

Stanislaus County Fire Authority
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 7, 2017 – 8:30 a.m.
Regional Fire Training Center – Modesto, CA

1. Pledge of Allegiance:

Chief Passalaqua called the meeting to order at 0835 hrs. The flag was saluted.

2. Roll Call:

The follow agency representatives /alternates were present:

Burbank Paradise Fire	Chief Golling
Cal-Fire	Chief Chew
City of Ceres	Toby Wells
Keyes Fire	Chief Klevmyr
City of Modesto	Chief Lillie
City of Newman	Chief Bowen
City of Oakdale	Chief Weigele
Oakdale Rural Fire	Chief Weigele
Salida Fire District	Chief Skiles
Stanislaus Consolidated Fire	Chief Weigele
Stanislaus County Fire Warden	Chief Skiles
Woodland Ave. Fire	Chief Passalaqua
West Stanislaus Fire	Chief Bowen

Also attending the meeting: Eric Holly, Randy Crook, Chad Homme, Francine Gutierrez, Stanislaus County OES / Fire Warden; Ron Cripe, RFTC; Dave Hutchinson, DA / Fire Investigation Unit; Chief Tietjen, Modesto Fire; Richard Murdock, Jim Whitworth, MVEMSA; Rich Scola, Ceres Fire; Tim Spears, Stanislaus Consolidated Fire

3. Public Comment:

None.

4. Approval of June 1, 2017 Minutes:

Chief Skiles made a motion to approve the minutes. Chief Chew seconded the motion. Motion passed.

5. Staff/Committee Reports

5.1 Fire Investigation Report

Dave Hutchinson reported a total of 209 investigations during the reporting period of May-July 2017: 116 structure fires, 31 vehicle fires, 33 vegetation, 29 trash/dumpster/other and 2 internal FIU. A full report was included in the agenda packet.

5.2 Fire Prevention Report

Fire Marshal Randy Crook reported there have been 90 weed complaints through mid-May. Most properties have been cleaned by owner. There have been no forced cleans to date. Inspections of 54 schools will begin soon. Currently like suppression system plans, building plans will be accepted electronically by the end of the 2017 calendar year. Fire Prevention Week is October 8-14, 2017. A full report was included in the agenda packet.

5.3 Fire Communication Report

Chad Homme reported SR911 deployed a new version of CAD on August 8, 2017. There are still some issues to resolve before pushing it out to everyone. MDCs are running slow and are now 6 years old and quickly approaching the end of their lifespan. A replacement plan needs to be developed by agencies. Tablets can replace the Toughbooks and run faster and are less expensive. Work continues on the Simulcast project. The Sheriff's Office has converted to VHF P25 digital radio system. It is working well with better audio quality and less background noise. Fire will need to switch to P25 digital in the future. RMS products are being evaluated to replace Zoll FireRMS. A committee will be formed to compare other products. Everbridge is available to all agencies. A full report was included in the agenda packet.

The possibility of applying for a countywide portable radio grant was brought up from the floor. Agencies are reporting radios frequently being sent in for repair and no spare parts available. Radios are extremely expensive to replace so a grant would be helpful.

5.4 Fire Training Report

Ron Cripe reported the Tower at the RFTC will be upgraded starting next week. An EMS skills lab will be functional in two weeks. It is a permanent lab set up for classes and can be used by fire agencies to train and refresh EMS skills. A full report was included in the agenda packet.

5.5 Administrative Report

Francine Gutierrez gave a verbal report on the Less than County-Wide for FY 2017-2017. There was a savings of \$244,000 due to increased revenues in the County tax roll and savings in Fire Prevention and Fire Investigations Unit. She encouraged agencies who have not participated in the special support services to submit requests as soon as possible. The total fund balance at the end of this FY is \$2,215,750. A written report was made available after the meeting.

Chief Skiles encouraged program leads to begin thinking about next fiscal year and putting together the Business Plan by March 2018. The County going to a 2-year budget cycle should not affect the annual Fire Authority Business Plan.

6. Agenda Items

Nothing noted.

7. Anouncements

- 7.1 The next regular meeting is scheduled for December 7, 2017, 8:30 a.m.,
Regional Fire Training Center

Meeting adjourned at 0854 hrs.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melba Hibbard
Stanislaus County Fire Warden's Office