to address the board in respect to any item described in this notice, either before or during consideration of the item.

Clarification on travel reimbursement for volunteers

**Annual Evaluation Topics for Discussion:**

- a. Assessment of Board paperwork including correspondence, handouts, minutes and agenda updates to Board Member folders reflecting actions taken in the past year; assignment of tasks
- b. Financial Assessment : Spending plan for the coming year, preparing for Measure M funds; securing an auditor
- c. Station Plan: Creating a time line for making assessments and final decisions on stations and equipment
- d. Evaluation of Fire Chief: creating a metric for evaluation
- e. Assessment of water needs and Compressed Air Foam
- f. Open discussion on topics of concern for year 2015

**Adjournment**

Any individual who requires disability-related accommodations or modifications, including auxiliary aids and services, in order to participate in the Board meeting should email or call Board President Chris Skyhawk before meeting at 937-4295 or chriswork@alrfd.org

## COMPARING MENDO FIRE TO ALBION FIRE DISTRICT

We will never be like Mendocino Fire and it would not be fair to use them to fault our department's efforts or expect us to have what they have. Mendocino Fire has twice our yearly budget. They have the Mendosa endowment. They also have a great program for lining up prospective donors. They are very financially secure, having excess funds to purchase vehicles. I am glad they are in such great financial shape because it benefits us to have them as a mutual aid.

Mendo's 2014 budget revenue is a little over \$300,000 annually. Looking ahead at their budget plan for 2016, they will be spending about double their income to purchase a new \$330,000 vehicle for cash by using some of their reserves. Mendo Fire has an adequate size modern firehouse that is suited for today's fire vehicles. Their firehouse is paid for. The firehouse is manned by administrative staff and Coast Hospital has an ambulance on site during the day, which helps with response times for medical emergencies & vehicle accidents.

Mendo Fire has a program which calls for buying new vehicles vs. used, and replacing every 20 years, as being cost-wise. The reason being that there will be some warranty protection and they will be replaced before needing costly repairs. This is a best-case scenario & a pretty good plan. But there are a couple of problems with this plan. First, you need to have the money and a large enough station, and Mendo has both. You have to be able to pay cash or have enough income to finance. Looking at Mendo's plan, they are replacing 1.5 trucks per year—that requires a lot of money.

We, on the other hand, do not have a modern firehouse or the income that Mendo has. We need to be realistic and buy used vehicles and possibly one or two new cab & chassis to build our fleet. Trucks are not like cars—they last longer. We never had a proper vehicle replacement plan in the past. We would just buy the best upgrades that we could afford. But because of lack of funds, we were unable to buy new enough vehicles. I hope the new tax initiative will help us to correct this problem.

We have to purchase something in the 5-10 year old bracket and have to keep our vehicles until they are 25-30 years of age. It helps that we put so few miles on our vehicles and I feel this is reasonable.

The current age of our vehicles is from 14 to 40 years of age. Looking at the above example, we currently would need to replace 8163, 8192, and 8181 now. Then 8130, 8132, then 8170, 8171, 8131 for a total of 8 trucks right off the bat. Vehicles 8181 & 8163 being the highest priced vehicles. With the 12 year plan, we should be able to purchase at least 3 vehicles, maybe 4 with the new tax money.

From: **Michael Issel** [mailto:michael.issel@alrfpd.com]  
Subject: Fund Raising Organization Option Already Exists  
Date: January 28, 2015 at 3:35 PM  
To: Sam & Babs Levine [mailto:sam@alrfpd.com];  
Cc: "Debbie Wolfe" [mailto:debbiewolfe@alrfpd.com], Debbie Wolfe [debbiewolfe@alrfpd.com], Carolyn Latkin [mailto:clatkin@alrfpd.com], SARA SPRING [mailto:sara@alrfpd.com], Ted Williams [mailto:ted@alrfpd.com]

From the dawn of recorded ALRFPD history, the legality of accepting individual charitable contributions seems to have been debated – lately within earshot. Indeed, several organizational structures are presently being explored to achieve this purpose. Seeking to reconcile the wide range of opinions expressed, please find California State Law citation below, under which our District operates, together with IRS citation and EIN authorization above (IRS Pub 78 database search results: Read Page 1 to 3. (Page 4 is but further details)).

