



**MINUTES OF THE
SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING OF
July 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, July 8, 2026 at the City of Scotts Valley Council Chambers. President Pisciotta called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

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) Vice President Mike Weaver (MW) Director Kris Hurst (KH) Director Ron Whittle (RW)
Director(s) Virtual at Alternate Location:	N/A
Director(s) Absent:	Director Zachary Raney (ZR)
Fire District Staff:	Chief Correia Battalion Chiefs McNeil and LoFranco Fire Marshal Collins Administrative Services Manager Rodriguez

2. Public Comment (GC §54954.3)

Jim Frawley provided an update regarding the Regional Interoperable Next Generation (RING) Radio System. He reported that the project website became operational on June 19 and will serve as a repository for project information and documents. He also provided updates regarding the upcoming detailed design review, development of alternative cost allocation models for participating fire agencies, ongoing legal review of the Joint Powers Authority framework, and the County's receipt of a \$4.5 million grant to support capital expenses associated with the RING project.

Marilyn Kuksht thanked the District for its efforts in completing the Branciforte Station Community Room project and recognized Battalion Chief McNeil for his work coordinating the project. She expressed appreciation for the improvements and the District's support of the community facility.



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

No amendments were made to the agenda.

4. Consent Calendar

4.1 Minutes: Approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes of June 10, 2026

4.2 Minutes: Approve Special Board Meeting Minutes of June 10, 2026

4.3 Approve SVFPD Claims Disbursements for the Month of Jun 1, 2026 through June 30, 2026 in the Amount of:

Payroll and Benefits:	\$ 766,478.47
General Fund:	\$ 23,172.10
Capital Outlay:	\$ 72,039.71
SCHMIT:	\$ 807.00
TOTAL:	\$ 862,497.28

4.4 Branciforte Advisory Commission Appointment: Timothy Dodds

4.5 Revision of Policy 2100: Policy for Conducting Board Meetings

4.6 Authorize Payment to Santa Cruz County Fire Agencies Insurance Group (SCCFAIG) in the amount of \$562,880 for Workers Compensation Insurance for 2026/27 Fiscal Year

4.7 Authorize Payment to CalPERS in the amount of \$1,584,956 for the Safety Plans' Unfunded Liability Annual Lump Sum Prepayment Option for 2026/27 Fiscal Year

4.8 Authorize Payment to McNeil and Company in the amount of \$77,732 for District Commercial Package and Umbrella Coverage, and Commercial Inland Marine Insurance for 2026/27 Fiscal Year

Public Comment: None

Motion to approve Consent Calendar Items 4.1-4.8 was made by Director Hurst, seconded by Director Whittle, and approved unanimously by voice vote, with 4 ayes.

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

Chief Correia reported that the Facilities and Equipment Committee recently discussed long-term funding options for the La Madrona Fire Station project. He noted that planning for the Erba Lane station remains on hold due to project costs and discussed potential funding



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sources, including development impact fees, motor vehicle collision cost recovery revenue, and a possible future parcel tax. Chief Correia also shared preliminary information regarding election timelines should the Board choose to pursue a funding measure. Board members expressed interest in continuing the discussion regarding future funding options.

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

5.2 Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District (EIFD) Update

Chief Correia provided an update on the proposed Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District (EIFD). He reported that the City and County are continuing to move forward with the process and have begun scheduling meetings and circulating draft bylaws and an infrastructure financing plan. Chief Correia noted that the draft plan identifies the proposed La Madrona Fire Station as a Tier 1 priority project and advised the Board that it will need to determine whether the District wishes to participate in the EIFD as the process moves forward.

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

5.3 Dedication of the Branciforte Fire Station in honor of the Barnes Family

Chief Correia presented a recommendation from the Branciforte Advisory Commission to dedicate the Branciforte Fire Station in honor of the Barnes Family in recognition of their longstanding support of the District and the Branciforte community. He highlighted the family's significant financial contributions, including funding for station improvements and the purchase of a Type 6 fire engine. Chief Correia explained that, if supported by the Board, staff would return at a future meeting with a resolution formally dedicating the Barnes Family Community Center and recognizing the family's contributions.

