



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, January 8, 2025

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. Directors Bob Kruljac and Ernie Loveless were present. Director Mindy Neves joined the meeting through Zoom. A quorum was met. Director Hal Stober was absent. Also present were Chief Ray Mulas, District Accountant Stacie McCambridge, Clerk of the Board Robin Woods and Captain Matt Garner. Guest Isabel Beer of the Index Tribune was also present

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

3. AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS AND CONSENT

There were no changes to the agenda.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

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

Director Finn introduced the December minutes and opened the floor to questions, discussion and public comments. There were no public comments. Director Kruljac made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2024, meeting. Director Loveless seconded the motion. A Vote was called, and the motion passed, and the Minutes were approved by the following vote:

Ayes-3 Noes- 0 Absent-1 Abstain-1

b. Review of the January 2025 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 Kruljac made the motion to accept the Accountant's Report for January 2024, as presented. Director Loveless seconded the motion. A Vote was called, and the motion passed, and the Financial Reports were approved by the following vote:

Ayes-3 Noes -0 Absent-1 Abstain-1

5. CHIEFS' REPORT

Chief Ray Mulas presented the following report to the Board:



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1. *The new firefighter academy started Monday and will continue for the next two weeks. Upon completion of the academy, they will begin their year of rotation with each Captain until the year is complete and then they will go to their assigned shift.*

2. *The new engine has arrived at Golden State Fire Apparatus in Sacramento and is being scheduled for inspection sometime this month. Captain Bragg and I went up and did an inspection on Monday and gave them a list of things that need to be taken care of. The bad news is there are about thirty other units ahead of us, so we may not see our engine for Thirty Days.*

3. *The Board needs to approve the agreement for measure "H" that was approved by our attorney on behalf of all Departments.*

4. *Mike sent out an "Out of County" cost and reimbursement schedule to address some of the concerns about Career Overtime. If this wasn't addressed at the budget discussions we can discuss during my report.*

5. *We are getting a price to replace the water heater in the downstairs unit of the firefighter residence.*

6. *We should set up a meeting with the group that worked on the Strategic plan and review the progress that has been made and what we should be looking at as the next important step. I have some ideas that are not on the current plan.*

7. *Report on the Sonoma County Fire Chiefs' meeting.*

-Discussion regarding Measure H

-Lexipol will be paid for by Measure H funds

-The Chief association fees are now \$250 across the board.

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

a. Reports-**Discussions & Possible Actions**

1. Facilities Committee (Neves)

Captain Garner reported that the out-bay door spring broke, and they are waiting for parts. They will replace all 4 bay door springs as preventative measures.

He also reported that with the rain and flooding, there were no water problems at the station.

2. Budget Committee (Kruljac)

Director Kruljac reviewed revisions of the chart of accounts for added detail of budget expenses. A revised budget will be presented in an upcoming meeting for Board review.

3. Legislative Committee (Finn)

Director Finn had nothing new to report.



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4. Outreach Committee (Loveless)

Director Loveless advised the board that Isabel Beer and a photographer from the Index Tribune will be visiting the Academy to obtain information for a story for the paper.

7. NEW BUSINESS AND CONTINUE UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. In District Duty Coverage-**Discussion & Action**

Director Finn introduced the proposal to add 24-hour district duty coverage. The Clerk of the Board, Robin Woods, reviewed the costs for the district and additional funds from Measure H as to how the budget would be affected. Chief Mulas explained the need and type of coverage being considered.

Director Kruljac made the motion to accept the proposal and establish the position and schedule. Director Finn opened the floor for questions and comments. There were none. Director Loveless seconded the motion. A Vote was called, and the motion passed, and the 24-hour district duty coverage position was approved by the following vote:

Ayes-3 Noes -0 Absent-1 Abstain-1

b. Measure H Funding Agreement Between the County of Sonoma and Schell-Vista Fire Protection District-**Discussion & Action**

Chief Mulas presented the Measure H funding agreement to the Board.

Director Loveless made the motion to approve the agreement between the County of And the District. Director Finn opened the floor for comments and questions. Director Kruljac seconded the motion. A Vote was called, and the motion passed, and the Measure H Funding Agreement was approved by the following vote:

Ayes-3 Noes -0 Absent-1 Abstain-1

c. Tax Measure Ordinance – **Discussion & Action**

1. Review preliminary Levy amount to be used in requesting the Parcel Report from the County for FY 2025-2026

Director Finn opened the discussion on setting preliminary Levy amounts for the 2025-2026 Fiscal year. After discussion of District financial needs, it was agreed that the preliminary rates would be set the 2025-2026 rates to include the cost-of-living increase of 3.62%.

Director Kruljac made the motion to set the tax rates for 2024-2025 to include the cost-of-living increase of 3.62 % at \$242.94 -Residential, \$121.46 Residential additional unit, \$121.46- Other Parcel, and \$0.17 /square foot-Commercial. Director Finn opened the floor to public comments and discussion. Let the record reflect there were none. Director Loveless seconded the motion. Director Finn called for the vote. The motion passed by the following vote:

Ayes- 3 Noes - 0 Absent- 1 Abstain- 1



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The 2025-2026 rates to be used to request the county parcel report will be the following which include the cost-of-living increase of 3.62%:

Residential-\$242.94
Residential additional unit-\$121.46
Other Parcel-\$121.46
Commercial square foot - \$0.17/sq ft

d. Establish Advisory Group-**Discussion & Action**

Director Loveless introduced the discussion to establish an open line communication on day-to-day operations. The group would include 3 members from labor, 2 from administration, 2 from the board, and 1 volunteer.

Director Loveless made the motion to establish an Advisory Group. Director Finn opened the floor for questions and discussion. There was none. Director Loveless seconded the motion. Director Finn called for a vote. The motion passed with the following vote:

Ayes-1 Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstain-1

Ken Finn and Ernie Loveless volunteered to fill the board positions.

Director Loveless will set up a meeting to establish the group and move forward.

e. Calendar Review (Robin)

Clerk Robin Woods reminded the Board of the FDAC training in Napa in April. Registration is now open.

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 District 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. (No terms end in 2025)
August-Budget Committee meet to prepare final budget for Board approval in September.



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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

No Announcements

9. ADJOURNMENT

Director Kruljac made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM. Director Loveless seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Next scheduled meeting is February 5, 2025

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