



**MINUTES OF THE
SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING OF
August 12, 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, August 12, 2026 at the City of Scotts Valley Council Chambers. President Pisciotta called the meeting to order at 6:00 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:	N/A
Fire District Staff:	Chief Correia Battalion Chiefs McNeil, Stubendorff, and LoFranco Fire Marshal Collins Administrative Services Manager Rodriguez

2. Public Comment (GC §54954.3)

Lawrence Miller spoke in support of Alexander Titus's appointment to the Board of Directors. He described Mr. Titus as caring, driven, and engaged in local civic matters, and highlighted his professional background in meteorology and business administration.

Elana Titus spoke in support of her husband, Alexander Titus, for the Director vacancy emphasizing his leadership, humility, and commitment to the Scotts Valley community. She highlighted his background in meteorology and business administration, as well as his ability to remain calm under pressure, collaborate with others, and approach decisions thoughtfully.



SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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

Sarah Bartos spoke in support of Alexander Titus for the Director vacancy, describing him as kind, hardworking, approachable, and dedicated to serving others. She emphasized his commitment to the Scotts Valley community.

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

Chief Correira recommended moving Action Items 6.1 and 6.2 ahead of the Discussion Items so that, if the Board appointed a new Director, the appointee could be sworn in and participate in the remainder of the meeting. The Board agreed to hear Items 6.1 and 6.2 immediately following the Consent Calendar.

4. Consent Calendar

4.1 Minutes: Approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes of July 8, 2026

4.2 Minutes: Approve Special Board Meeting Minutes of July 8, 2026

4.3 Approve SVFPD Claims Disbursements for the Month of July 1, 2026 through July 31, 2026 in the Amount of:

Payroll and Benefits:	\$ 2,607,217.21
General Fund:	\$ 207,942.17
Capital Outlay:	\$ 12,080.00
SCHMIT:	\$ 12,178.70
TOTAL:	\$ 2,839,418.08

4.4 Declaring District Property as Surplus

4.5 Resolution 2026-07 Dedicating the Branciforte Fire Station Community Room in honor of the Barnes Family

4.6 Second Amendment to the Fire Chief's Employment Contract: Section 4 Performance Evaluation

4.7 Policy 1610 Fire Facilities Impact Fee Policy

4.8 Addendum to the Marywood Lease Agreement between the District and the Pony People

Public Comment: None

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



SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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

6. Action Items 6.1-6.2

6.1 Interviews for the Open Seat on the Board of Directors

The Board interviewed Ed Jenkins and Alexander Titus for the vacant Board position. Each candidate responded to questions regarding their background, interest in serving the District, relevant skills and experience, understanding of the role and responsibilities of a Board Director, and ability to meet the District's meeting commitments. The Board also asked follow-up questions regarding each candidate's interest in serving beyond the interim appointment.

No action was taken under this item.

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

The Board discussed both candidates and expressed appreciation for their interest in serving the District and the qualifications each would bring to the Board. Board members discussed the importance of continuity and long-term commitment, noting Mr. Titus's intent to seek election and continue serving beyond the interim appointment.

Public Comment: None

Motion to Appoint Alexander Titus to the Vacant Board Position was made by Director Whittle, seconded by Director Hurst was approved unanimously by roll call vote, 4-0.

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

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 he had no new updates regarding the La Madrona Fire Station project. The Board agreed to continue carrying the item as a standing discussion item on future agendas.

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

5.2 Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District (EIFD) Update

Chief Correia and Director Whittle provided an update on the proposed EIFD and recent discussions with the City and County. They reported that the draft financing plan identifies the fire station as a Tier 1 project and that additional public meetings are scheduled before



SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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

participating agencies consider adoption of the plan. The Board is expected to consider the EIFD plan for approval at a future meeting.

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

5.3 Ad Hoc Committee: Regionalization Study and Shared Services

Chief Correia provided an update on ongoing shared services discussions with Central Fire and other local fire agencies, including opportunities for greater collaboration in EMS and training. He also reported that LAFCO had renewed discussions regarding a potential regionalization study involving Scotts Valley, Central, and Santa Cruz.

The Board expressed support for continuing the progress being made with Central Fire and agreed that pursuing another regionalization study was not appropriate at this time. Board members noted that previous studies had reached similar conclusions and expressed concern about the staff time and resources another study would require.

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

6. **Action Items 6.3-6.4**

6.3 Ad Hoc Committee – Regional Fire Districts Joint Powers Authority of Santa Cruz County

Chief Correia explained that, following establishment of the Regional Fire Districts Joint Powers Authority, the Board could establish an ad hoc committee to provide District representation as the JPA evaluates a potential analog radio system. He noted that the committee structure could be revisited in the future if the JPA's work develops into an ongoing regional effort.

Public Comment: None

Motion to Establish Ad Hoc Committee – Regional Fire Districts Joint Powers Authority of Santa Cruz County with Director Titus as primary representative and Director Weaver as the alternate was made by Director Weaver, seconded by Director Titus was approved unanimously by voice vote, with 5 ayes.

