



# SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE

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

[www.sdcountyfire.org](http://www.sdcountyfire.org)

## SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FIRE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Monday, June 14, 2021 | 1:00 P.M.

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### MINUTES

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- I. CALL TO ORDER at 1:00 p.m.
- With two (2) absences and five (5) members in attendance, a quorum was declared present.
  - Attendance summary below:

#### Members

Jason Shanley	District 1 – Seat 1
Suzann Leininger	District 5 – Seat 2, Vice Chair
Clifford Kellogg	District 5 – Seat 3
David Sossaman	District 2 – Seat 4
Randy Terry	District 2 – Seat 5 (ABSENT)
Frank Whiteley	District 2 – Seat 6 (ABSENT)
Benjamin Tulloch	District 2 – Seat 7, Chair

#### Guests

Randy Lyle	District 2
Marissa Davis	Julian resident

#### County Staff

Herman Reddick	County Fire, Director
Tony Mecham	CAL FIRE/County, Fire Chief
Dave Nissen	CAL FIRE/County, Deputy Chief
Bob Spanbauer	County Fire, Admin Services Chief
Kat Anady	County Fire, Administrative Analyst/ Board Staff
Michele Clock	County Fire, Community Risk Reduction Program Manager
David Sibbet	County Fire, Deputy Fire Marshal
Craig Schaffer	County Fire, Administrative Analyst

Jeff Collins	Public Safety Group, Group Program Manager
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## II. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

- There was one (1) public communication speaker: Marissa Davis, a resident of Julian, relayed her concerns regarding the drivetrain capabilities of vehicles in use at the Julian Fire Station.

## III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 24, 2021. (VOTE)

**ON MOTION of Member Kellogg, seconded by Member Sossaman, the Advisory Board approved the Minutes of May 24, 2021.**

**AYES: 5      NAYS: 0      ABSTENT: 2**

## IV. MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT

### A. Fire Chief's Report

1. The May 2021 Fire Chief's Report was presented by Chief Mecham and covered a summary of organizational highlights and a review of bureau reports and response times.

## V. OLD BUSINESS

### A. Status of snowplowing agreement

- o No updates from the last meeting. The Fire and Dept. of General Services contract is scheduled to be in place for next snow season (October-March).

### B. Implementation of 3-person staffing at all Engine Companies

- o The recommended budget includes funding for nine (9) additional positions to fully implement 3-person staffing at Mt. Laguna, Shelter Valley and Ranchita fire stations.

## VI. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Advisory Board Statements

#### 1. Roadside Vegetation Management

- o Community Risk Reduction developed this item in response to direction received on March 16, 2021 (1) from the Board of Supervisors.
- o The County is increasing its focus on the role of these roadways in preventing worst-case scenarios such as entrapments, a potentially life-threatening situation in which wildfire overtakes a road.
- o The recommendations seek Board direction on implementing a roadside vegetation management program and call for a return to the Board in 90 days to approve changes to the Defensible Space for Fire Protection Ordinance.
- o The board letter is scheduled for the July 13, 2021 Board of Supervisors and SDCFPD Board of Directors meeting.

**ON MOTION of Member Sossaman, seconded by Member Kellogg, the Advisory Board voted to support the support efforts to increase vegetation management along public roadways. The Fire Advisory Board's motion also included a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors that the County take steps to align the County Fire Code and Defensible Space for Fire Protection Ordinance by continuing to require 10 feet of roadside vegetation management, while allowing the Fire**



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Warden or Fire Chief discretion in determining areas or parcels that may require an additional 10 feet (up to 20 feet) of roadside vegetation management.

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSTENT: 2

2. SDCFPD Board of Directors Annual Election of Officers for 2021

- This administrative item relates to the formation of the SDCFPD, pursuant to the Fire Protection District Law of 1987, the Board of Directors is required to elect officers.
- The board letter is scheduled for the June 29, 2021 Board of Supervisors and SDCFPD Board of Directors meeting.

ON MOTION of Member Kellogg, seconded by Member Sossaman, the Advisory Board voted to support the recommendation to appoint Director Nathan Fletcher as the President and appoint Director Nora Vargas as the Vice President of the San Diego County Fire Protection District, consistent with the current selection of officers for the Board of Supervisors.

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSTENT: 2

B. Review and discuss draft of updated Bylaws for the Advisory Board

- Board Policy A-74 requires each advisory board to prepare bylaws that must be reviewed by County Counsel and approved by the Board of Supervisors.
- The proposed bylaws will increase total membership to nine members by adding one representative from District Three and one representative from District Four.
- The board letter is scheduled for the July 13, 2021 Board of Supervisors and SDCFPD Board of Directors meeting.

ON MOTION of Member Shanley, seconded by Member Kellogg, the Advisory Board voted to support the updated Bylaws, with the addition of language related to residency requirements and the removal of language related to term limits, as appointments will run concurrently with the appointing Director.

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSTENT: 2

C. Informational Items

1. Wildfire and safety concerns regarding campsites rented on private property (e.g., Hipcamp)
  - An update was provided by Member Kellogg. County code enforcement have conducted site visits and been in contact with the Mt. Palomar community group.
2. Discussion of agricultural pass program to assist with access to farmlands during a disaster
  - After the Lilac Fire in 2017, Supervisor Desmond (District 5) expressed interest in implementing a similar program in San Diego County. Further development of a program is on hold due to pending legislation and is being monitored by the Evacuation Working Group.
3. Discussion of a community based, mutual aid networks that help private landowners conduct prescribed burns.



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- Due to time constraints, discussion was postponed until the next meeting.

## VII. NEXT MEETING

A. The next Fire Advisory Board meeting will be held at **1:00 p.m. on Monday, September 27, 2021, July 14, 2021** in Room 271 at the San Diego County Fire Office– 5510 Overland Ave, Suite 250, San Diego CA 92123 (County Operations Center).

## VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- There being no further business, the Advisory Board adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

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

**For meeting information, please contact:**

**San Diego County Fire**

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