Board members expressed support for the recommendation and directed staff to return with a resolution for consideration at a future meeting.

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

6. **Action Items**

6.1 Addition of Roth-457 to Voya Account

Chief Correia presented a request to add a Roth 457 option to the District's existing Voya deferred compensation plan. He explained that the addition would provide employees with an additional retirement savings option at no cost to the District.

Public Comment: None



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Motion to Approve the Addition of Roth-457 to Voya Account as presented was made by Director Hurst, seconded by Director Whittle was approved unanimously by voice vote, with 4 ayes.

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

7.1 Board of Directors Report – Directors

Director Weaver commended Battalion Chief Stubendorff for preparing and distributing recent public information regarding a residential structure fire. He noted the value of providing timely information to the community and recognized responding crews for their successful firefighting efforts.

Director Pisciotta echoed Director Weaver's comments and shared positive feedback he received from a nearby resident who praised the firefighters' quick and effective response to the incident. He also recognized District personnel for their professionalism and successful outcome.

7.2 Fire Chief / Administrative Report

Battalion Chief LoFranco provided the following updates:

Training: Reported that District personnel recently completed live fire training at Loma Prieta and participated in an active assailant training exercise with local partner agencies at Soquel High School. He also reported that annual hose testing is underway and that a new probationary firefighter is scheduled to begin at the end of the month.

Operations: Recognized Acting Captain Kevin Laine and responding crews for their leadership and coordinated response during a recent residential structure fire, highlighting their effective incident command and operational performance.

Fire Marshal Collins provided the following updates:

Fire Prevention: Reported that fire prevention staff continue to manage a high volume of construction-related inspections throughout the District. To maintain the District's goal of inspecting every business occupancy in the District, Captain Neil Cahir is assisting while on light duty, along with support from Central Fire inspectors. She also reported that defensible space inspections are now underway in the Branciforte area.

Administrative Services Manager Rodriguez provided the following update:

Payroll System: Reported that the District's new payroll system is now live. Employees and Board members will soon receive access to the employee self-service portal, which will allow users to view pay information and update personal information, including tax withholdings and mailing addresses.



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Fire Chief Correia provided the following updates:

Administration: Reported that preparation of the written Chief's Report has been delayed due to ongoing challenges with pulling data from the District's new reporting system. Staff will resume providing the written report once the issues have been resolved.

Operations: Thanked the Board for recognizing District personnel involved in the recent Willis Road structure fire. Chief Correia commended Acting Captain Kevin Laine for his leadership during the incident and recognized responding crews for their quick actions in containing the fire and preventing more extensive damage.

Regional Communications: Reported that District representatives recently met with County Chief Executive Officer Nicole Coburn and Supervisor Martinez to discuss the Regional Interoperable Next Generation (RING) Radio System. The discussion focused on continued collaboration and potential communications system options moving forward.

8. Correspondence

8.1 Email from Michael Heffner regarding 125 Bethany Drive Project

The Board received and filed the correspondence.

9. Request for Future Agenda Items

Director Whittle requested that staff bring back the discussion item regarding additional shared services opportunities between Scotts Valley Fire District and Central Fire District.

10. Closed Session: Government Code §54957

10.1 Closed Session Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release (§ 54957)

10.2 Closed Session Conference with Legal Counsel – Threatened/Anticipated Litigation Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(2): 1 case

The District is in receipt of information concerning facts and circumstances that might result in litigation against the District which are known to a potential plaintiff concerning a FEHA Claim.

10.3 Public Employee Performance Evaluation Title: Fire Chief

At 7:30 p.m., President Pisciotta announced the Board would be going into Closed Session for the purpose to discuss items listed in 10.1-10.3.

11. Open Session: Government Code §54957.1

11.1 Report on closed session items 10.1-10.3



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At 8:51 p.m., the Board reconvened to Open Session and President Pisciotto reported on Items 10.1-10.3. Information was received, and direction was given. No action taken.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Attest

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daron Pisciotto".

Daron Pisciotto
Board President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Correia".

Mark Correia
Board Secretary