



Schell Vista Fire Protection District

22950 Broadway Sonoma, Ca. 95476

Ph. (707) 938-2633 / Fax. (707) 935-9681

www.schellvistafire.org / e-mail: info@schellvistafire.org

MEETING MINUTES Schell-Vista Fire Protection District Board of Directors Regular Meeting

Date: Wednesday, October 2, 2024

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: 22950 Broadway-Station #1

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Director Ken Finn called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Directors Ken Finn, Ernie Loveless, and Hal Stober were present. A quorum was met. Also present were Chief Ray Mulas, District Account Stacie McCambridge, Clerk of the Board Robin Woods, and Firefighters Matt Garner, Sean Witherell, Johnny Valesquez, Jayden Filippi, Humberto Botello, and Lincoln Reiter.

Directors Mindy Neves and Bob Kruljac were absent.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

3. AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS AND CONSENT

The agenda was accepted as presented.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

a. Approval of minutes from the September 4, 2024, Regular Meeting- **Discussion and Action**

Director Finn introduced the September 4, 2024, minutes and opened the floor for questions, discussion, and public comments. Director Loveless advised the Board that the volunteer stipends were omitted from the list in the minutes, new business #10. The Clerk of the Board agreed to correct the minutes to reflect the full list.

Director Loveless made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 4, 2024, meeting with the addition of the complete stipend list. Director Stober seconded the motion. The motion passed, and the Minutes were approved by the following vote:
Ayes-3 Noes-0 Absent-2

b. Review of the October Accountant's Report-**Discussion and Action**

Director Finn introduced the Accountant's Report and opened the floor to discussion and public comment. There were no public comments. Director Loveless made the motion to accept the Accountant's Report for October 2024, as presented. Director Stober seconded the motion. The motion passed, and the Financial Reports were approved by the following vote:

Ayes-3 Noes-0 Absent-2



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5. CHIEFS' REPORT

Chief Mulas presented to following report to the Board"

1. The final stages of REDCOM's transition from AMR to the governing JPA is moving forward. There have been interviews with additional dispatchers along with some potential policy changes. AMR's final day at dispatch is October 8th, and the new governing body will take over with some of the personnel becoming employees of the JPA. As it stands now each jurisdiction will have to cover the first two quarters of the years dispatch cost. For us we already have that included in our budget.

2. Our solar panels are up and running, however we have not met with Justin to set up the ability to monitor the power output. Also, I would suggest that we look into a contract for cleaning the panels on a regular basis due to the amount of dust that will accumulate on the panels. Solar Craft offers a service that will clean the panels with equipment that offers gentle and ecological cleaning technique suitable for solar panels. (Clerk Woods agreed to review the SolarCraft contract to see if cleaning was included)

3. We have eight candidates for the firefighter positions that will go through oral and skills testing on the 29th of October and Chiefs interviews on the 31st of October. The actual start date has yet to be determined.

4. I have approved a Training Request from one of our volunteers for Peer Support Training. This individual has a College degree and a master's degree in Mental Health and would be a great asset to our Health and Wellness program. This individual would also be involved with groups in the county providing counseling and like services to our firefighting Personnel.

5. Board Policy Manual (Chief Mulas verified that the directors received copies)

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS/BUSINESS (Directors to report on Committee activities)

a. Reports-Discussions & Possible Actions

1. Facilities Committee (Neves)

Chief Mulas informed the Board that they are reviewing landscaping options for the area around the sign and island area in parking lot that are more environmentally friendly.

Chief Mulas is working to have some of the cracks in the parking area resealed this year.

2. Budget Committee (Kruljac)

a. County Report of Estimated Prop 13 Tax Report

Clerk of the Board Robin Woods shared the county's estimate of \$1,397,039 in Prop 13 tax revenue for fiscal year 2024-25.



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3. Legislative Committee (Finn)

Nothing to report.