6.4 Resolution 2026-09: Adoption of the FY2026-FY2031 Capital Facilities & Equipment Plan

Chief Correia presented the FY2026-FY2031 Capital Facilities and Equipment Plan, explaining that it is a required planning document supporting the District's collection and use of fire facilities impact fees. He noted that the plan identifies anticipated capital facility,



SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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

equipment, and apparatus needs and will be reviewed and updated annually. Chief Correia clarified that adoption of the plan does not authorize expenditures, which remain subject to the District's annual budget process.

The Board discussed several items within the plan, including technology improvements and funding designated for the future fire station.

Public Comment: None

Motion to Approve Resolution 2026-09 as presented was made by Director Hurst, seconded by Director Titus was approved unanimously by voice vote, with 5 ayes.

7. Public Hearing/Action 7.1-7.2

7.1 Scheduled Public Hearing for the SVFPD Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2026/2027:

685010	General Fund:	\$19,776,966
685030	Capital Outlay Zone A:	\$ 2,350,578
685040	SCHMIT:	\$ 890,849

President Pisciotta opened the public hearing at 7:08 p.m. No public comments were received, and the public hearing was closed at 7:09 p.m.

7.2 Receive Public Comment and Adopt Resolution 2026-08: Resolution Adopting Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2026/2027

Chief Correia presented the final FY2026/2027 budget and summarized changes from the preliminary budget, including increases for shared services, overtime, and professional services, as well as adjustments to the Capital Outlay Fund. He reported an estimated General Fund balance of approximately \$7.3 million.

The Board discussed the budget, including an approximately \$200,000 revenue difference identified following the Branciforte consolidation that staff continues to evaluate with the County. Board members also commented positively on the District's fund balance and additional administrative support included in the budget.

Public Comment: None

Motion to Approve Resolution 2026-08 as presented was made by Director Whittle, seconded by Director Pisciotta was approved unanimously by voice vote, with 5 ayes.



SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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

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

8.1 Board of Directors Report – Directors

Director Weaver recognized District personnel for their response to a recent structure fire and thanked Battalion Chief Stubendorff for providing a thorough and informative press release. He commended the responding crews for adapting to changing conditions and successfully managing the incident.

8.2 Fire Chief / Administrative Report

Battalion Chief LoFranco provided the following updates:

Personnel and Training: Reported that District personnel are currently assigned to the Timber Fire and recognized staff assisting with the upcoming joint Paid Call Firefighter Academy with Central Fire. He also reported that the Captain promotional exam is scheduled for August 24 and provided updates regarding Target Solutions and potential hazmat training opportunities.

Battalion Chief McNeil provided the following update:

Branciforte Station: Reported continued progress on improvements to the Branciforte Fire Station, including completion of the bathroom remodel, exterior painting and drainage repairs. Interior flooring was approximately 80% complete, with the current phase of improvements expected to be completed within the next few weeks.

Battalion Chief Stubendorff provided the following updates:

Operations: Reported that the District responded to 254 calls during the previous month and 1,258 calls year-to-date. He also provided an update on the District's server upgrade, noting that the project is being aligned with Central Fire's systems and will provide additional capabilities for training and personnel resources.

Incident Response: Recognized District personnel and mutual aid partners from Central Fire and the City of Santa Cruz for their response to a recent significant residential structure fire. He specifically commended the first-arriving crews for their coordinated response and quick actions in containing the fire despite challenging conditions.

Fire Chief Correia provided the following updates:

Operations: Also recognized District personnel and mutual aid partners for their response to the recent structure fire and emphasized the importance of joint training and aligned operational practices. He also reported that the District currently has three employees off work due to workers' compensation injuries, which, combined with out-of-county assignments, is placing additional strain on staffing.

125 Bethany Drive: Reported that the District continues to receive inquiries regarding the proposed project and is consulting with legal counsel regarding the District's authority and responsibilities under AB 2011. He also discussed potential impacts to property tax and fire facilities impact fee revenues associated with similar developments.



SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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

Wildfire Risk Reduction: Reported that a Measure Q grant application submitted jointly by Scotts Valley and Central Fire for wildfire risk modeling was not selected for direct funding. However, the County is now considering funding a similar countywide project using Measure Q funds. Chief Correia noted that the proposed project could help identify high-risk areas, prioritize defensible space efforts, and support future wildfire resilience grant applications.

9. Correspondence

9.1 Community Assistance Follow-Up: Thank you email from Nancy Ball

The Board received and filed the correspondence.

10. Request for Future Agenda Items

There were no future agenda items requested.

11. Closed Session: Government Code §54957

11.1 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 or plaintiffs concerning compensation.

11.2 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.

At 7:29 p.m., President Pisciotta announced the Board would be going into Closed Session for the purpose to discuss items listed in 11.1-11.2.

12. Open Session: Government Code §54957.1

12.1 Report on closed session items 11.1-11.2

At 8:01 p.m., the Board reconvened to Open Session and President Pisciotta reported on Items 11.1-11.2. Information was received, and direction was given. No action taken.



SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Attest

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

Daron Pisciotto
Board President

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

Mark Correia
Board Secretary