



SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE

5560 Overland Avenue | Suite 400, San Diego | CA 92123-1239

www.sdcountyfire.org

SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FIRE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Monday, May 11, 2026 | 1:00 P.M.

MINUTES

Members

VACANT	District 1 – Seat 1
Mike Stein	District 2 – Seat 2
Debra Foster	District 2 – Seat 3
Randy Lyle	District 2 – Seat 4 (absent)
Ben Tullock	District 2 – Seat 5, Chair
John Clark	District 3 – Seat 6
Jesse Robles	District 4 – Seat 7 (absent)
Bret Sealey	District 5 – Seat 8
Clifford Kellogg	District 5 – Seat 9, Vice Chair (absent)

Guest

County Staff

Jeff Collins	County Fire/Director
Marc Regier	County Fire/Assistant Director
Bob Spanbauer	County Fire/Chief Admin Services
Ryan Silva	CALFIRE/Deputy Chief Community Risk Reduction
Nicole del Toro	County Fire/EMS Admin Secretary



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- I. CALL TO ORDER at 1:00 pm.
 - A. The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
 - B. Roll call was taken.
 - C. A quorum was declared present with six (5) members in attendance, one (3) absent.
 - D. No introductions were made.

- II. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION
There was no public communication.

- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF MARCH 2, 2025 (VOTE)

ON MOTION of Member Foster, seconded by Member Sealey, the Advisory Board approved the minutes of March 2, 2025. Motion carried.

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 3 ABSTAIN: 0

- IV. CHIEFS REPORT

- A. Fire Chiefs Update – Deputy Chief Ryan Silva on behalf of Chief Tony Mecham
 - Staffing; currently have extra firefighters
 - New program started called Fire Side
 - Open House at Pine Valley Station 44 on 5/16 at 10:00 am
 - Funding received from CALFire to staff additional Firefighter IIs on engines
 - Two type I water tenders now in Pine Valley and Intermountain; will also staff two water tenders year-round.
 - Ramona airbase scheduled to open 6/1; helicopter also expected to arrive on 6/1
 - Finished 0-5 at Station 79 – new rock surrounding the station
- B. Director's Update – Jeff Collins
 - CALFire will host a media event at Air Attack Base in June or July
 - Ground breaking on 6/2 at 10:00 am for new station in Jacumba
 - Board of Supervisors approved Training Tower
 - Board of Supervisors took action on their Capital Improvement Needs Assessment (CINA) document – funding to replace Descanso Fire Station
 - Borrego Springs land donation being finalized
 - EMS Bureau will have a leased space in Carol Canyon area for a training facility. A future Fire Advisory Board meeting will be held there.
 - Board of Supervisors provided direction on workforce standards for the battery energy storage. Trying to finalize. Will give options.
 - Starlight project in Boulevard
- C. Assistant Director's Update – Marc Regier
 - Responsible for two ambulance areas – CSA 17 and Ambulance Service Area. Currently have a contract out to hire a consultant – a national expert with a lot of experience managing a large ambulance program to deep dive into the data. Each study takes 60-90 days. Will discuss the results with operational folks, then debrief with financial folks.



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V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Viejas Ambulance Donation – Pending Board of Supervisors Action

ON MOTION of Member Sealey, seconded by Member Foster, the Advisory Board voted to support the ambulance donation acceptance. Motion carried.

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 3 ABSTAIN: 0

B. Annual Levies, Special Taxes, and Community Facilities Districts – Pending Board of Directors Actions

ON MOTION of Member Stein, seconded by Member Clark, the Advisory Board voted to support the annual special tax board actions. Motion carried.

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 3 ABSTAIN: 0

C. Annual Wildfire Preparedness Board Letter – Pending Board of Supervisors Action

The Advisory Board members received an update from County Fire/CAL FIRE regarding the region's preparedness for wildfires this summer and fall.

D. County Fire's Anticipated Budget Changes for FY 26-27 – Informational Only

The Advisory Board members received an update from County Fire staff regarding anticipated budgetary changes and operational priorities for FY 26-27.

VI. NEXT MEETING

The next Fire Advisory Board meeting will be held Monday, August 17, 2026 at 1:00 pm at the new EMS Bureau located at 10200 Willow Creek Rd, Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92131.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Advisory Board adjourned at 1:42 pm.

NOTE: These Minutes set forth all action taken by the Advisory Board on the matters stated, but not necessarily in the chronological sequence in which the matters were taken up.

For meeting information, please contact:

San Diego County Fire

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