



SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

7 Erba Lane, Scotts Valley, CA 95066-4199 • scottsvalleyfire.com • 831-438-0211

MINUTES OF THE SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING OF December 11, 2024

1. Opening Business

1.1 Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Scotts Valley Fire Protection District (SVFPD) was held on Wednesday, December 11, 2024 at the City of Scotts Valley Council Chambers. Vice President Cosner called the meeting to order at 5:59 p.m and provided a teleconferencing notice for Director Weaver.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

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

1.3 Special Set Matter: Certificate of Election and Administration of Oath of Office for Elected Directors Daron Pisciotta, Mike Weaver, and Ron Whittle to Four-Year Terms.

Chief Correira administered the Oath of Office to Directors Pisciotta, Weaver, and Whittle to a four-year term.

1.4 Roll Call

Director(s) Present:	Vice President Adam Cosner (AC) Director Kris Hurst (KH) Director Daron Pisciotta (DP) Director Ron Whittle (RW)
Director(s) Virtual at Alternate Location:	Director Mike Weaver (MW)
Director(s) Absent:	N/A
Fire District Staff:	Chief Correira Battalion Chiefs McNeil and Stubendorff Administrative Services Manager Rodriguez

2. Public Comment (GC §54954.3)

- No public comment.

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

- No Agenda Amendments



SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

7 Erba Lane, Scotts Valley, CA 95066-4199 • scottsvallyfire.com • 831-438-0211

4. Consent Calendar

- 4.1 Minutes: Approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes of November 13, 2024
- 4.2 Approve SVFPD Claims Disbursements for the Month of November 1, 2024 through November 30, 2024 in the Amount of:

Payroll and Benefits:	\$ 555,388.75
General Fund:	\$ 108,106.32
Capital Outlay:	\$ 117,997.09
SCHMIT:	<u> 76.02</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 781,568.18
- 4.3 Adopt Regular Board Meeting Dates for 2025
- 4.4 Approve New Policy 809: Recognition and Awards
- 4.5 Approve New Policy 1205: Ergonomics Safety Plan
- 4.6 Approve Side Letter with IAFF Local 3577- ETO Funds
- 4.7 Adopt Resolution 2024-14: Resolution Authorizing the Lease of District Property Located on Santa Cruz County Assessor Parcel No. 093-151-06 and Exempting Such Lease From the California Surplus Land Act
- 4.8 Approve Marywood Lease Agreement

Board Comment/Questions: None

Public Comment: None

Motion to approve Consent Calendar Items 4.1-4.8 as presented was made by Director Pisciotta, seconded by Director Weaver, and approved by roll call vote 5-0.

5. Discussion Items

5.1 Reorganization Feasibility Study

Central Fire Chief Jason Nee shared the current consolidation feasibility study focuses on the City of Santa Cruz, Central Fire, and Scotts Valley Fire Protection District. While open to future discussions with other agencies, these three are the study's primary focus.

Chief Correia Chief Correia shared details about the consolidation feasibility study process, which involves issuing an RFP to select a vendor. The study will conduct a thorough analysis of each agency's strengths, weaknesses, finances, apparatus, response locations, and the potential benefits and downsides of consolidation scenarios. The estimated cost is \$20,000–\$50,000, potentially shared among three agencies. The feasibility study is expected to take



SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

7 Erba Lane, Scotts Valley, CA 95066-4199 • scottsvalleyfire.com • 831-438-0211

approximately two years, including the RFP process, vendor selection, and the completion of the study itself.

The Board was in favor of participating in the feasibility study and expressed interest in exploring additional shared services between the two districts should opportunities arise in the meantime.

6. Action Items- Discussion/Action

6.1 Approve Revised Policy 1500: Hiring Practices

Chief Correira shared the changes, developed with the executive staff, Union, and personnel committee, aim to increase flexibility and broaden the hiring pool. Key updates include adding a lateral firefighter position with two years of experience and reducing the probationary period to one year, as well as making EMT and Firefighter 1 qualifications preferred, not required. The Org Committee recommended approval.

Board Comment/Questions: None

Public Comment: None

Motion to approve Action Items 6.1 as presented was made by Director Pisciotta, seconded by Director Whittle, and approved by roll call vote 5-0.

