

Stanislaus County Fire Authority
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 6, 2010– 8:30 a.m.
Regional Fire Training Center – Modesto, CA

1. Pledge of Allegiance:

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

2. Roll Call:

The follow agency representatives were present:

Cal Fire SCU	Chief Barrett
City of Ceres	Chief Nicholes
Denair Fire	Chief Doerksen
Keyes Fire	Chief Watt
City of Modesto	Chief Miguel
City of Oakdale	Chief Botto
Oakdale Fire District	Chief Botto
City of Patterson	Chief Hall
Salida Fire	Chief Skiles
Stanislaus Consolidated Fire	Chief Mayotte
Stanislaus County	Chief Jackson
City of Turlock	Chief Lohman
Westport Fire	Chief Barindelli
Woodland Ave.	Chief Passalqua
West Stanislaus Fire	Director Kimball

Also attending the meeting: Ken Slamon and Mimi DeSimoni, Stanislaus County Fire Warden's Office; Dave Murphy, Thomas Morton, MVEMSA; Mike Kraus, Sean Slamon, Hugo Patino, Mike Payton, Alicia Hinshaw, Modesto Fire; Julie Henriques, Cal Fire-TCU; John Burton, John Borges, Burtons Fire Apparatus; Paul Gibson, Stanislaus County; Lucien Thomas, SR-911 .

3. Public Comment: None

4. Minutes: Chief Mayotte made a motion to approve the minutes of the April meeting, Director Kimball seconded the motion. Motion passed.

5. Staff Committee Reports

5.1 Management, Fiscal, Legislative- Mimi reported on the recent quarterly Fire District Finance Administrative Managers meeting and the topics that were discussed.

Minutes from the meeting were distributed. Chief Skiles reported on legislative actions affecting the fire service including driver-operator testing, and the Emergency Response Initiative. There is a current bill that would change requirements for testing and training for firefighter endorsement.

5.2 Investigations: Chief Payton reported that March was a busy month. There were 4 arrests in the Mountain View Fire District and 1 in West Stanislaus.

- 5.3 Fire Prevention: Chief Slamon reported that the County will only be adopting the State Code. If agencies want a more restrictive Code in their district, they should help provide input on the amendments. There will be a workshop on September 28/29 at Harvest Hall on residential sprinklers and plan checking them. The first 4 hours will be free. More information will be coming out soon.
- 5.4 Communications – Chad reported on several projects he is involved in, including the AFG grant, CAD implementation, regional fire RMS and USA Mobility. A report was distributed.
- 5.5 Training- Chief Skiles reported The All Risk Exercise that was coming up on 5/8, NWCG and CICCIS requirements. There will be much more information available at the next Training Officers meeting. He also mentioned the Stanislaus Firefighter Training Symposium sponsored by the Modesto Fire in September. Priority registration for Stanislaus County firefighters will close June 1st and it will be opened up to outside agencies. He noted that it will be a great training opportunity.

Agenda Items

- 6.1 **Operational Area Coordinator Report:** Chief Jackson asked all chiefs to review the dispatch matrix that was sent out, make corrections and return them to the Fire Warden's Office. Also needed is the status of all apparatus so the resources can be updated in ROSS. There was ROSS training this week at LifeCOM, XSJ also attended. CalFire TCU has updated their local agreement, Chief Jackson encouraged Strike Team Leaders to have a copy of all agreements when they are deployed.
- 6.2 **2010-2011 Business Plan:** A draft of the proposed 2010-2011 Fire Authority Business Plan was distributed for review. Chief Skiles requested that any comments or questions be forwarded to him or Mimi. The Plan will be considered for approval at the June meeting.
- 6.3 **Fire Frequency Sharing (FFS) / Fire Communication Policy:** Chief Skiles gave a brief overview of the history of the FFS policy. In the Communications Advisory Committee meetings there has been discussion regarding the incidents where an agency does not respond to a dispatch. The practice in 2007 was: send a neighboring agency. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the differences between agencies and types of calls. With the change in CAD coming up it was agreed that no changes to run cards would be made for 3-4 months. Chief Watt made a motion that if an agency is dispatched two times to an EMS call with no response, SR911 is to notify LifeCOM that fire will not be responding; If an agency is dispatched two times to any other type of call with no response, SR911 shall dispatch the closest neighbor agency. There was a roll call vote, with all voting in favor with one member abstaining.
- 6.4 **Proposed Building Department Fees:** The Building Department has proposed charging fire districts a 1% administrative fee for collecting their Developer Fees and a 2-1/2 % fee to the districts when the applicant uses a credit card. Some of the districts have written letters to the Board and the Director of Community Development protesting these fees. There was agreement that fire agencies should make a united stand at the public hearing to protest the proposed fees. The Board of Supervisors meeting will be May 18 in the evening.

