



SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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MINUTES OF THE SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING OF September 14, 2022

1. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Scotts Valley Fire Protection District (SVFPD) was held on Wednesday, September 14, 2022 at SVFPD Station 1, 7 Erba Lane, Scotts Valley. President Patterson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

President Patterson called for the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence to follow.

1.2 Roll Call

A. Directors Present:	Directors Campbell, Harmon, Parker, Patterson and Pisciotta
B. Directors Absent:	None
C. Fire District Staff:	Chief Whittle, Battalion Chiefs LoFranco, McNeil and Stubendorff, Deputy Fire Marshal Collins and Admin Services Manager Walton

2. Public Comment (GC §54954.3)

None

3. Agenda Amendments (GC §54954.2) – Discussion/Action

President Patterson added Discussion Item 5.2: Branciforte Fire Protection District issues.

4. Consent Calendar

4.1 Minutes: Approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes of August 10, 2022

4.2 Approve SVFPD Claims Disbursements for the Month of August 1, 2022 through August 31, 2022 in the Amount of:

<u>Payroll and Benefits:</u>	\$ 663,187.56
<u>General Fund:</u>	\$ 33,393.49
<u>Capital Outlay:</u>	\$ 824,404.69
<u>SCHMIT:</u>	\$ 1,891.83
<u>TOTAL:</u>	\$1,522,877.57

4.3 Approve Surplus Equipment List

On motion of Director Harmon seconded by Director Campbell to *Approve Consent Calendar Items 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3* was approved by the following vote:

AYES:	Campbell, Harmon, Parker, Patterson and Pisciotta
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

5. Discussion Items

5.1 Scotts Valley Fire Protection District Fire Code Adoption Process Update

SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
Regular Board Meeting September 14, 2022

Chief Whittle explained that every three years, the new Fire Code is adopted. In the past, each Agency has adopted the Fire Code individually. This year, Santa Cruz County will adopt the Fire Code for all Agencies. This will streamline the process so that the reading of the Fire Code, public notices and hearings will all be done by Santa Cruz County rather than each Agency. In addition, this will give consistency as each Agency will be operating under the same Santa Cruz County Fire Code.

Deputy Fire Marshal Collins stated that the Fire Prevention Officers are close to finishing the Fire Code Amendments, which are mainly in Chapter 9 for the fire sprinklers. Even though this will be the Santa Cruz County Fire Code, each Agency will be listed individually so that the County cannot make changes.

Chief Whittle stated that the Santa Cruz County Fire Code will be presented to the Board in November or December and effective January 1, 2023.

5.2 Branciforte Fire Protection District (BFPD) Issues

Chief Whittle stated that there is no official information regarding the BFPD. Tonight, the BFPD and LAFCO will be hosting a Community Information Meeting.

President Patterson stated that a BFPD Board Member has gone on KSCO three times with a variety of unfavorable opinions regarding the SVFPD, which are not true or accurate and this is very concerning.

Chief Whittle reported that he spoke with LAFCO after the second KSCO interview and LAFCO gave the BFPD Board a stern warning regarding giving inaccurate information. The BFPD had allocated \$50,000 to hire a consultant to conduct a Benefit Assessment Study (Study) to determine the cost to keep the fire station open but the BFPD Board did approve the Study on multiple occasions. A post card to approve or deny the Study was sent to the BFPD Residents and the next Community Meeting will be October 1, 2022. Chief Whittle will inform the Board of future meetings and if the SVFPD is contacted by any concerned residents.

The Board discussed concerns about the inaccurate information that is being given regarding the SVFPD. President Patterson stated that the Board should plan on attending the October Community Meeting and establish a statement of facts regarding the BFPD to post on the SVFPD website and Facebook page in the future.

6. Action Items – Discussion/Action

6.1 Consider Release of 5 Properties to be Annexed by Felton Fire Protection District

Chief Whittle reported that he received an email from Felton Fire Chief, Robert Gray, regarding five (5) parcels located at the end of Conference Drive, which are within the SVFPD Boundaries, but serviced by the Felton Fire Protection District. The Felton FPD Board has requested support to annex the parcels into their Fire District. The assessed value of the five (5) parcels is 2.8 million dollars.

The Board inquired about the specific CAD response and if the residents would approve the annexation as they would be losing ALS response. Chief Whittle stated that he didn't look at the specific CAD response but that since the SVFPD cannot access the parcels, the ALS response would be very long. As part of the annexation process, residents are given notice, and have the opportunity to comment or object to the annexation.

On motion of Director Pisciotta seconded by Director Harmon to *Proceed with Detaching the Five (5) Parcels and Allowing the Felton Fire Protection District to Annex into Their District* was approved by the following vote:

AYES:	Campbell, Harmon, Parker, Patterson and Pisciotta
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

7. Board of Directors and Administrative Reports – Information/Discussion
(No action will be taken on any questions raised by the Board at this time.)

7.1 Board of Directors Report – Directors

SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
Regular Board Meeting September 14, 2022

Director Parker stated that the Negotiation Committee met with the Labor Group and it will be reported after the closed session discussion.

Director Pisciotta reported that the soils report has been received and will be incorporated into the Seismic Upgrade final report. Chief Whittle stated that the final report should be completed by the end of the month and once received, it will be distributed to the Board. Chief Whittle stated that the last phase of the project will be to determine the cost of the Seismic Upgrade.

