



# 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 March 12, 2025

### 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, March 12, 2025 at the City of Scotts Valley Council Chambers. President Cosner called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

#### 1.2 Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

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

#### 1.3 Roll Call

Director(s) Present:	President Adam Cosner (AC) Vice President Kris Hurst (KH) Director Daron Pisciotta (DP) Director Mike Weave (MW)
Director(s) Absent:	Director Ron Whittle (RW)
Fire District Staff:	Chief Correia Battalion Chiefs McNeil and Stubendorff Administrative Services Manager Rodriguez

### 2. Public Comment (GC §54954.3)

Lani Faulkner: Introduced herself as a candidate for the LAFCO Special District Representative, highlighting her background in science, health, agriculture, and governance. She emphasized her commitment to protecting agricultural lands, water resources, and open space, particularly in light of the county's housing development requirements. She stressed the importance of historical context, collaboration, and communication in decision-making for fire and water services. Faulkner noted her 27 years of residency in Santa Cruz County, including time in San Lorenzo Valley and Happy Valley, and asked for consideration of her candidacy.

### 3. Special Presentation

#### 3.1 Presentation on Tax Increment Financing (TIF) and the Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District (EIFD) from Kosmont Companies

Joe Dieguez from Kosmont Companies presented to the board.



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The presentation covered the concept of an Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District (EIFD) as a potential solution for funding fire and wildfire prevention projects. Several key points were discussed, including the mechanism's ability to finance public infrastructure.

The board had mixed reactions to the presentation. Some directors expressed interest in the potential benefits of an EIFD, particularly as a funding mechanism. However, there were concerns about the complexity of the process, the long-term financial implications, and whether the city would be willing to participate.

Key concerns raised by the board included:

- How an EIFD would impact the district's ability to secure other funding.
- Whether the city's participation was likely and what their priorities would be.
- The timeline for formation and how long it would take to see financial benefits.
- The administrative burden and costs associated with forming and managing an EIFD.

The board agreed to revisit the topic in a future meeting once additional information was available.

#### 4. **Agenda Amendments (GC§54954.2) – Discussion/Action**

- Closed Session was not needed and therefore removed.

#### 5. **Consent Calendar**

5.1 Minutes: Approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes of February 12, 2025

5.2 Approve SVFPD Claims Disbursements for the Month of February 1, 2025 through February 28, 2025 in the Amount of:

Payroll and Benefits:	\$ 586,752.43
General Fund:	\$ 68,419.87
Capital Outlay:	\$ 3,877.50
SCHMIT:	\$ 0.00
TOTAL:	\$ 659,049.80

5.3 Approve Surplus List

**Board Comment/Questions: None**

**Public Comment: None**

**Motion to approve Consent Calendar Items 5.1-5.3 as presented was made by Director Pisciotta, seconded by Director Weaver, and approved unanimously by voice vote, with 4 ayes.**



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## 6. Discussion Items

### 6.1 La Madrona Fire Station Planning / Safety Measures to Address Seismic Concerns for Firefighters at Fire Station One, located at Erba Lane

Chief Correira shared this item remains a standing item for board discussion and provided the following update. The District recently received the geotechnical report for the La Madrona site. A key point of discussion was whether to move forward with the drawings and engineering for the fire station, with the potential to submit for permitting later this year. This consideration stems from upcoming building code changes that could increase project costs. The District has budgeted funds for this project since its inception but paused progress after the failure of the ballot measure. The board had no further discussion or questions at this time.

## 7. Action Items- Discussion/Action

### 7.1 Adopt Resolution 2025-03: Resolution Declaring Certain Vegetation and Certain Waste Matter a Public Nuisance Upon Real Property Within the District and Providing for the Abatement and Removal Thereof

#### **Board Comment/Questions:**

Director Pisciotta questioned why the resolution was needed if an ordinance was already approved in 2024. It was clarified that this is a procedural resolution referencing last year's ordinance, and it will be adopted annually. Additionally, if the District needs to conduct an abatement, a public hearing would be required. Approval of this resolution allows the District to issue an RFQ or RFP to secure a landscaping company for potential mitigation efforts.

