WHEREAS; the residents of Ponderosa Basin are without organized structural fire protection, and

WHEREAS; there are some seventy residence plus numerous outbuildings in the proposed protection area, and

WHEREAS; thirty-five permanent residences are included, with several additional residences about to be constructed, and

WHEREAS; the residents of Ponderosa Basin are in accord with the formation of the Ponderosa Basin Volunteer Fire Company, and

WHEREAS; The California Division of Forestry is in accord with the concept of the Ponderosa Basin Volunteer Fire Company, Now

THEREFORE be it resolved, that the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors hereby recognize the formation of the Ponderosa Basin Volunteer Fire Company and their Constitution and By-Laws.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE Board of Supervisors of the County of Mariposa this 20th day of May, 1975, by the following vote:

AYES: Clark, Hurlbert, Long, Richardson

NOES: None

ABSENT: Moffitt

NOT VOTING: None

HARRY F. HURLBERT
Chairman of the Board.

ATTEST:

ELLEN BRONSON, County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Board
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

FOR

PONDEROSA BASIN VOLUNTEER
FIRE COMPANY

The geographical limits of the Ponderosa Basin Volunteer Fire Company are 2.5 mile radius from the old Harris Mill.

This area of response would be to any structural fire reported to the Volunteer Fire Company. Also, and brush or grass fire directly threatening your community that requires quick efficient initial attack in order to suppress a build-up and a resulting devastating wild fire. The only exception will be when dispatched by the duty dispatcher of the Madera-Mariposa Ranger Unit Headquarters of the California Division of Forestry.

In the matter of day to day structural fires and personal values protected by the Ponderosa Basin Volunteers, it is necessary that the Ranger Unit Dispatcher office be notified when responding in order that the Dispatcher may move up adjacent companies and cover-in when the fire equipment of the community is engaged and/or requires additional help to cope with the fire situation. Use your radio, or call Mariposa 966-3621 collect if necessary.
C O N S T I T U T I O N

ARTICLE I - NAME

This organization shall be known as the Ponderosa Basin Rural Volunteer Fire Department.

ARTICLE 2 - MEMBERSHIP

Section I: Members in this organization shall be selected from any citizen of Mariposa County who is interested in Fire protection within the Community of Ponderosa Basin and who has been duly voted in by the existing membership. They shall be classed as Regular and Auxiliary members.

Part a: The Regular members shall constitute the fire fighting and voting force of the department.

Part b: The Auxiliary members shall be non-voting and non-fire fighting.

Section 2: All candidates for membership must be of sound health, complete a mandatory health application, a physical may be required at the expense of the applicant; be of good moral character with industrious habits, civic minded, and be between the ages of 18 and 69.

Part a: An application for membership is to be filed with a Review Board consisting of the Chief and Assistant Chief(s), prospective member is then to be voted on by members of the Company with secret ballot by a majority present. He shall be required to attend three (3) meetings before he is fully qualified as a member.

Part b: An applicant shall be a holder of a current prescribed Standard First Aid Card, or will attend and complete First Aid course within six months.

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Section 3: The number of active Members shall be limited to 15, unless circumstances prevail and only then by consent of the California Division of Forestry.

Section 4: All members shall be trained for Fire Techniques Standards, as per Company requirements.

Section 5: Standing orders can be adopted by each Company providing they do not conflict with the Mariposa County Constitution and By-Laws with the consent of the California Division of Forestry.

ARTICLE 3 - COMMITTEES

Section 1: All special committees shall be appointed by the Chief with the consent of this Company.

Section 2: The office of Social Director may be filled by appointment of the Chief as needed. It shall be the duty of the Social Director to take charge of all social functions and publications of the Company, i.e. dances, dinners, Christmas parties, cards and gifts. It will be his duty to appoint committees to assist him in planning and carrying out all social functions of the Company and to see that all activities of the Company are properly publicized.

ARTICLE 4 - MEETINGS

Section 1: The regular meeting and drill sessions of this Company shall be held on the 2nd Tuesday of each and every month during the year at the hour of 7:30 p.m.

Section 2: Special meetings may be held upon the call of the Chief or the Assistant Chief or the California Division of Forestry and Training Coordinator.

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ARTICLE 5 - ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1: The officers of this Company shall consist of at least a Chief, as Assistant Chief, and Secretary - Treasurer.

Section 2: At the regular meeting of the Company in the month of November of each year, the nominees of each office except Chief shall be balloted for, and the nominees shall receive a majority of all the votes cast shall be declared elected to fill the respective office to which he has been nominated and his term of office shall begin at 12:00 noon on the first day of January, and he shall hold office for the term of one year, or until his successor is duly elected and qualified.