- 6.5 Regional Fire Records Management System:** Paul Gibson, the head of County IT, and Chief Skiles provided information on this project. The new CAD didn't appear to have an interface with Firehouse which some of the agencies in the County use. Other agencies do not have any records management system for reporting. This project would use the Zoll fire records management system. It would provide for the purchase of a new robust server and licenses with public facilities fees and allow as many agencies to participate as possible. Using a terminal server and the internet would make maintenance and updates more manageable. Dial up wouldn't be needed because Zoll will have real time information populated in reports. In order to prepare a report to request funding, a final number of agencies and licenses are needed. Chad will collect the responses by end of May.
- 6.6 Election Committee:** Chief Mayotte reported that he had not been in contact with any member willing to take the Chairman or Vice-Chairman positions at this time. He stated that the current officers have done a good job, and that he supported them continuing in office for another year. According to the by-laws nominations were to be opened at this meeting. Chief Lohman nominated Chief Skiles for the Chairman position, Chief Skiles nominated Chief Passalaqua for the Vice-Chairman position and Mimi DeSimoni as the Clerk/Secretary. Director Kimball seconded the nominations. Chief Barrett made a motion that the nominations be closed. There being only one candidate nominated for each position, the Chairman declared the elections. Those officers will remain in position until June 30, 2011.
- 6.7 Regional EMS Coordinator -** The Modesto Fire EMS Coordinator provided a presentation on the projects have been done, and those that are underway, to benefit the fire service in this county. Chief Miguel reported that the EMS Coordinator position at Modesto Fire has been reduced to a 1000 hour position due to funding. The Coordinator has spent a great deal of time with many of the fire agencies in the County and has done much work on their behalf. Modesto needs her at least ¾ time, but that will cause her to be unavailable to other agencies. Chief Miguel proposed that the Fire Authority contract for part of the Coordinator position's salary. Chief Botto questioned the sustainability of the current services provided with the funding available. Chief Skiles noted that on July 1, 2011 contracts for Fire Investigations and Fire Prevention will be re-evaluated. There was agreement among several Chiefs that the services provided by the EMS Coordinator were very important and that they have been and will continue to be used. Chief Passalaqua inquired on whether the Coordinator would be available to Woodland Ave. Fire, and would he have input on the projects assigned? Chief Watt asked whether the EMS Coordinator would help volunteer agencies gain compliance? Chief Miguel said that appreciated the comments and discussion and said that the services would be available to all the agencies. Chief Mayotte made a motion to fund the position at no more than \$40,000, with a one year contract using fund balance savings from the 2009-2010 fiscal year, and to provide service level priorities for the 2010-2011 fiscal year. Director Kimball seconded the motion. The following discussion included Chief Barrett's recommendation that it be noted that this service contract was not based on a Request for Proposal as other services had. Chief Botto suggested that projects for the EMS Coordinator should be prioritized based on input

from the Fire Authority. A roll call vote was taken and reflected a unanimous vote of support, with the Fire Warden's Office abstaining from the discussion and the vote.

Meeting was adjourned at 1100 hrs.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mimi DeSimoni
Stanislaus County Fire Wardens Office