

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 September 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, September 11, 2024 at the City of Scotts Valley Council Chambers. President Parker called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. and provided a teleconferencing notice for Director Cosner.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

President Parker called for the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a Moment of Silence in remembrance of those who lost their lives on 9/11.

1.3 Roll Call

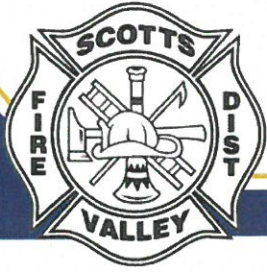
Director(s) Present:	President Joe Parker (JP) Director Kris Hurst (KH) Director Daron Pisciotta (DP)
Director(s) Virtual at Alternate Location:	Vice President Adam Cosner (AC)
Director(s) Absent:	N/A
Fire District Staff:	Chief Correira Battalion Chiefs McNeil and Stubendorff Administrative Services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

2. Public Comment (GC §54954.3)

- Becky Steinbruner thanked staff for updating the marquee at the former Branciforte Fire Station and suggested adding a referral link on the website to direct users to Scotts Valley Fire. She requested an update on the remaining Barnes Family Trust funds and whether the Branciforte Fire Advisory Group would meet again. Becky informed the board that the Santa Cruz County Fire Department Advisory Commission had been dissolved, with its final meeting next Wednesday, and that a new advisory group would be formed. She also urged board members to encourage a "No" vote on Measure Q, noting opposition from the County Fire Chiefs Association.

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

- None



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4. Consent Calendar

- 4.1 Minutes: Approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes of August 14, 2024
- 4.2 Approve SVFPD Claims Disbursements for the Month of July 1, 2024 through July 31, 2024 in the Amount of:

Payroll and Benefits:	\$ 754,582.99
General Fund:	\$ 79,354.72
Capital Outlay:	\$ 18,717.21
SCHMIT:	<u>\$ 5,861.94</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 858,516.86

- 4.3 Review SVFPD CalPERS Safety Plans Annual Valuation Reports as of June 30, 2023 (Classic and PEPRA)
- 4.4 Review SVFPD CalPERS Miscellaneous Plans Annual Valuation Reports as of June 30, 2023 (Classic and PEPRA)
- 4.5 Approve Permit/Inspection Fee Waiver Request for the Scotts Valley High School Haunted House

Board Comment/Questions: None

Public Comment: None

Motion to Approve the Consent Calendar Items 4.1-4.5 as presented

Move: KH

Second: DP

Roll Call Vote: 4-0

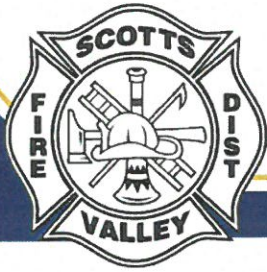
5. Action Items- Discussion/Action

- 5.1 Interviews for the Open Seat on the Board of Directors

Chief Correia provided an overview of the interview process for the open seat on the Board of Directors. He explained that the board would follow the same procedures used previously, with each candidate having a 10-minute interview consisting of six questions. After both interviews, the Board would deliberate. The recommendation is for the Board to interview each candidate with the questions provided at the Board Meeting, Nominate and vote on one of the candidates to fill the vacant Board Position.

The Board interviewed the following candidates for the Board Director Vacant Position:

- Michael Weaver
- Philip Hover-Smoot



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The Board discussed the candidates and agreed they were looking for someone who was easy to communicate with, strong in conversation, confident, and had relevant experience to complement the current Board. They acknowledged Michael Weaver's extensive community service and background in fire and police services, alongside Philip Hoover Smoot's expertise in real estate and law. Given the high caliber of both candidates, the Board found this a very difficult decision, ultimately opting to appoint Hover-Smoot to the short-term seat while recognizing that both candidates would have the opportunity to run in the upcoming election.

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

Motion to Appoint Philip Hover-Smoot to the Vacant Board Position

Move: AC

Second: KH

Roll Call Vote: 4-0

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

6.1 Board of Directors Report – Directors

- KH reported that a meeting was held with the former Union President in an advisory capacity to assist in preparing documents related to changes in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). This meeting focused on the Union's desire to increase membership in the local and involved discussions around necessary language changes.