Section 3: The Chief of this Company shall hold office for at least two years, and be elected by due process of Section 2.

Section 4: Persons nominated for the office of Chief must have two years experience in the volunteer company unless a new company is being formed.

ARTICLE 6 - VACANCIES

Should a vacancy occur from any cause in any of the offices of the Company such vacancy shall be filled by election at the next regular meeting after such vacancy has become known to the Company; and in the event of a vacancy in the office of the Chief, the senior Assistant Chief of this Company shall fill the office until the election of a new Chief.

ARTICLE 7 - EXPULSION

Section 1: No officer or member of this Company shall be expelled
unless by a majority vote of at least 8 members; and in no case
shall a member be expelled without having had ten days notice of
the charge brought against him; provided, however, that his name
shall be dropped from the roll of members of this Company for
non-performance of duties as provided in the By-Laws of the Company.
Section 2: Any regular member who has been absent from three (3)
regular meetings without having been excused by either the Chief or
the Assistant Chief(s) shall automatically be dropped from the rolls.
No notice will be sent to delinquent members. This article of the
Constitution and By-Laws shall be read by all new members and each
new member's signature shall be given as evidence that he thoroughly
understands the attendance regulations. All property belonging to
the Company shall be turned in or paid for upon dismissal or resig-
nation from the Company.

ARTICLE 8 CUSTODY OF PROPERTY

The Chief shall have charge of all equipment of this Company. This
will include Volunteer, Forestry and County Property assigned to
this Company. It will be his duty to see that property is regularly
inspected and in good working order and accounted for.

ARTICLE 9 - DISBURSEMENTS

Section 1: The elected Chief or Chief in Charge may spend up to
$15.00 per month without the approval of the membership. No other
funds shall be expended for any purposes, other than current expenses,
without being ordered by a majority vot of all members present.
Section 2: Any Company bill contracted by an authorized member of
the Company shall be signed by said member and a duplicate will be
presented to the finance Committee for payment.
ARTICLE 10 REVENUES

The revenue of this Company shall be derived from donations and social functions, and when these do not equal expenses, the deficiency shall be contributed by the members, who shall be equally assessed for such purpose; however, that no assessment shall be levied unless ordered by a majority two-thirds vote of all members.

ARTICLE 11 - RESIGNATIONS

All resignations of members or officers shall be tendered to this Company in person or in writing.

ARTICLE 12 - AMENDMENTS

No part of this Constitution shall be repealed, altered, annulled, amended or suspended, unless a proposition in writing be made to all the Companies at least one regular meeting previous to the time of its being acted upon, when if two-thirds of all voting members present in each Company and the California Division of Forestry Representative votes in favor of said proposition, it shall be adopted and become a part of this Constitution.
BY-LAWS

ARTICLE 1 - MEETINGS

Section 1: The regular meetings of this Company shall be called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Section 2: Five members shall constitute a quorum to transact business, but a lesser number may meet, and 15 minutes after arrival of the hour named for the meeting may call roll, note the absentees and adjourn.

ARTICLE 2 DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1: The Chief shall preside at Company meeting, and shall preserve order and decorum and enforce a strict obedience to the Company laws. He shall call special meetings of the Company when necessary. He shall be responsible for proper care, maintenance and accountability of equipment.

Section 2: It shall be the duty of the Assistant (Chief(s)) to act in the place of the Chief during his absence from any of the meetings of the Company, and he shall have the same power and authorities and like duties shall be imposed upon him as upon the Chief during such times as he shall act as Chief of the Company.

Section 3: The Chief shall have full and active control over the officers and members and employees of this Company and equipment belonging to the organization, under the direction of the California Division of Forestry officials. He shall take any measure to assist fire agencies extinguish fires, protect lives and property, the preservation of order and obedience to the laws of the State and ordinances of the State and ordinances of the County.

Section 4: The duty of the Treasurer shall be to keep an accurate record of all money received and paid out by the Company. He shall
be prepared at all times to submit his book to an auditing committee.

Section 5: The duties of the Secretary shall be to keep an accurate record of the proceedings of all meetings, keep attendance roster of regular events within the Company.

Section 6: It shall be the duty of the Fire Police to police the fire area during a fire, keeping it free from crowds and unauthorized persons and maintain order at fires and drills. He shall note violations of traffic going and returning from fires and any violations to equipment during fires.

ARTICLE 3 - EXCUSE

Section 1: Sickness in member's family, or of himself or absence from the community shall be sufficient excuse for non-attendance.

Section 2: A Leave of Absence may be granted for a maximum of six months due to certain circumstances; when the returning absentee member will be given preferential treatment.