



Stanislaus County Fire Authority
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 20, 2024
Patterson Fire Department, Station 52
1950 Keystone Pacific Parkway, Patterson, California

1. Pledge of Allegiance:

Meeting called to order by Chief Parnell at 1015 hrs. The flag was saluted.

2. Roll Call:

The following agency's representative/alternate were in attendance:

Burbank Paradise Fire Protection District	Absent
Cal-Fire SCU	Absent
Cal-Fire TCU	Absent
City of Ceres Fire Dept	Chief Tietjen
Ceres Fire Protection District	Chief Tietjen
Denair Fire Protection District	Absent
Hughson Fire Protection District	Chief Berner
Industrial Fire Protection District	Chief Tietjen
Keyes Fire Protection District	Absent
City of Modesto Fire Dept	Chief Tietjen
Mountain View Fire Protection District	Absent
City of Newman Fire Dept	Absent
City of Oakdale Fire Dept	Chief Tietjen
Oakdale Rural Fire Protection District	Chief Tietjen
City of Patterson Fire Dept	Chief Frye
Salida Fire Protection District	Chief Tietjen
Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District	Chief Tietjen
Stanislaus County Fire Warden	Chief Parnell
City of Turlock Fire Dept	Chief Tietjen
Turlock Rural Fire Protection District	Absent
West Stanislaus Fire Protection District	Chief Frye
Westport Fire Protection District	Absent
Woodland Ave Fire Protection District	Chief Passalaqua

Also attending the meeting:

Chief Bray, SSL; Chief Klevmyr, Kevin Anderson (CERT), Mike Lunn (Training), Matthew Jenkins (FPB), Chad Homme (Communications) Stanislaus County Emergency Services; John Boer, Woodland Avenue Fire; Brooke Freeman, Sheriff's Office

3. Public Comment:

None

4. Approval of Minutes:

4.1 Approval of the March 7, 2024, regular meeting minutes.

Motion to approve minutes made by Chief Tietjen, seconded by Chief Frye, motion passed.

5. Staff/Committee Reports:

5.1 Fire Investigation Report

- A detailed summary report was included in the agenda packet
- Nothing further reported

5.2 Fire Prevention Report

- A detailed summary report was included in the agenda packet.
- Reminder when requesting Knox Box please verify the address, there have been incidents with given the incorrect address and it causes issues, please review/double check address before giving it to FP.

5.3 Fire Communication Report

- A detailed summary report was included in the agenda packet
- Possible Oracle contract – vacated. When we met with them and demonstrated the product it was clear that there is still excessive work needed for it to fit with the fire industry

5.4 Fire Chaplain Report

- A detailed summary report was included in the agenda packet
- Thank you for utilizing the program, there has been a lot of good feedback
- The Chaplains act as a liaison with the families which is extremely helpful to the firefighters at an incident

5.5 Administration & Support Report

- A detailed summary report was included in the agenda packet
- The budget should be 2.5 million under schedule projection

5.6 Training

- A detailed summary report was in the agenda packet
- Update on the recent Wildland Training: approximately 280 personnel participated. There was a dozer academy prior to the burn consisting of seven dozers, local county participants who were trained in putting in fire breaks
- Supported dozer academy with providing wash stations and port-a-potties
- Sheriff's office crews helped cleaning up the parking lot and trees prior to event
- CERT team helped logistics with meals, snacks, drinks, and cooling towels
- Thank you to CVIMT, OES, TID, to name a few who helped bring this together
- Approximately 110 acres were burned
- There were 187 participants in the burn and the final cost was \$14,806.89

5.7 HazMat/Tech Rescue

- A detailed summary report was in the agenda packet
- Chief Tietjen wanted to commend the team on an incident he witnessed where an Amazon driver stepped into a storm drain and within 25 minutes crews were there and had him out in another 20 minutes. He had fallen 4-5 feet below the surface and had one leg up above his head. They were able to get him out quickly and he had no major injuries.

