

Stanislaus County Fire Authority
Meeting Minutes
Board of Directors Meeting
April 6, 2006
Regional Fire Training Center
1220 Fire Science Lane, Modesto, CA

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chief Skiles called the meeting to order at 0905 hrs. The flag was saluted.

ROLL CALL: The following agency representatives were present:

Chief Les Alderson	Burbank Paradise Fire District
Chief Dan Davis	City of Ceres
Chief Henry Benavides	Keyes Fire District
Chief Mike Kraus	Modesto Fire
Chief Rob Hoyer	Oakdale Rural Fire District
Chief Bill Kinnear	Patterson Fire Department
Chief Dale Skiles	Salida Fire District
Chief Steve Mayotte	Stanislaus Consolidated Fire District
Deputy Fire Warden Ray Jackson	Stanislaus County
Chief John Barindelli	Westport Fire District
Director Bob Kimball	West Stanislaus Fire District
Chief Mike Passalacqua	Woodland Ave Fire District

Also present were: Kim Morante, John Silveira, Paul Spani, and Jim Weigand of Stanislaus Consolidated Fire District, Jack Doering, Stanislaus County Counsel, Director Curtis King of Burbank Paradise Fire District, Director Walt Luihn, Oakdale Rural Fire District, Chief Mike Payton, Modesto Fire and Mimi DeSimoni, Stanislaus County Fire Warden's Office.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were none

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chief Mayotte motioned to approve the minutes from the last meeting; Chief Barindelli seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.

Agenda Items:

- A. Fire Prevention / One Stop Permitting: Mimi DeSimoni reported that some additional information had been added to the report. Chief Skiles, Ray Jackson and Mimi met with a representative of DMG Maximus, a consulting firm that does fee studies, to consider how to implement a fee structure that would fund the Fire Prevention Bureau. The cost of the study would be \$15,000 to -\$20,000; the recovery of this cost would be built into the fee

- structure. Chief Payton and Chief Davis have both been through fee studies within their cities. Comparisons will be done.
- B. Fire Investigation: Chief Jackson reported that two meetings have been held with various stakeholders from law enforcement, fire, and the District Attorney's Office. He gave an overview of the discussions and the types of information that we are trying to collect. He is hoping to have a preliminary draft by the next Fire Authority meeting.
 - C. Presentation of year to date budget: A budget including the County's revenue projection of the Less Than County Wide Tax, actual collections and expenses was handed out and discussed. Based on the projected Consolidated budget, there should be approximately \$75,000 left of the Less Than Countywide Fire Tax at the end of the year. In addition the \$300,000 general fund contribution has not been allocated yet.
 - D. Fixed Assets – Jack Doering opened the discussion stating that the Fire Authority is an advisory group and as such cannot own fixed assets. He also stated that if vehicles purchased with PFF funds for Consolidated are sold, the salvage value really should be rolled back into the purchase of replacements of those vehicles. There was never any expectation by the County that they would get these vehicles back. Since the contract potentially could go to another agency in the future, he suggested that a monthly payment should be built into the contract price for providing the service. He also suggested that since this contract will be up June 30th the purchase of a new vehicle should roll into the proposal for next year's contract. With the end of the year rapidly approaching he also suggested that the Fire Authority open the contract up for bids from any interested agency very soon. The contract will have to be approved by the Board of Supervisors prior to June 30th so that it will be in place on the first of July. Chief Mayotte suggested that the service contract be opened up, and that agency providing bids give a cost and move forward without being micromanaged. It was discussed that an expenditure strategy based on our business plan be formulated so that proposals may be requested.

Chief Mayotte presented a Board Report regarding the purchase of a new investigator vehicle. The report gave two options; purchase new or use the vehicle the Stanislaus Consolidated purchased two years ago but has not yet put in service. Director Kimball suggested that in light of County Counsel's comments we should not purchase a vehicle at this time. Chief Barindelli suggested that we could build the cost of a lease into our monthly payment to Consolidated. Chief Mayotte pointed out that the high mileage put on this vehicle would not work well with a lease. There has already been approximately \$2400 in repairs done this year. Director Kimball made a motion not to act on this issue at this time, but to wait 90 days; if there are additional repair costs the Fire Authority will pick them up. Chief Alderson seconded the motion. Motion was passed with all in favor except for one no vote by Chief Mayotte.

- E. Business Plan: The initial outline of a business plan was distributed to all the members. Chief Skiles had a power point presentation illustrating our current funding and possible options for allocating that funding over the services we've identified as priorities. He also suggested some alternate sources for funding we could explore. These are elements of our business plan that need to be defined. Chief Skiles stated that he did not want it to be his business plan, but rather that of the group as a whole. We need to define our desired levels of service. Jack Doering suggested that although our first goal is to spread the \$950,000 between our required services, we need to outline how the \$300,000 will be spent so that we can demonstrate to the Board of Supervisors that we have a plan and many needs. A work group meeting will be held on Thursday, April 14h at 0900 at the RFTC. An agenda will be sent out and posted and an alpha page will be sent out to remind everyone. We will work on it until we have a clear plan.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1100 on a motion by Chief Mayotte and a second by Chief Jackson.

Mimi DeSimoni
Clerk of the Fire Authority

Approved May 4, 2006
Motion: Chief Mayotte
Second: Chief Miguel