



**MINUTES OF THE
SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING OF
April 8, 2026**

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, April 8, 2026 at the City of Scotts Valley Council Chambers. President Pisciotta called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and provided a teleconferencing notice for Director Weaver and Director Hurst.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

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

1.3 Roll Call

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

2. Public Comment (GC §54954.3)

Jim Frawley- County project lead for the regional radio system replacement, provided a brief update. He noted ongoing efforts to secure grant funding, continued technical coordination with fire agencies including a new coverage study, and recent dispatch center site visits. He also shared that an upcoming Brown Act executive committee meeting will address governance, including a potential JPA.

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

No amendments were made to the agenda.



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4. Consent Calendar

- 4.1 Minutes: Approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2026
- 4.2 Approve SVFPD Claims Disbursements for the Month of March 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026 in the Amount of:

Payroll and Benefits:	\$ 589,558.10
General Fund:	\$ 72,449.64
Capital Outlay:	\$ 00.00
SCHMIT:	\$ 4,211.02
TOTAL:	\$ 666,218.76

Public Comment: None

Motion to approve Consent Calendar Items 4.1-4.2 was made by Director Whittle, seconded by Director Pisciotta, and approved unanimously by roll call vote, 4-0.

5. Discussion Items

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

Battalion Chief McNeil reported that a water leak was discovered in the Station One kitchen, which led to the identification of mold behind cabinets and within the walls. Affected cabinets and countertops were removed to address the issue, and replacements have been ordered. In the interim, a temporary support has been installed for the sink.

Staff noted that additional repairs and improvements are being approached with the intent of maintaining the station for at least the next five years.

This item was presented for informational purposes only; no Board action was taken.

- 5.2 Regional Interoperable Next Generation (RING) Radio System

Chief Correira provided an update on the Regional Interoperable Next Generation (RING) radio system project and ongoing coordination with the County and fire agencies. He noted that the County is evaluating a VHF overlay option to allow analog radios to operate within the system, with coverage mapping and technical analysis underway.

Chief Correira reported that fire agencies continue to explore alternative options, including the potential development of a separate analog radio system. He stated that funding has been set aside by fire agencies to support this effort and that discussions are ongoing regarding



governance through a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) or District Council. An upcoming meeting will further address these items.

He also shared that a vendor meeting was held to explore system options; however, due to timing constraints, additional vendors are being considered.

Lastly, Chief Correira referenced correspondence from the Board of Supervisors and expressed interest in more direct engagement moving forward.

This item was presented for informational purposes only; no Board action was taken.

5.3 Ad Hoc Committee: Regionalization Study and Shared Services

Staff provided an update on recent Ad Hoc Committee meetings related to regionalization and shared services. It was reported that discussions have focused on opportunities for increased collaboration among agencies, including coordinated training schedules, shared training resources, and potential countywide training efforts.

Additional topics included exploring shared positions, such as fire prevention staff, as well as potential collaboration on IT services and systems. Operational coordination, including strike team staffing approaches, was also discussed.

Staff noted that the current fire prevention agreement with Central Fire is set to expire at the end of June. Central Fire will take the lead on revising the agreement, with consideration of expanding its scope beyond fire prevention and extending the term length. A revised agreement is expected to return to the Board for review and potential action.

This item was presented for informational purposes only; no Board action was taken.

6. **Action Items**

6.1 Interviews for the Open Seat on the Board of Directors

The Board interviewed applicant Zach Rainey for the vacant Board position. Mr. Rainey provided a brief overview of his background, community ties, and interest in serving. He noted a potential relocation decision expected in July but expressed willingness to serve in the interim.

The Board asked clarifying questions and discussed the candidate.

No action was taken.



6.2 Appointment of a Board Member to Vacant Position Pursuant to Government Code Section 1780

Public Comment: None

Motion to Appoint Zachary Raney to the Vacant Board Position was made by Director Weaver, seconded by Director Whittle was approved unanimously by roll call vote, 4-0.