5.8 Air Operations

- A detailed summary report was in the agenda packet
- There was an Air Ops/Fire Chiefs meeting that went well
- Maintenance is complete on 407 and it is available for call outs
- There will be training the end of August with Woodland Fire doing long line
- Chief Frye is working with them to have an auto dispatch at an initial incident

5.9 CERT

- A detailed summary report was in the agenda packet
- Members attended the Wildland Training, and some helped all four days staying overnight as well

5.10 SR911

- There are 11 personnel in training, 6 dispatch per shift, but realize there are 32 dispatch personnel with less than three years' experience.
- July 4th every person on staff will be working
- Chief Berner asked who was still using tablets – answer was no one is
- CEDAC meeting will be held on June 26th at 3705 Oakdale Road, in the briefing room. Chief Klevmyr encourages fire agencies to attend so that their voices are heard.

6. Agenda Items:

6.1 Discussion for a funding request for West Stanislaus Fire Protection District regarding Special Tax Fees

- WSF stated fees of \$76,964.87; \$42,009.32 for consulting fees and \$34,955.55 for Clerk/Recorder fees
- Proposed tax did not pass it was short by one vote
- Discussed how the communities do not have any idea the need to have the taxes imposed. The small districts cannot stay afloat without it, they cannot survive on small town fund raisers.
- Chief Parnell recommended that a committee be formed, with possibly having Chief Klevmyr heading it and getting all departments/districts involved, participating in joint force.
- Possibly having polls of community and landowners done prior to moving forward and putting on a ballot, this would save unnecessary fees, if there isn't a possibility of it passing
- Involve the fire chief's association and community volunteers to help with polling, etc.

Chief Klevmyr motioned to reimburse West Stanislaus Fire Protection for the cost of the Special Tax fees. Chief Passalacqua seconded the motion, and no members were opposed. Motion passed to reimburse WSF for fees incurred.

6.2 Discussion and proposal

- Patterson and West Stanislaus Fire District asked for support last December with the purchase of a vessel for water rescue
- Chiefs Frye, Hakola and Parnell propose having countywide rescue resources
- Have MOU with the Sherriff's department
- This is a good time to implement a program due to need, number of reported deaths, the new state park Dos Rios along Stanislaus River
- Sheriff's Office boats are not staffed, they have to go to Woodward to get vessel and then to incident
- Proposed that the \$55,000 fronted to Air101 prior to their Homeland Security Grant being funded be used to start up to this project, \$20,000 was approved for a tech rescue trailer that will not be necessary if this project is funded
- Funds are needed to get this off the ground and then appropriate grants will be applied for
- Chief Tietjen stated that he would support \$75,000 be used for this purpose and then for the committee to develop a plan and report back to the status of where the project is and where it is heading. Also, to mirror the MOU to that of Tech Rescue/HazMat
- Chief Parnell stated that there would be a level of training required for all operating personnel and suggested in county instructors. MST has state certified personnel that can be a part of it including proper instruction and also for jet ski use

Chief Tietjen motion to earmark the \$75,000 to launch the project. Chief Berner seconded the motion, all representatives were in favor of motion and the motion passed unanimously.

7. Announcements:

- 7.1 Red cards are available in the back of the room
- 7.2 Chief Bray mentioned that per RFA bylaws that nominations are past due for 2024-2025 elections. Currently Chief Parnell is chair, Chief Hakola, Vice Chair and Kim Mello, Secretary/Clerk. Chief Parnell stated that request for nomination would be sent out
- 7.3 Reminder that Swearing in Ceremony will be held for Chief Wise on June 25th
- 7.4 Chief Parnell informed that 31 requests for overhead personnel have been filled, and we are receiving 5-10 requests per day. WhatsApp is being used for communication. Captain Lunn reminded that only seven days is required to receive reimbursement
- 7.5 Chief Klevmyr informed that the California Supreme Court removed initiative 1935 from the ballot
- 7.6 Next meeting is scheduled for September 5, 2024, 0830 HRS, at Emergency Services 3705 Oakdale Road, Modesto, California

Meeting adjourned at 0954 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Mello, Secretary/Clerk of the Board