



SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE

5510 Overland Avenue | Suite 250, San Diego | CA 92123-1239

www.sdcountyfire.org

CSA 135 Fire Advisory Board Meeting

August 12, 2019 | 1:00 PM | 5510 Overland Ave, Room 241

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order** at 1:02 pm.
2. **Roll Call** – Tim Stanton and William Huskey are absent. All other Board members are present.
3. **Public Comment** – No public comments.
4. **Approval of Minutes from the July 15, 2019 Meeting** – Dick Foss makes a motion to approve the minutes; Frank Whiteley seconds the motion; motion passes unanimously.
5. **July Chief's Report** – Oral report provided by Chief Mecham. The following topics were discussed:
 - a. **Budget:** This year looks good, but Chief anticipates a decrease in one-time funding. SDCFA need to pursue ongoing permanent funding.
 - b. **Strategic Plan:** SDCFA is developing a strategic plan to identify the department's goals and objectives. The Strategic Plan will drive our department for the next 5 years. Liz will email the draft report to the Fire Advisory Board prior to September's meeting.
 - c. **Upcoming BOS Presentations:**
 - i. September 10, 2019: Presentation from Chief Resiliency Officer with recommendations that impact SDCFA.
 - ii. September 24, 2019: Chief will present the department's Strategic Plan to the BOS.
 - iii. TBD October: Chairwoman will direct SDCFA to come back and report on evacuations.



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- d. **Response Times:** Unit is doing well on response time compliance. Otay FS 38 is not doing great. Will improve once we get a new station down there.
 - e. **Reserve Program:** SDCFA on-track to add apprenticeship program. Also, support water tender position approved.
 - f. **Chief plans to meet with Supervisor Fletcher and Chairwoman Jacob to discuss the following priorities:**
 - i. Structural budget shortfall; SDCFA is currently reliant on one-time funding.
 - ii. Operationally safe and efficient staffing levels: upgrade station 45, station 54 and station 79 to 3-0 staffing.
 - iii. Permanent and ongoing capital replacement fund.
6. **County Department of General Services Maintenance** - Liz gave update on DGS. Topics discussed include dedicated DGS personnel assigned for fire stations and contracting difficulties. Ben Tulloch suggested increasing JOC program. Fire Advisory Board could make recommendations to BOS for improvements.
7. **Jamul Indian Village Update** - Chief gave update on amendment to JIV agreement. The tribe is negotiating with SDCFA for reduction in staffing levels and contract cost.
- a. **Past staffing levels:** Prior to JIV agreement there was 2-0 staffing on paramedic engine out of Station 36. When JIV built the casino, staffing increased to 7-0 on engine and truck + 2-0 ambulance. Deerhorn opened with 2-0 staffing that was previously SDCFA funded at Jamul.
 - b. **Call volume:** Last year there were 58 calls to the casino. SDCFA didn't see the anticipated spike in calls after the facility opened. Staffing levels in original JIV contract was set based on expectation of increased traffic accidents and calls to the casino.



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- c. Change in staffing:** JIV and SDCFA negotiated reduction to 4-0 staffing at Jamul +2-0 ambulance and 3-0 at Deerhorn. JIV now will pay ~\$2.2M annually.
- 8. **Julian Update** - Ongoing litigation. Reached a tentative agreement regarding outstanding bills, and medic paychecks.
- 9. **Fuel Breaks** - Current projects in Guatay and Crest going well.
 - a. Looking at future fuel break projects:** looking at Elfin forest, Palomar, and Lawson Valley.
- 10. **Roundtable** – No items discussed.
- 11. **Action Item Recap**
 - a.** Chief presenting draft Strategic Plan at next meeting.
 - b.** Liz to send out draft to Fire Advisory Board the week before the next meeting.
- 12. **Adjournment** at 2:30 pm.
 - a.** Cliff Kellogg makes a motion to adjourn; Jolly Randy Terry seconds the motion; motion passes unanimously.

NEXT MEETING: 1:00pm on Monday, September 9, 2019 in Room 241 at the San Diego County Fire Authority Office– 5510 Overland Ave, Suite 250, San Diego CA 92123 (COC).



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Attendance

Name

District/Affiliation

Ben Tulloch

District 2 – Seat 7, Board Chair

Suzann Leininger

District 5 – Seat 2, Board Vice Chair

Richard (Dick) Foss

District 2 – Seat 9, Board Secretary

Cliff Kellogg

District 5 – Seat 3

Jolly “Randy” Terry

District 2 – Seat 5

Frank Whiteley

District 2 – Seat 6

Don Heiser

SDCFA Deputy Chief, Board Liaison

Liz Johnson

SDCFA Administrative Analyst, Board Staff

Not in Attendance

Tim Stanton

District 2 – Seat 4

William (Bill) Huskey

District 2 – Seat 10

VACANT

District 1 – Seat 1