Following the vote, Mr. Raney was administered the oath of office and seated as a member of the Board.

6.3 Memorandum of Understanding/Employment Contract: Fire Marshal

The Board considered approval of a separate employment contract for the Fire Marshal position. Staff reported that the Fire Marshal position has been removed from the Chief Officers MOU and established as a standalone agreement, with terms largely consistent with existing District agreements, adjusted for a 40-hour work schedule.

Key terms of the agreement, including salary adjustments, benefits, and term dates, were presented.

Public Comment: None

Motion to Approve the Fire Marshal agreement as presented was made by Director Hurst, seconded by Director Whittle and approved unanimously by roll call vote, 5-0.

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

7.1 Board of Directors Report – Directors

There were no reports from the Board of Directors.

7.2 Fire Chief / Administrative Report

Battalion Chief McNeil provided the following update:

Community Engagement: Thanked the community for participating in the national firetruck face-off competition, noting the District's apparatus advanced to the top four in the bracket-style contest.

Branciforte Station Community Room: Provided an update on the community room and bathroom project, reporting that electrical and plumbing work is underway, including ADA-compliant improvements. The project is progressing, with drywall installation anticipated soon; however, completion is expected to take several more months due to inspection timelines.



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Battalion Chief Stubendorff provided the following update:

Social Media Engagement: Reported on recent outreach efforts, including participation in the firetruck face-off competition and defensible space messaging. Noted that inspectors are conducting LRA inspections.

Station One Alerting System: Reported that lights and speakers have been installed in the upstairs bedrooms, improving response times, with acknowledgment of increased noise levels as a result.

Battalion Chief LoFranco provided the following update:

Staffing and Training: Reported that new hire William “Billy” Marotta has started and is progressing well through onboarding, with plans to transition to shift assignment soon. Also noted ongoing recruitment efforts, including recent off-cycle interviews for paid-call firefighters, with several qualified candidates under consideration.

Operations/Interagency Coordination: Reported that personnel assisted with an Arson Investigation Task Force response in Capitola, supporting partner agencies and participating in advanced investigative efforts. Acknowledged staff involvement in countywide training, including RT-130 Wildland Refresher, and recognized personnel for their continued participation and contributions at the regional level.

Fire Marshal Collins provided the following update:

Defensible Space Inspections: Reported that Central Fire defensible space inspectors will begin inspections in Scotts Valley, starting in the Lockwood Lane area and expanding to additional areas as time allows. Noted the potential to increase inspections to two days per week, compared to one day per week last year.

Fire Chief Correira provided the following update:

Staffing and Recruitment: Reported that new hire William Marotta has started and that an additional candidate has moved into the background process. Noted ongoing recruitment efforts and anticipated future vacancies. Also reported that two captains are currently out on workers’ compensation, with another on extended leave, and that temporary staffing adjustments have been made to maintain coverage.

Cost Recovery Program: Reported that the District has initiated a cost recovery program for motor vehicle collisions, with billing underway and initial reports forthcoming.

EMS and Regional Coordination: Reported that staff attended training related to ambulance transport and are evaluating potential EMS transport opportunities, including coordination with regional partners and vendors.

SCHMIT Team/Regional Collaboration: Provided an update on hazardous materials and arson investigation team participation, including current staffing levels, training, and ongoing discussions regarding future structure and regional collaboration.

Grants and Planning: Reported on a grant application for a fire modeling tool to support planning and response efforts.

Administration: Noted upcoming coordination with Board committees on budget



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development and policy updates, onboarding for the newly appointed Board member, and announced the upcoming Blue and Gold event scheduled for May 15.

8. Correspondence

8.1 Donation Follow-Up: Thank you letter from Baymonte Fundraising Team

8.2 Letter from Board of Supervisors regarding RING Radio System

The Board received and filed the correspondence.


9. Request for Future Agenda Items

There were no requests for future agenda items.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Attest


Daron Pisciotta
Board President


Mark Correia
Board Secretary