6.2 Shared Fire Marshal Services with Central Fire

Chief Correira shared that the Org Committee discussed the shared fire marshal services with Central Fire. After consulting with Deputy Fire Marshal Erin Collins, it was determined that the arrangement would work for both the agencies and the employee. The committee recommended moving forward with the agreement. A revised version of the agreement was distributed to correct a date error, specifying the term from January 1, 2025, through July 1, 2025, with the option for extension by mutual agreement between Central and Scotts Valley Fire.

Board Comment/Questions:

Director Whittle inquired about what the expectations from Scotts Valley's deputy fire marshal will be with Central Fire.

Central Chief Jason Nee explained the goal is for Scotts Valley's deputy fire marshal to provide subject matter expertise to Central Fire, while also allowing Scotts Valley to benefit from inspections or services in return. The fire codes across both districts are now aligned, and the deputy fire marshal is expected to assist with complex issues.

Public Comment: None



SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

7 Erba Lane, Scotts Valley, CA 95066-4199 • scottsvalleyfire.com • 831-438-0211

Motion to approve Action Items 6.2 as presented was made by Director Hurst, seconded by Director Weaver, and approved by roll call vote 5-0.

6.3 Side Letter with IAFF 3577- Deputy Fire Marshal Pay

Chief Correira shared that the side letter proposes compensating the Deputy Fire Marshal for the additional responsibilities of supporting Central Fire, as well as the added scope of work.

Board Comment/Questions: None

Public Comment: None

Motion to approve Action Items 6.3 as presented was made by Director Whittle, seconded by Director Hurst, and approved by roll call vote 5-0.

7. **Board of Directors and Administrative Reports – Information/Discussion**

7.1 Board of Directors Report – Directors

The Board of Directors had no updates to report.

7.2 Administrative Report – Chief Officers

Chief Correira provided the following updates:

San Lorenzo Valley Fire Chiefs Update:

San Lorenzo Valley Fire Chiefs are considering having the FDAC host a certificate of achievement for the elected officials training, likely in January or February. More details will be shared soon.

EMS Concerns:

There's been a decline in EMS service, with AMR facing staffing challenges. Recently, a paramedic was out of the district for over 3 hours, reducing service levels. The department is working with EMSIA and the county to find solutions. Given the EMS challenges, Chief Correira proposed forming an ad-hoc Political Action EMS Committee to address the issue at the political level, as it may not be resolved locally.

Reorganization Study/Shared Services Discussion:

Chief Correira suggested considering a regionalization group to explore efficiencies in training, resource consolidation, or administration with neighboring districts like Central Fire. He acknowledged that this would involve political considerations but emphasized the potential benefits in exploring collaboration and efficiencies.

Battalion Chief McNeil provided the following update:

Personnel Update:

Firefighter Lucchesi has successfully passed his one-year probationary testing and has now begun the Firefighter 2 program.

Apparatus Update:

Following a meeting with Pierce Manufacturing, it was noted that the lead time for Type 1



SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

7 Erba Lane, Scotts Valley, CA 95066-4199 • scottsvallyfire.com • 831-438-0211

builds is now four years. Given this, discussions with the Chief and the Apparatus Committee indicate the need to order a new Type 1 sooner rather than later as we have one due for replacement in three years.

Battalion Chief Stubendorff provided the following update:

Engine Re-Numbering:

It was approved for agencies in Santa Cruz County to participate in engine re-numbering. The department, along with Central Fire, Santa Cruz Fire, and Santa Cruz County Fire, is exploring the idea of restructuring engine and station numbering to align with other agencies across the state and avoid duplication. This could also address accountability concerns. There will be a cost associated with re-decaling the engines.

8. Correspondence

8.1 Letter from LAFCO regarding upcoming vacancies for two Special District seats

8.2 Thank you card from Irene Bustichi and Family

The Board received and filed the correspondence.

9. Request for Future Agenda Items

- Ad Hoc Committee for Reorganization Study/Shared Services

Director Whittle expressed interest in creating an ad-hoc committee to continue discussions regarding the reorganization/feasibility study and shared services with Central Fire.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Attest

Adam Cosner
Board President

Mark Correia
Board Secretary