

Stanislaus County Fire Authority  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
March 4, 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 Weber
Denair Fire	Chief Curnow
City of Modesto	Chief Miguel
City of Oakdale	Chief Fields
Salida Fire	Chief Skiles
Stanislaus Consolidated Fire	Chief Mayotte
City of Turlock	Chief Lohman
West Stanislaus Fire	Director Kimball
Woodland Ave. Fire	Chief Passalaqua

Also attending the meeting was: Mike Kraus, Mike Payton and Alicia Hinshaw, Modesto Fire; Mike Lillie, Ceres Fire; Ken Slamon, Mimi DeSimoni, Stanislaus County Fire Warden's Office; Tommy Dick and Chad Homme, Salida Fire; Marilyn Smith MVEMSA; Rick Ornelas and Cindy Woolston, AMR; Robert Adkison Ceres Fire District; Kirk Ford, Stanislaus County Planning Department

**3. Public Comment: None**

**4. Minutes:**

Chief Miguel made a motion to accept the minutes, Director Kimball seconded the motion. Motion was passed.

**5. Staff Committee Reports:** Written reports were provided with the agenda packet that was e-mailed out. Brief reports were provided by service providers and questions were taken.

**5.1 Management, Fiscal and Legislative Report-** Form 700s are due, Mimi again requested that all representatives and alternates that have not already filled them out to please do so as soon as possible. The County Assessor will most likely come next month's meeting. They are currently in the process of evaluating 70,000 properties. Next years assessed valuations are expected to be lower again.

**5.2 Fire Investigations Report** – Reports were provided with the agenda. Chief Payton reported that it was a fairly typical month.

**5.3 Fire Prevention Report** – The Fire Prevention report was included with the agenda. The next Fire Prevention meeting is scheduled for 3/18. He requested input from all agencies for the upcoming code adoption.

**5.4 Fire Communications Report** – The Communications report was included with the agenda. Chad reported on several issues including CAD, Regional Fire RMS, alpha paging, AEU interference and the MDC frame relay being updated. The next Communications Advisory Committee meeting is cancelled because Chad will be at the Wireless

Communications Exposition.

- 5.5 Fire Training Report** – Training Coordinator Tommy Dick reported that the annual 100/200 letters are going out to the chiefs. He can help with these qualifications. Planning is on-going for the “All-Risk” exercise coming up in May. Information will be coming out soon.

**6. Agenda Items**

**6.1 Stanislaus County General Plan Update** – Kirk Ford, Stanislaus County Planning Director addressed the group regarding the upcoming General Plan update. It must be done every 10 years, 1994 was the last time it was done. From the County’s perspective, it has been successful. The Plan outlines the general policies one of which is how public safety is handled in the County. He provided a copy of the current safety element and asked all of the chiefs to go back, review it, and send in their comments, either as a group or individually, to Angela Freitas or him. He commented that the General Plan cannot address the financial woes of the districts. The General Plan states that “Adequate Fire Protection Shall be Provided.” There was much discussion regarding what “adequate” meant to the Board of Supervisors, and should that be determined by each agency, or by standards. It was stated that the BOS denies all responsibility for the fire service yet they regularly make decisions that affect its ability to provide service. Kirk suggested that the document is for guidance not specifics and that it is critical that agencies respond to letters regarding new projects. The group agreed that there needs to be a sub-committee to define “adequate” before the process is complete; this will be addressed at the April meeting.

**6.2 Finance Committee-** Chief Skiles reported that the Finance Committee had met and determined that they will wait until more information is available before making any recommendations on the 2010-2011 budget to the Fire Authority. The County will be issuing proposed budget instructions mid-March which will provide some more information. The group will meet again to develop a report.

The meeting was adjourned at 0930

Respectfully Submitted,

M. DeSimoni  
Stanislaus County Fire Warden’s Office