



SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE

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

www.sdcountyfire.org

SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FIRE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Monday, September 27, 2021 | 1:00 P.M.

MINUTES

Members

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

Guests

Frank Whitely	Former Board Member - District 2
Don Heiser	Former County Fire Deputy Chief - Fire Advisory Board Liaison

County Staff

Herman Reddick	County Fire, Director
Tony Mecham	CAL FIRE/County, Fire Chief
Jeff Collins	Public Safety Group, Group Program Manager
Andy Parr	County Fire, EMS Administrator
Brian Christison	County Fire, EMS Coordinator
Jakub Jagielinski	CAL FIRE/County, EMS Chief
Kat Anady	County Fire, Administrative Analyst/ Board Staff
Nicole del Toro	County Fire, EMS Administrative Secretary
Jill Moog	County Fire, EMS Administrative Secretary



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- I. CALL TO ORDER at 1:07 p.m.
 - A. The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
 - B. Roll Call.
 - C. A quorum was declared present with one (1) absence and six (6) members in attendance.
 - D. Introductions were made.
 - E. Prior board members Don Heiser and Frank Whitely were given recognition and received plaques. Other prior board members who were not present, were given recognition and will also receive plaques.

- II. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION
There was no public communication.

- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF JUNE 14, 2021 (VOTE)

ON MOTION of Member Kellogg, seconded by Member Lyle, the Advisory Board approved the Minutes of June 14, 2021.

AYES: 6 NAYS: 0 ABSTENT: 1

- IV. MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT

- A. Fire Chief's Report

1. County Fire Director Herman Reddick's retirement was announced; last day is November 5, 2021. Jeff Collins was introduced as the new County Fire Assistant Director.
2. The June, July, and August 2021 Fire Chief's Reports were provided and presented by Chief Mecham which covered a summary of organizational highlights, a review of bureau reports and community performance data.
3. Changes may be made to the format of the Fire Chief's Reports and to include a data dashboard.
4. Went with advanced life support on the helicopter, and will continue it.
5. Border issues: Extremely busy along the international border; traffic on Otay Mountain is significant; averaging five responses a day; seeing very dehydrated and malnourished people.
6. Met with Ramona Fire Protection District Fire Ad hoc last week; they approached us regarding a potential consolidation into the County Fire District; working on getting permission from the County CAO and on a formal proposal. Will be able to do staffing increases.
7. Upcoming board letters for October 5, 2021:
 - Environmental Review of Roadside Vegetation Management for Evacuation Preparedness Program
 - An Ordinance Amending the Defensible Space for Fire Protection Ordinance
 - Exploring Firefighting Opportunities with Heli-Hydrant Technology as Part of San Diego County's Rapid Aerial Response
8. Call volume is extremely busy; hospital emergency rooms are highest ever been; hospitals on bypass.
9. Merging of EMS office going as well as expected.



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- 10. Construction projects continue at full speed.
- 11. Carried some fund balance over this year. Ordered and purchased new equipment.

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Status of agreement for snowplowing at fire stations
 - o We have a temporary agreement (emergency contract) available to implement. Working with DPW to do a long term. Once the new Palomar and Laguna facilities are constructed and concreted up to the road, will be a lot easier for folks at the station to use snow blowing equipment.
- B. Implementation of 3-person staffing at all Engine Companies
 - o The Board of Supervisors approved the staffing as part of the budget this year and we had some fund balance carried over. We added a few for relief and added another nine positions. Academies are backlogged significantly.
 - o When COVID hit, ramped up on staff for the first month, but then down staffed engine companies from 3 to 2 to alleviate the impacts to the employees. Have not had enough bodies in the department to maintain what we want to do.
- C. Agricultural pass program to assist with access to farmlands during a disaster
 - o Chief Mecham stated support for the program and met with the Farm Bureau. Supervisor Desmond was to take the lead, but do not have an update. He would be going back to the Farm Bureau and having them come up with the design on how they would manage the program.
 - o Chief Mecham spoke with Sheriff and OES staff about recognizing right now without a pass. There is a county wide Evacuation Working Group (law enforcement, OES, and fire) that is currently having discussions on how to get people back in.

ACTION: Member Tulloch will talk to the Farm Bureau and Santa Barbara County on the status and keep on the agenda. Will update the group.

ON MOTION of Member Sossaman, seconded by Member Lyle, to form a subcommittee to implement the agricultural pass. The three subcommittee members are Sossaman, Lyle, and Summers. They will look into this and come up with recommendations by the next meeting.

AYES: 6 NAYS: 0 ABSTENT: 1

- D. Community based, mutual aid networks that help private landowners conduct prescribed burns State issue.
 - o There is substantial legislation currently going through and the Governor is signing the bills this week. Need to wait for the outcome.
 - o A burn boss curriculum has been created, where non-fire people can become prescribed fire burn bosses.
 - o Have given authority to CAL Fire to provide standby resources for landowners to assist with burns.
 - o Grant money coming.
 - o Any landowner can enter an agreement with CAL Fire and be assisted with prescribed fire.
 - o At the end of the day, it is the responsibility of the landowner.



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ACTION: For January's agenda as an Informational Item – Chief Mecham will have someone come and provide an update from the state.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Advisory Board Statements

1. Community Paramedicine – Establishing a Community Risk Reduction Medical Services Program within the San Diego County Fire Protection District Jurisdictional Area (VOTE)

A draft PowerPoint presentation Community Health and Injury Prevention Program was shared by Brian Christison and Jakub Jagielinski which covered the following:

- Program Overview
- Phase 1: Community Education and Outreach
- Phase 2: Community Paramedicine Implementation
- Phase 3: Future Collaborations

ON MOTION of Member Shanley, seconded by Member Kellogg, the Advisory Board supports further development. If the Board of Supervisors likes the plan, County Fire and County EMS will submit the positions as part of next year's budget plan.

AYES: 6 NAYS: 0 ABSTENT: 1

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- o A request was made that the meeting documents be sent out to the members one (1) week prior to the next meeting.

ACTION: County Fire staff will make an effort to get the meeting documents out to the members roughly 7 days prior to the next meeting.

VIII. NEXT MEETING

The next Fire Advisory Board meeting will be held on Monday, November 22, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. in Room 271 at the San Diego County Fire Office – 5510 Overland Ave, Suite 250, San Diego CA 92123 (County Operations Center).

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Advisory Board adjourned at 3:16 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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