6.2 Administrative Report – Chief Officers

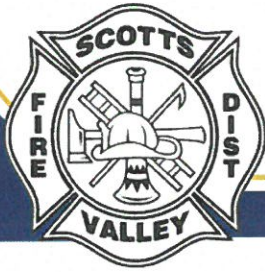
Chief Correia provided the following updates:

Measure S Updates: There have been ongoing Measure S meetings, noting the involvement of staff in the Yes on Measure S Committee, which includes community residents, Union members, and elected officials. He highlighted recent endorsements from the North Santa Cruz County Democrats Association and mentioned participation in community outreach events, such as the Art, Wine, and Beer Festival and the Multicultural Fair, as the election approaches in 54 days.

Incident Reports: The Chief reported on several incidents over the past month, including a technical rescue and a fire on Mount Herman, emphasizing that overall activity has been fairly busy.

Community Engagement: Chief Correia mentioned the recognition of public safety groups by Holy Cross School on Patriots Day, where students presented thank-you cards. He also announced the upcoming State of the City address scheduled for September 19 at 4 PM, with a presentation time limit of 10 minutes.

Board Actions: The Chief raised the question of whether the Board preferred to schedule a special meeting to discuss parameters with legal counsel regarding the Union briefing or to address it at the next regular meeting in October. He noted that



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he would coordinate with the Board President to administer the oath of office to new Board member Phillip Hoover-Smoot upon his return from being out of town.

Heating and Air Conditioning Unit Update: The heating and air conditioning unit in Fire Administration failed on Tuesday, and replacement options are being explored, with an estimated cost of \$17,000. Even with Measure S funding, the unit must be replaced since the department will occupy the space for another year.

Battalion Chief McNeil provided the following update:

Branciforte Bathroom Remodel:

The planning is underway for the Branciforte bathroom remodel, with a meeting scheduled with the architect in about a week to discuss the scope of work and details. The remodel will include a community room, living quarters, and a separate public restroom.

Battalion Chief Stubendorff provided the following updates:

Summer Operations Update:

During the summer, our crews were actively deployed for approximately eight weeks across Northern California, with the ongoing wildfire situation in Southern California suggesting potential future deployments.

Chief Lofranco's Recognition:

Chief Lofranco received an extraordinary award for his heroic actions in saving a fellow firefighter during the Park Fire.

Radio Communication Issues:

The department is currently addressing issues with the county-wide radio system, which have hampered effective communication between the teams and the dispatch center. Chief Correia and the administrative staff are working on possible solutions to improve the situation.

Administrative Services Manager Rodriguez provide the following update:

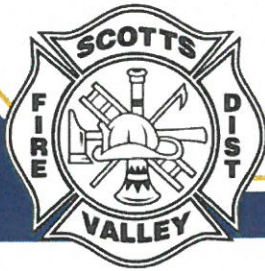
Recognition of Alicia Walton's Retirement:

The board recognized Alicia Walton for her official retirement as of September 3rd. Although she was not in attendance, the District extended its gratitude for her invaluable contributions to the team and wished her all the best in her retirement.

- 6.3 Copy of email and supporting documents dated August 14, 2024 hand delivered at previous board meeting (August 14) from Becky Steinbruner

Public Comment:

- Becky Steinbruner shared that Central Fire District's transition to district-based elections cost significantly less than previously reported, at about \$17,000, covering the entire process. She encouraged the board to consider making the transition to district-based elections.



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The Board received and filed the correspondence.

7. Request for Future Agenda Items

- Review parameters with legal counsel regarding discussions about the MOU and Union membership at the October meeting.

8. Closed Session: Government Code §54957

8.1 Conference with Legal Counsel – Potential Litigation

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code Sections 54956.9(d)(2) and 54956.9(e)(1): 1 case

At 6:58 p.m., President Parker announced the Board would be going into Closed Session for the purpose to discuss item listed in 9.1.

9. Open Session: Government Code §54957.1

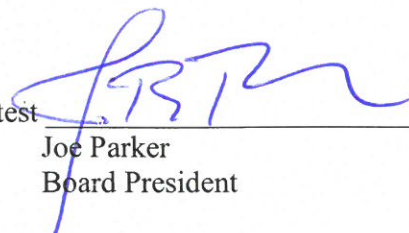
9.1 Report on closed session

At 7:19 p.m., the Board reconvened to Open Session and President Parker reported on Item 9.1. Information was received, and direction was given. No action taken.

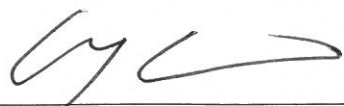
10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Attest



Joe Parker
Board President



Mark Correia
Board Secretary