



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 November 13, 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, November 13, 2024 at the City of Scotts Valley Council Chambers. President Parker called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

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

1.3 Roll Call

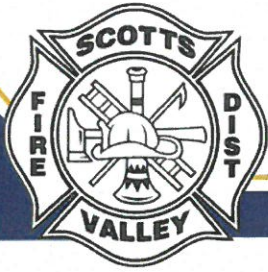
Director(s) Present:	President Joe Parker (JP) Vice President Adam Cosner (AC) Director Philip Hover-Smoot (PHS) Director Kris Hurst (KH) Director Daron Pisciotta (DP)
Director(s) Virtual at Alternate Location:	N/A
Director(s) Absent:	N/A
Fire District Staff:	Chief Correira Battalion Chiefs LoFranco,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

2. Special Presentations

2.1 Presentation to Joe Parker for his public service as a Board of Director

Chief Correira recognized Director Parker for his dedicated service to the Board, noting his over 40 years in the fire service and his tenure on the Board from 2018 to 2024. He highlighted Parker's roles on the Finance and Personnel Committees, his work as a co-negotiator for the current MOUs, and his service as Board President in 2021 and 2024. Chief Correira presented Director Parker with a plaque in appreciation of his public service.

Director Parker expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve the District and work with his colleagues.



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3. Public Comment (GC §54954.3)

- No public comment.

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

- The Closed Session for this meeting was removed.

5. Consent Calendar

5.1 Minutes: Approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes of October 9, 2024

5.2 Approve SVFPD Claims Disbursements for the Month of October 1, 2024 through October 31, 2024 in the Amount of:

Payroll and Benefits:	\$ 799,163.12
General Fund:	\$ 64,092.40
Capital Outlay:	\$ 37,423.00
SCHMIT:	\$ 4,419.01
TOTAL:	\$ 905,097.53

5.3 Accept and File the SVFPD Financial Audit for 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024

5.4 Accept and File the Branciforte Fire Protection District Financial Audit for 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Ending December 10, 2023

5.5 Accept the CERBT and CEPPT Account Update Summary as of September 30, 2024

Board Comment/Questions: None

Public Comment: None

Motion to approve Consent Calendar Items 5.1-5.5 as presented was made by Director Cosner, seconded by Director Hurst, and approved unanimously by voice vote, with 5 ayes.

6. Discussion Items

6.1 Marywood Property Lease

Chief Correira provided the Board with an update on activities related to the Marywood Property Lease. The Marywood property, located on Glenwood Way, has been leased for over 20 years. Mr. Clayton, the current tenant, notified the District that he plans to end the lease on December 1st. He also mentioned that Susie Powers, who runs a nonprofit called The Pony People, is interested in leasing the property. The nonprofit works with disabled and foster children, providing them with the opportunity to interact with and care for ponies.



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Staff consulted with legal counsel, who recommended considering a term-limited lease rather than an evergreen lease. Ms. Powers is interested in a 5-year lease. The Finance Committee has reviewed the proposal and recommends working with Ms. Powers to draft a 5-year lease for Board consideration.

The Board agreed to have staff move forward with drafting a lease agreement with Ms. Powers and will review it at a future meeting for approval.

6.2 La Madrona Fire Station Planning

Chief Correira reported that Measure S, with 12,000 votes counted, has 61.54% support, but the district is trailing by 612 votes and it is unlikely to pass. Proposition 5, which aimed to lower the approval threshold, is also likely to fail. The marketing firm, Tripepi Smith, noted that similar outcomes were seen statewide, likely due to the number of items on the ballot rather than a lack of support for the fire station.

With the measure not expected to pass, Chief Correira suggested exploring next steps, including short- and long-term solutions, and noted that two new board members will join next month to contribute to the discussion.

Director Pisciotta suggested exploring lease revenue bonds as a potential financing option, sharing a 2017 document for reference.

Director Parker suggested revisiting a previous option to improve conditions at the headquarters station, potentially making it seismically safe and considering the sale of the La Madrona property as part of the plan.

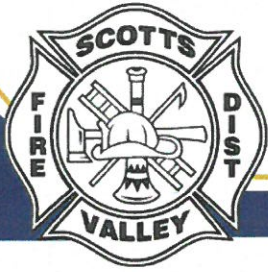
Director Hurst emphasized the importance of addressing the seismic safety issues at the fire station promptly and suggested prioritizing the matter in January, either through an ad hoc or larger committee, to ensure personnel understand that a solution will be pursued despite Measure S not passing.

Chief Correira stated that staff has paused work with the design company and a press release focusing on firefighter safety will be issued the following day. He also noted media inquiries and the Board's consensus to revisit the topic in January to prioritize firefighter safety.

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

7.1 Board of Directors Report – Directors

- None



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7.2 Administrative Report – Chief Officers

Chief Correira provided the following updates:

Missing Fire Helmet:

A fire helmet of one of our staff fell off a fire apparatus. The helmet has not yet been located.

Ambulance Transport Staffing Issues:

There is an ongoing issue with AMR ambulance staffing. Chief Correira and Battalion Chief Stubendorff are working on a strategy to address AMR's challenge to staff vehicles, which has impacted fire services by requiring paramedics to be reassigned from engines to ambulance units. The situation is being monitored, and further action may be needed.

Schmidt Team Program:

The department is considering two options: transferring management of the program to the county or exploring alternative hazardous materials response options in Santa Cruz County. Research and brainstorming are still in the early stages, and the Board will be kept apprised of developments.

Workers' Compensation Program:

The department is reviewing its workers' compensation program. After meeting with several vendors and consulting with the SCCFAIG group, the possibility of switching to a new provider is being explored. The goal is to achieve cost savings for the district.

Congratulations to Newly Elected Directors:

Chief Correira congratulated Director Pisciotta on his re-election to the Board, as well as Mike Weaver and Ron Whittle on their election.

Thanks to Director Hover-Smoot:

Chief Correira thanked Director Hover-Smoot for his valuable contributions and perspective during his time on the Board.

Battalion Chief LoFranco provided the following update:

Training Update:

Last month, personnel participated in a live fire vegetation management exercise at Butano State Park, hosted by Cal Fire, which helped finalize engine boss task books for additional crew members. He thanked State Parks and Cal Fire for the opportunity.

Battalion Chief Stubendorff provided the following update:

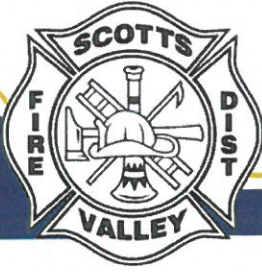
Status of Fire Season:

Fire season is not officially over, but recent rain and cooler weather signal its end. District crews responded to two significant October fires, including the Summit Fire, where they were first on scene. Burn season may begin December 1.

Administrative Services Manager Rodriguez provided the following update:

CalPERS Conference:

CalPERS Educational Forum was attended in October by administrative staff, gaining updates on health, retirement, and pensions.



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8. Correspondence

8.1 Letter request from Colly Gruczelak, President of Damien's Ladder

Chief Correira discussed potential collaboration with Damien's Ladder to support the Falls Prevention Program and provide home safety equipment for seniors. The organization also expressed interest in partnering on the chipping program for low-income housing. The district's donation account, could help fund these efforts. The district will keep the Board updated should the partnership move forward.

The Board received and filed the correspondence.

9. Request for Future Agenda Items

- None

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Attest

Handwritten signature of Adam Cosner in black ink.

Adam Cosner
Board Vice President (Acting President)

Handwritten signature of Mark Correira in black ink.

Mark Correira
Board Secretary