



# 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, January 10, 2022 | 1:00 P.M.

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### MINUTES

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#### Members

Jason Shanley	District 1 – Seat 1 ( <b>ABSENT</b> )
VACANT	District 5 – Seat 2, Vice Chair
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

None

#### County Staff

Tony Mecham	CAL FIRE/County Fire, Fire Chief
Jeff Collins	County Fire, Director
Chief Dave Nissen	County Fire, TEP
Chief Ty Davis	CAL FIRE/Deputy Chief
Chief Ryan Silva	CAL FIRE/Battalion Chief
Nicole del Toro	County Fire, EMS Administrative Secretary



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- I. CALL TO ORDER at 1:01 p.m.
  - A. The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
  - B. Roll Call was taken.
  - C. A quorum was declared present with one (1) absence and five (5) members in attendance.
  - D. Introductions were made. Chief Davis was hired from Sacramento headquarters and replaced Chief Pemberton.
- II. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION  
There was no public communication.
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 22, 2021 (VOTE)

**ON MOTION of Member Kellogg, seconded by Member Lyle, the Advisory Board approved the Minutes of November 22, 2021.**

**AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSTENT: 1**

- IV. MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT
  - A. Fire Chief's Report (Chief Mecham)
    1. The November and December 2021 Fire Chief's Reports were provided which covered a summary of organizational highlights, a review of bureau reports and community performance data.
    2. The goal this year is to get staff the time to complete their current assignments and focus on where we should be.
    3. Construction – Palomar should be finished by the end of the month; Mount Laguna should be done in March; Otay Mesa Fire Station is still proceeding and on schedule to move in by July 2023; still working through Jacumba; working to extend the lease on Intermountain and Witch Creek; will be doing a feasibility study on the Descanso Fire Station where the permanent station should be built and looking at replacing it.
    4. Fleet – doing well; seeing significant supply chain issues.
    5. EMS delivery system has been very challenging and extremely busy last month with ambulance diversion and the daily crisis at the hospitals. It is affecting the crew out in the field significantly.
    6. Board of Supervisors gave authority for third person staffing; moved forward to start hiring in Otay Mesa and relief positions.
    7. Ramona Municipal Water District voted to support coming into the County and will be at Board of Supervisors January 25 for a concurrent vote by the Board; hope to be at LAFCO March or April with a goal of transitioning Ramona into the County July 1. Includes a staffing upgrade with two fire engines.
    8. Jeff Collins has filled the position of Director, replacing Herman Reddick.
- V. OLD BUSINESS
  - A. Agricultural pass program to assist with access to farmlands during a disaster



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- Chief Nissen provided the following update: This is moving along. The Ag Pass outline will go to the Evacuation Committee in February. They will likely have questions and it will go back and forth multiple times. The State Fire Marshalls Office is tasked with putting together a curriculum to train individuals who would be the recipient of this pass. Since they have until 2023 to provide this, it is not certain when we can expect this. Also had discussions with the Sheriff's Office to let them know that this was out there and so they can do preliminary investigations on their side. Chief Nissen can report back in April or May.

## VI. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Letter to SDCFPD Board of Directors on expansion of Highway 67

- Member Dan Summers prepared a brief overall presentation to the group regarding the request to expand Highway 67 and about the evacuation and safety issues. Ramona Community Planning Group is very supportive of expanding Hwy 67 to four lanes. They have established a subcommittee and have been working on this for three years. However, the project is in jeopardy due to the opposition.
- Director Collins will work with Chair Tulloch and Member Summers to draft a letter to the SDCFPD Board of Directors.

**ON MOTION of Member Summers, seconded by Member Sossaman, the Advisory Board approved to send a letter to the SDCFPD Board of Directors as soon as possible in support of the expansion of Highway 67 to four lanes.**

**AYES: 5      NAYS: 0      ABSTENT: 1**

### B. Elect new Vice-Chair

**ON MOTION of Member Lyle, seconded by Member Sossaman, the Advisory Board elected Cliff Kellogg as the new Vice-Chair.**

**AYES: 5      NAYS: 0      ABSTENT: 1**

### C. Redistricting of the Board of Supervisors

The redistricting will go into effect on January 15, 2022. District 5 will pick up more desert area; District 2 will push into Forest Ranch. The biggest change is District 1, which will have a bit more of Otay Mountain area. For now, the redistricting does not affect the membership of this Advisory Board. However, the Board of Supervisors could make a change in the future.

### D. Advisory Board Statement – Update on Heli-Hydrants

**ON MOTION of Member Lyle, seconded by Member Kellogg, the Advisory Board voted to support the plan to evaluate viable sites, partnerships and water sources, and grant funding opportunities.**

**AYES: 5      NAYS: 0      ABSTENT: 1**

### E. Meeting schedule for 2022



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Director Collins proposed that the Fire Advisory Board Committee meet every other month, and continue on a Monday at 1:00 pm, with the understanding that we may need to make adjustments on the timing based on when board action is coming so we have sufficient time to review and get the Advisory Board's input. A schedule for the rest of the year will be provided at the next meeting.

A suggestion was made that the committee meet at one of the facilities for a tour at Monte Vista in the Spring.

## VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- o A plaque will be provided for previous Member Suzanne Leininger.

## VIII. NEXT MEETING

The next Fire Advisory Board meeting will be held on Monday, February 28, 2022, 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 1:51 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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