**California Health and Safety Code Section 13800 et seq. cited as the Fire District Law of 1987.**

Chapter 7: **Finance**

(Added by Stats. 1987, Ch. 1013, Sec. 11.)

**13898.** *A district may accept any revenue, money, grants, goods, or services from any federal, state, regional, or local agency or from any person for any lawful purpose of the district.*

<http://legis.ca.gov/leg/1987/bills/protection/districts/13898>

Alan Taeger confirmed the above findings in past consultation with County Counsel. Therefore, there really is no need to create another organization. It seems to this observer, our energies would seem better served at structuring either of our extant organizations to focus on the very different needs of deep-pocket contributions solicitations for capital equipment and building projects. To husband such contributions, an endowment trust / foundation could otherwise be created as a subsidiary within either organization by revising bylaws.

Respectfully offered for consideration,

Mike Issel



ALRFPD-AUX  
Deductibilit...Results.pdf

## ALRFPD 12 YEAR PLAN INTRODUCTION

**MISSION:** The mission of the ALRFPD is to provide first response protection to residents and visitors of life and property in the Albion & Little River communities against threats from structural and wildland fires, medical emergencies, hazardous materials releases, and disasters, natural or man made. To accomplish this, the ALRFPD will recruit, train and equip volunteer personnel so they can safely and professionally accomplish their mission. The purpose of this plan is to provide year to year continuity in prioritizing the critical ALRFPD needs in an austere fiscal environment.

To accomplish this requires the coordination of (3) groups: 1) firefighters, 2) auxiliary and 3) board of directors.

The volunteer firefighters are dedicated, passionate, hard workers, and are on call 24/7. Without them, there would be no fire department. You cannot put a price on this type of protection.

Our annual budget is less than the cost of one paid full time firefighter. Our budget has to cover 5 stations/buildings, 10 vehicles, 3 water vehicles and maintenance all of these items. In addition, the budget must also cover supporting equipment, all necessary protective clothing, insurance & fuels.

Insurance Service Office (ISO) rates fire departments to their standards after evaluation of the number of personnel, fire fighting equipment & resources, water supplies , water flow rates and response times

Fire insurance companies use these fire department ratings, distances from fire houses and water supplies, plus other fire risk factors to determine your insurance cost or lack of insurability.

Due to the drought and ISO inspections, we are still trying to determine any necessary equipment upgrades to be included in our final 12 Year Plan Costs. With your help, the added revenue from the fire tax increase will help replace ageing equipment and maintenance costs, putting us in a better position to protect you. The 12 Year Plan will spread out costs and time to accomplish this.

# GOLDEN STATE

RISK MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

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January 29, 2015

Richard Riley  
Albion-Little River Fire Protection District  
PO Box 634  
Albion, CA 95410

Dear Richard,

We would like to invite you to the free **Fire District Board Workshop** on Thursday, March 19, 2015. Golden State Risk Management Authority is proud to host this workshop from 9 am to 4 pm (lunch on your own) at the Granzella's Banquet Facility, 457 7<sup>th</sup> St., Williams CA.

Your instructor will be the dynamic Jim Hill! Jim has served on several boards in northern California and will be sharing his vast information and knowledge regarding these boards and fire district governance.

Please see the enclosed flyer for more information and how to register for this exciting event. You won't want to miss this workshop! You can contact us with any questions you may have via e-mail at [lossprevention@gsrma.org](mailto:lossprevention@gsrma.org) or by phone at (530) 934-5633. Please register by March 1<sup>st</sup>. Hope to see you there!

Sincerely,



Jennifer Peters  
Loss Prevention Specialist

Encl.