**Public Comment: None**

**Motion to approve adopt Resolution 2025-03: Resolution Declaring Certain Vegetation and Certain Waste Matter a Public Nuisance Upon Real Property Within the District and Providing for the Abatement and Removal Thereof was made by Director Hurst, seconded by Director Weaver, and approved unanimously by voice vote, with 4 ayes.**

### 7.2 Vote on Special District Seats on LAFCO

#### **Board Comment/Questions:**

The board considered voting on special district seats for LAFCO, with clarification that while there was no requirement to vote, the item was placed on the agenda to allow for discussion and potential action. Executive Director Serrano from LAFCO had reached out to encourage participation, noting that only 20 special districts typically vote. After discussion, the board was in agreement to assign their vote for Jim Anderson for the regular LAFCO seat and Lani Faulkner for the alternate seat.



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## Public Comment:

Jim Anderson: A LAFCO board member since 2006, shared his experience in fire service, local government, and nonprofit management. He highlighted his involvement in key mergers and legislative efforts. Jim asked for the board's support in his re-election, emphasizing his institutional knowledge and commitment to LAFCO.

**Motion to endorse Jim Anderson for the regular LAFCO seat and Lani Faulkner for the alternate seat was made by Director Cosner, seconded by Director Pisciotta, and approved unanimously by voice vote, with 4 ayes.**

## 8. Board of Directors and Administrative Reports – Information/Discussion

### 8.1 Board of Directors Report – Directors

Director Hurst shared her experience attending the Strategic Planning workshop with Director Pisciotta, where they worked on creating new vision and value statements, as well as goals for the department. They appreciated the opportunity to engage with both the department staff and hear the input from community stakeholders, finding the experience challenging yet rewarding. Director Hurst thanked the board for empowering staff and involving the public in the process.

Director Cosner provided an update on ongoing negotiation discussions with the local union, noting that they have had two or three meetings. He mentioned they are making good progress, understanding each other better, and working through financial matters. Another meeting was scheduled, with hopes of wrapping up in two or three more meetings before moving forward with the next group negotiations.

### 8.2 Administrative Report – Chief Officers

Chief Correia provided the following update:

**Strategic Planning Workshop:** Chief Correia highlighted the success of the recent strategic planning workshop, which involved both public and internal stakeholders. The department's mission, vision, and values were refreshed, with the last update occurring in 1998. Four overarching goals were established for the next four years, and a draft document will be reviewed by March 27th. This will guide the department's work plan and future budget decisions.

**Wildfire Open House & Hazard Maps:** A wildfire open house event will be held on March 18th at the community center, where stakeholders will discuss Local Responsibility Area maps and hazard maps. The department's website had also been updated with the wildfire hazard maps, allowing the public to review and comment on them. Following the open house event, the plan will be to hold a public hearing to adopt them as an ordinance at the next meeting.



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**Finance Committee & Investment Opportunity:** The finance committee will meet at the end of the month to discuss investment opportunities through the California Special Districts Association's CLASS system.

**Reorganization Study Update:** The agencies involved in the study are scheduled to meet for its first meeting tomorrow. Scotts Valley has also offered to assist with the project's coordination and meeting logistics if needed.

## 9. Correspondence

- 9.1 Incident Follow-Up: Thank you card from Kohl B.
- 9.2 Incident Follow-Up: Email from Steve Forman (SJFD Retiree)
- 9.3 Strike Team Follow-Up: Thank you card from residents of Pasadena
- 9.4 Community Support: Card from Janie Hanson (Pasatiempo HOA)

Director Cosner expressed gratitude for the heartfelt cards and letters received in the correspondence section of the board packet. After attending a weekend fundraiser with fellow firefighters, he reflected on the emotional impact of the cards, particularly those acknowledging the department's work during difficult calls. Director Cosner praised the professionalism and respect shown by the department during these challenging situations, emphasizing that these gestures likely touched many lives. He closed by expressing pride in representing Scotts Valley Fire and thanking the staff for their continued dedication.

The Board received and filed the correspondence.

## 10. Request for Future Agenda Items

There were no requests for future agenda items.

## 11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Attest

Adam Cosner  
Board President

Mark Correira  
Board Secretary