7.2 Administrative Report – Chief Officers

The Administrative Report was included in the board packet and Chief Whittle reported on the following:

- E2538 responded as part of Task Force 2329 to Trinity County for the Six Rivers Complex, which consisted of three Type 3 engines from Santa Cruz County, two Type 3 engines from Sonoma County and one water tender from Alameda County. BC Stubendorff went out as the Strike Team Leader Trainee. The task force returned safely after the 14 day assignment.
- The Bauer SCBA compressor was delivered today.
- The Geotechnical report took longer than anyone expected but the full seismic report should be ready by the end of September.
- On August 3rd, C-Shift crews along with Santa Cruz City Fire, Felton Fire and AMR responded to a confirmed structure fire on Oak Creek Blvd. Fire was extinguished and contained to the room of origin.
- SVFD crews along with Cal Fire have responded to several small wildland fires in the Hansen Quarry area off Mount Hermon and Conference. SCO and Cal Fire are cooperating on the investigation.
- PCF hiring orientation was hosted by Captain Cortes and Firefighter Shaughnessy on 8/22/2022. Six candidates attended and five will be moving on to interviews as one recently dropped out.
- FF Vandiver and FF Shaughnessy are progressing. FF Vandiver is finishing up the last part of probation which has been focused on the wildland apparatus and water tender operations. FF Shaughnessy has been working on driving and pumping the Type 1 apparatus. Both are ahead of schedule with no issues noted.
- DFM Collins has been working on annual inspections, construction inspections and vegetation clearance and complaint inspections.
- DFM Collins completed the fire alarm and building final inspections at Target. The projected opening date is scheduled for late September.
- DFM Collins has been working with the SV Unified School District facilities manager on repairing 2021 school violations in anticipation of the 2022 inspections scheduled for 10/31/22 and 11/1/22. For future school inspections, she would like to schedule early January to work with the schools to gain compliance within the same calendar year.
- DFM Collins has been working to revise the District's city plan review fee collection process.
- Captain Chris Ronzano retired on September 3. Chris started as a volunteer in 1990, he was hired full-time as a Firefighter Paramedic in 2001, he promoted to Captain in 2018. There will be a retirement celebration in the near future.
- B-shift attended the National Night Out 2022. Company training demonstrations were done along with engine tours.
- Chief Whittle attended a presentation from Weist Law Firm and Cal Muni advisors regarding Cal PERS UAL funding strategies. The information and recommendations will be reviewed with the Finance Committee at the next meeting.
- BC McNeil, LoFranco, Stubendorff, FF Smiley remodeled the back storage office creating an admin breakroom. FF Vandiver ran the electrical. The on-duty crews also painted the DFM office.
- Chief Whittle met with the Santa Cruz County Administrative Officer Carlos Palacios, Assistant CAO Elissa Benson and General Service Director Michael Beaton regarding the SCHMIT program. Discussion included history of the program, funding and other options for providing hazardous material response in Santa Cruz County. Next FY, the budget will be increased by 50%, which the County agreed.
- The SV Water District is interested in moving forward with the intertie project on the La Madrona Property and hired a company to assess the value of the property needed for the project. The original proposal was for 8,700 square feet and cannot likely be reduced based on setbacks. Based on the original fire station building plans, the proposal was favorable but will need to be assessed based on the new fire station building plans.

SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
Regular Board Meeting September 14, 2022

8. Correspondence – Information

8.1 Thank You Email for Incident at Henry Cowell State Park

8.2 Thank You Letter for Six Rivers Lightning Complex Fire

The Board received and filed the correspondence.

9. Request for Future Agenda Items

None

10. Closed Session: Government Code §54957.7

10.1 Conference with Labor Negotiators: Government Code §54957.6
Agency Designated Representatives: Joe Parker and Robert Campbell
Employee Organization: All Bargaining Groups

10.2 Fire Chief Performance Review: Government Code §54957

At 6:46 p.m., Board President Patterson announced that the Board would be going into Closed Session for the purposes listed in Item 10.1 and 10.2.

11. Open Session – Discussion/Action

11.1 Report on Closed Session: Government Code §54957.1

At 7:24 p.m., the Board reconvened to Open Session. President Patterson reported that for Item 10.1 of the regular agenda, the Board was in favor of approving the MOU Amendment to Post Employment Healthcare as presented.

On motion of Director Campbell seconded by Director Parker to *Approve the MOU Amendment to Post Employment Healthcare as Presented* was approved by the following vote:

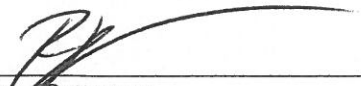
AYES:	Campbell, Harmon, Parker, Patterson and Pisciotta
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

For Item 10.2 of the regular agenda, with the announcement of the retirement of the current Fire Chief, the Board decided unanimously to open recruitment for an internal Fire Chief promotion. The Board and the Fire Chief will work together on a formal announcement flyer, including a filing deadline and interview date and time.

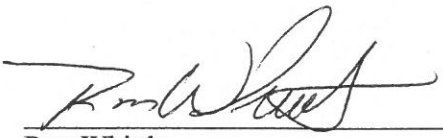
12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

ATTEST



Russ Patterson
Board President



Ron Whittle
Board Secretary