4. Outreach Committee (Loveless)

Nothing to report.

7. NEW BUSINESS AND CONTINUE UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Cell Tower- **Review**

1. Update Tower at Station 2

Nothing new to report.

2. Update Tower at Station 1

Nothing new to report.

b. Resolution 2024-006 Approving the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Agreement, 7GH24090- **Discussion and Action**

Captain Matt Garner explained Resolution 2024-006 to the Board and answered any questions. Director Finn presented Resolution No 2024-006 Approving the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Agreement, 7GH24090. The floor was opened for questions and public comments. Let the record reflect there were none. Director Stober moved for its adoption. Director Loveless seconded the motion. The motion was adopted by the following votes:

Ken Finn- Aye
Hal Stober- Aye
Mindy Neves- Absent
Bob Kruljac- Absent
Ernie Loveless- Aye

c. Appointed Board of Directors *Certificate of Appointment In-lieu of Election and Oath of Office*- **Discussion and Action**

Directors Kenneth Finn was sworn into office by Director Ernie Loveless. Directors Hal Stober, and Ernie Loveless were sworn in to office by Director Finn.

d. Bilingual Policy 1047- **Discussion and Action**

Chief Mulas reviewed the Policy with the Board. He is going to review an annual testing policy and update and bring The policy back to the Board for further review.



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- e. CalPERS Review Unfunded Liability and 2025-26 Prepayment amount and Employer Cost Rate, and 2025-2026-Discussion and Action

The Board reviewed the Unfunded Liability Invoice for 2025-26. After reviewing the payment options the following motion was made:

Director Loveless made the motion to pay the CalPERS Unfunded Liability Invoice for FY 2025-26 in order to save money, to pay it in one payment instead of monthly installments. Director Finn opened the floor to questions and discussion. There was none. Director Stober second the motion. Director Finn called for a vote, and the motion passed with the following vote:

Ayes - 3 Noes- 0 Absent-3

Clerk of the Board Robin Woods advised the Board of the new Employer contribution rate for 2025-26 of 14.96%, an increase from 14.725 for 2024-25.

- f. Calendar Review (Robin)

Clerk of the Board Woods reviewed the calendar with the Board.

January -Determine the Preliminary Tax Rate

February-Request the Parcel Report from the county using the preliminary rate.

March-Notice of Public Hearing

April/May-Conduct Public Hearing

May/June-Allow time for property owner appeals of the tax levy.

June-Approval of the District Preliminary Budget

July-Approval of the Distract Tax Roll and Appropriations Limit

July/August- At the end of the Fiscal year, The District Board of Directors will be presented the *Fiscal Year-End Report* containing information regarding the amount of special tax revenue collected and expended as well as the status of projects funded with proceeds of the special tax. (Ord. Section VII)

August/September-Tax Roll and Appropriations Limit Resolution sent to the County.

-Calendar Review General Business

April-Set up Budget Committee meeting to prepare preliminary budget for June meeting.

June-Preliminary Budget review and approval.

July 15-August 9 Board Members file for re-election with the Registrar of Voters. (2024-Ken Finn, Ernie Loveless, and Hal Stober term end 12/2024)

August-Budget Committee meet to prepare final budget for Board approval in September.

September-Final Budget review and approval.

Nov-Nomination of Officers of the Board (Every 2 years. Next election 2025)

Dec-Election of Officers of the Board for January 1 start date. (Every 2 Years. Next election 2025)

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS/GOOD OF THE ORDER

Nothing to report.



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9. ADJOURMENT

Director Finn asked to close the meeting in memory of Buck Sangiacomo. Director Stober made the motion to adjourn the meeting in Buck's memory at 7:51 PM. Director Loveless seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Next scheduled meeting is November 6, 2024

If Applicable, Board meeting documents are available to review at the SVFPD Station 1, 22950 Broadway, Sonoma, CA 95476. Please call (707)938-2633 for an appointment.