

Stanislaus County Fire Authority
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 10, 2019 – 8:30 a.m.
(Rescheduled from December 6, 2018)
Regional Fire Training Center – Modesto, CA



1. Pledge of Allegiance:

Chief Ernst called the meeting to order at 0836 hrs. The flag was saluted.

2. Roll Call:

The follow agency representatives /alternates were present:

Burbank Paradise Fire	Chief Golling
Cal-Fire	Absent
City of Ceres	Absent
Denair Fire	Chief Mundello
Hughson Fire	Absent
Keyes Fire	Absent
City of Modesto	Chief Ernst
Mountain View Fire	Absent
City of Newman	Chief Bowen
City of Oakdale	Absent
Oakdale Rural Fire	Absent
City of Patterson	Chief Gregory
Salida Fire	Absent
Stanislaus Consolidated Fire	Absent
Stanislaus County Fire Warden	Chief Murdock
City of Turlock	Chief Talloni
Turlock Rural Fire	Absent
Westport Fire	Chief Brush
West Stanislaus Fire	Chief Gregory
Woodland Ave. Fire	Chief Passalaqua

Also attending the meeting: Eric Holly, Randy Crook, Chad Homme, Francine Gutierrez, Stanislaus County OES / Fire Warden; Michael Lillie, Modesto Fire; Chief White, City of Turlock Fire; Craig Lundquist, Denair Fire; Ron Cripe, RFTC; Dave Hutchinson, Dustin Bruley, Fire Investigation Unit; Lance Doyle, Jim Whitworth, MVEMSA; Wendy Silva, Lisa Frazer, SR911; Rich Silva, VRECC; Les Putnam, PG&E

3. Public Comment:

None

4. Approval of the September 6, 2018 Minutes:

Chief Passalaqua made a motion to approve the minutes. Chief Murdock seconded the motion. Motion passed.

5. Staff/Committee Reports:

5.1 Fire Investigation Report

Dave Hutchinson reported a total of 187 investigations during the reporting period of August-October 2018: 107 structure fires, 39 vehicle fires, 19 vegetation, 22 trash/dumpster/other. The total Modesto Fire Department investigations - 96; County agencies - 91. A full report sorted by department/district was included in the agenda packet.

Dave announced his appointment to the NFPA Tech Standards Committee. He recognized the daily work of Dustin Bruley and Ed Sears in creating an industry-standard FIU. He also announced his retirement has been postponed until March 2020. He noted the FIU is one person/injury/illness away from not being able to staff the FIU 24 hours a day.

5.2 Fire Prevention Report

Fire Marshal Randy Crook reported the Fire Prevention Bureau has completed initial inspections of all 55 schools. 40-50 have passed final inspection now. Hotels will be next. Vegetation complaints continue to come in and staff are posting and following up with all complaints. The FPB continues to assist Stanislaus Consolidated Fire and Oakdale Rural Fire with prevention in their respective areas. The recruitment for a new Fire Inspector was completed and Shane Hawkins was the successful candidate. A full report was included in the agenda packet.

5.3 Fire Communication Report

Chad Homme reported he has 3 departments left to finish the radio reprogramming. The RAWS annual maintenance has been completed. The CalFire 2019 reload has not started yet. A full report was included in the agenda packet.

5.4 Fire Training Report

Ron Cripe reported there is a new Facility Technician, Daniel Mila. Daniel is a former RFTC Fire Academy graduate and Keyes Fire member. The RFTC was closed during November due to poor air quality from state-wide fires. Courses had to be adjusted to meet the requirements. A full report was included in the agenda packet.

Eric Holly reported there will be Wildland training in 2019. Tentative dates are June 7, 8, 9 and 10. The training will take place at Woodward Reservoir and will be similar to past Wildland trainings to include hose lay, handline, etc. More information to come. Also, CICC'S "S" classes will be hosted again this year by Elite Command.

5.5 Administration and Support Report

Francine Gutierrez gave a verbal report on the Fire Service Fund budget. She stated funds are tracking on budget. If agencies have any requests for reimbursements for Target Solutions and Active 911, get those to Francine as soon as possible.

5.6 Business Plan Committee Report

The Business Plan Committee did not meet.

6. Agenda Items:

6.1 Approval of the Fire Service Fund (FSF) Fund Balance Policy

Chief Passalacqua made a motion to approve the Policy with the correction of the wording “not on-going operational expenditure” be added to Section 2.b. Chief Murdock seconded the motion. Motion passed.

6.2 Discussion of Priorities for the 2019/2020 Business Plan and Provide Direction to the Business Plan Committee. No voting action requested.

There was discussion in the areas of:

Administrative staff –Requesting funding to provide daily administrative support. A scope of work and cost analysis will be provided at the special meeting in February for consideration.

FIU – Authorization of funding overtime was requested

Grant Writer – To consider identifying a grant writer to capture missed grant opportunities for fire service

Training – Any need for different / additional courses

Communication – Purchase of radios

A Special Meeting of the Fire Authority was scheduled for February 28, 2019, 6:30 p.m. at the Turlock Public Safety Facility, 244 N. Broadway to continue the discussion of the 2019/2020 Business Plan. The Business Plan will be presented for vote at the March 7, 2019 Regular Meeting.

7. Announcements:

7.1 The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for March 7, 0830, Regional Fire Training Center

7.2 The 2018 Conflict of Interest (700 Forms) will be completed electronically this year. Everyone required to file will receive an email from cobsupport@gmail.com with information on how to file. If there are questions, feel free to contact Melba or the number provided in the email.

Meeting adjourned at 0934 hrs.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melba Hibbard
Stanislaus County Fire Warden’s Office

