

Stanislaus County Fire Authority  
Meeting Minutes  
January 10, 2008

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1. Chief Skiles called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. The flag was saluted.
2. Roll Call – The following agency representatives were present:

Chief Les Alderson	Burbank Paradise Fire District
Commander Brian Weber	City of Ceres
Chief Karl Curnow	Denair Fire District
Asst. Chief Henry Benavides	Keyes Fire Protection District
Chief Jim Miguel	Modesto Fire
Chief Mike Botto	City of Oakdale
Director Walt Luihn	Oakdale Fire District
Chief Bill Kinnear	City of Patterson
Chief Dale Skiles	Salida Fire District
Chief Steve Mayotte	Stanislaus Consolidated Fire
Chief Mike Wilkinson	Stanislaus County Fire Warden
Asst. Chief John Barindelli	Westport Fire District
Director Bob Kimball	West Stanislaus Fire District
Chief Mike Passalaqua	Woodland Ave. Fire District

Also present were: Deborah Thrasher, Dave Funk, OES; Mike Kraus, Mike Payton, Modesto Fire; Ed Bartley, Salida Fire; Ken Slamon, Bill Houk, Mimi DeSimoni, Fire Warden's Office; John Burton, John Borges, Burton's Fire Apparatus.

3. Public Comment:
  - Chief Mayotte reported that one of his volunteer firefighter's daughters was killed in a car accident in Utah.
  - Chief Skiles mentioned that the Governor is proposing a \$10 per household increase to pay firefighting costs.
4. Minutes – Chief Mayotte made a motion to accept the minutes from the October and November meetings; Chief Miguel seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.
5. Staff Committee Reports (given out of order)
  - Investigations: Chief Payton distributed the November report. There were fewer fires during that month than previous months. He also distributed an article regarding housing foreclosures and arson.
  - Prevention: Chief Slamon reported that November reports have been e-mailed to all agencies and the annual report is in process. Fire code adoption will be discussed as an agenda item.
  - Training: Captain Bartley handed out a 2008 Training Schedule. He requested that agencies send in their schedules so they may be included on the master calendar. Dave Funk, the County OES trainer, spoke on the upcoming NIS/SEMS/ICS classes. He questioned whether it would be beneficial for the Chiefs to receive the 4 hour Executive Training. He will work with Chief Mayotte on a workshop at the Chief's Association.

- Communications: Chief Skiles gave an update on activities of the Communications Coordinator. He discussed USA Mobility, Fire Frequency sharing, CAD implementation. SR911 has requested that any major run-card changes be delayed until after implementation. Diablo Grande needs to be brought up so that all of County can be P25 compliant. Grant funding will be contingent upon that in the future.
- Special Operations: Chief Houk gave a verbal report on his activities. He has met with some of the agencies to do an assessment, and expects to finish those meetings in January.

## 6. Agenda Items

**6.1** Amgen Tour of California – Chief Miguel reported on the 10 day bicycle event that will be taking place starting in Modesto. It is a major international event and will cut through several jurisdictions. He wanted to make sure all agencies were informed and aware of what the impact would be in their area.

**6.2** Homeland Security Grants: Deborah Thrasher from OES reported on the upcoming audit by the Office of Homeland Security. In addition to auditing the records, they will also be doing random checks on equipment that has been purchased with grant funding to ensure that there are adequate controls and safeguards. She emailed information requests to all of the Chiefs asking for verification of the status of EMS jackets and any other grant funded equipment. There is the possibility that the auditors could contact individual agencies. She thanked those who have already responded.

**6.3** Fire Code adoption: Chief Slamon reported that the Board of Supervisors will consider adopting the Fire Code and amendments at a public hearing on January 29<sup>th</sup>. He is hopeful that there will be no problems getting it approved. The following week, February 5<sup>th</sup>, the ordinances passed by individual districts will be taken for ratification. An email will be sent as a reminder for these meetings.

**6.4** Special Operations: Chief Skiles spoke about the Chief's Association manual. The policies and procedures are not binding and need updating. He suggested that the Fire Authority give direction to the Special Operations Coordinator to take those policies, research current standards and bring them back to the Fire Authority for approval then each agency may adopt them individually. A time line for reviewing policies was suggested, with review and revision dates noted. After discussion, Chief Skiles said he will give that direction to the service provider.

**6.5** Financial Report: An updated summary of revenues and expenses was distributed to the group. Revenues were slightly higher than projected due to increased fire prevention fees and slightly higher property taxes. Expenses were slightly lower but will catch up in the second half of the year. Overall we continue to be within our projections, which is important with the slowdown in the housing market and the likely impact on future property taxes.

### Announcements:

- Chief Mayotte announced that the annual Chief's Association dinner will be held on January 31<sup>st</sup> at the Elks Lodge. Invitations have been mailed; please RSVP.
- The next meeting will be Thursday, February 7, 2008.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35.

Mimi DeSimoni  
Clerk of the Board