

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2025, 9:00 AM
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER
BOARD CHAMBER, ROOM 310
1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

- A. REGULAR SESSION – Regular Meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m.

PRESENT: Directors Terra Lawson-Remer, Chair; Monica Montgomery Steppe, Vice-Chair; Paloma Aguirre, Chair Pro Tem; Joel Anderson; Jim Desmond; also, Andrew Potter, Clerk of the Board of Directors.

- B. Statement (just cause) and/or Consideration of a Request to Participate Remotely (emergency circumstances) by a Director, if applicable.
- C. Non-Agenda Public Communication: Opportunity for individuals to speak to the Board on any subject matter within the Board’s jurisdiction but not an item on the agenda. In accordance with the Board’s Rules of Procedure, individuals may only speak at one Non-Agenda Public Communication session per meeting. The speaker may select which session (General Legislative or Land Use Legislative Session) to address the Board for Non-Agenda Public Communication at their convenience.
- D. Approval of the Statement of Proceedings/Minutes for the meeting of September 30, 2025.

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Director Aguirre, seconded by Director Montgomery Steppe, the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Fire Protection District approved the Statement of Proceedings/Minutes for the meeting of September 30, 2025.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

Agenda Items

Agenda #	Subject
1.	REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE AN ASSISTANCE-BY-HIRE REVENUE AGREEMENT BETWEEN SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE AND CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION (4 VOTES)

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1. **SUBJECT: REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE AN ASSISTANCE-BY-HIRE REVENUE AGREEMENT BETWEEN SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE AND CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

OVERVIEW

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) regularly uses apparatus and personnel from local government agencies for its operations. The use of “Assistance by Hire” (ABH) agreements allow participating government agencies to receive reimbursement for resources deployed to protect the State Responsibility Area lands. During prolonged disasters, such as wildfires or flooding, San Diego County Fire apparatuses are used to support CAL FIRE disaster response activities locally and in other parts of the State. The ABH agreement allows San Diego County Fire to recover depreciation and operating costs from the State for those incidents. The previous 5-year ABH agreement with CAL FIRE expired August 31, 2025.

Today’s request will authorize the execution of an ABH revenue agreement between San Diego County Fire and CAL FIRE.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

1. Authorize the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors to execute an Assistance-by-Hire revenue agreement between San Diego County Fire and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) to continue to provide fire protection and emergency medical services during State responsibility incidents, and authorize the Director of San Diego County Fire, or designee, to execute all revenue agreement documents, amendments, and/or revisions thereto that do not materially impact or alter services or funding levels.
2. Establish appropriations of \$850,000 in San Diego County Fire, Services & Supplies, based on revenue from an Assistance-by-Hire agreement with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection **(4 VOTES)**.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The San Diego County Fire Protection District (SDCFPD) serves an under resourced and geographically diverse portion of the County’s unincorporated area where many communities experience limited access to critical public safety infrastructure. These areas are designated as high or very high fire hazard severity zones and include populations that are at risk, low income or socially vulnerable. Revenue generated through Assistance-By-Hire agreements is critical to maintaining equitable service delivery by providing funding for one-time capital improvements and other investments such as replacing aging fire apparatus and equipment to ensure firefighters have the infrastructure and equipment necessary to respond effectively. These improvements will directly enhance response capabilities and service reliability to ensure unincorporated residents receive fire protection and emergency medical services that are equitable to those provided by incorporated city departments.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The proposed actions in today's request support the County of San Diego's commitment to resiliency and align with the Sustainability Initiative of the County of San Diego's 2025-2030 Strategic Plan by helping to ensure fire protection and emergency medical services have the resources to respond to immediate needs for individuals, families, and the region.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request are not included in the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Operational Plan for County Fire. If approved, this request will result in current year costs and revenue of approximately \$850,000. Annual revenue received from ABH is inconsistent and is determined by the severity of wildfires in the CAL FIRE State Responsibility Area and requested resources. Costs and revenue for the remaining term of the Assistance-by-Hire (ABH) agreement will be based on actual revenue received when County Fire provides fire protection and emergency medical services during State responsibility incidents. The funding source is the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Director Montgomery Steppe, seconded by Director Lawson-Remer, the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Fire Protection District took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

The Board of Directors of the San Diego County Fire Protection District recessed at 5:31 p.m.

ANDREW POTTER
Clerk of the Board of Directors of the
San Diego County Fire Protection District

Notes By: Vizcarra

NOTE: This Statement of Proceedings sets forth all actions taken by the San Diego County Fire Protection District on the matters stated, but not necessarily the chronological sequence in which the matters were taken up.