



SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE

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

www.sdcountyfire.org

SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Monday, February 27, 2023 | 2:30 p.m.

TEAMS [Click here to join the meeting](#) | Meeting ID: 293 518 052 477 | Passcode: y7xZw2

Or call in (audio only) 1-619-343-2539 | Phone Conference ID: 177 161 225#

AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER
 - A. Pledge of Allegiance
 - B. Roll Call
 - C. Declaration of Quorum
 - D. Introductions

- II. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: Members of the public may address the Board on any subject matter within its assigned purview and not on the agenda. Please notify County staff prior to the meeting.

- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 28, 2022 **(VOTE)**

- IV. MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT
 - A. Fire Chief's Update

- V. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. Ambulance Services in the San Diego County Fire Protection District—Pending Board of Directors Actions to Implement a New Service Delivery Model
 - B. Agricultural Pass—Pending Board of Supervisors Action to Fully Implement the Agricultural Pass Program in the San Diego Region
 - C. Fire Mitigation Fee—Pending Board of Directors Action to Adopt Revised Fire Mitigation Fees to Reflect Actual Costs
 - D. California Board of Forestry's Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map—Discussion Item

- VI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- VII. NEXT MEETING
 - A. Monday, May 15, 2023 at 1:00 pm at the San Diego County Fire Office – 5560 Overland Ave, Suite 400, Balboa Room, San Diego CA 92123 (County Operations Center).

- VIII. ADJOURNMENT

For meeting information, please contact:

San Diego County Fire

TEL: (619) 455-1819

Nicole.DelToro@sdcounty.ca.gov



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Written materials distributed to the Fire Advisory Board in connection with this agenda will be made available to the public less than 72 hours before the meeting at the Office of San Diego County Fire.

ASSISTANCE FOR THE DISABLED

If you are planning on attending this meeting and need special accommodations, please contact County Fire staff at least 24 hours before the meeting. Individuals requiring sign language interpreters should contact the Americans with Disabilities Coordinator at (858) 505-6521, in advance of the meeting.

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SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FIRE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Monday, November 28, 2022 | 1:00 P.M.

MINUTES

Members

Jason Shanley	District 1 – Seat 1
VACANT	District 5 – Seat 2
Clifford Kellogg	District 5 – Seat 3, Vice Chair
Bob Uribe	District 2 – Seat 4
Dan Summers	District 2 – Seat 5
Randy Lyle	District 2 – Seat 6
Benjamin Tulloch	District 2 – Seat 7, Chair (Absent)

Guests

County Staff

Tony Mecham	CAL FIRE/Chief
Jeff Collins	County Fire/Director
David Sibbet	County Fire/Fire Services Coordinator
Jessica Martinez	County Fire/Program Coordinator
Nicole del Toro	County Fire/EMS Admin Secretary



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- I. CALL TO ORDER at 1:00 p.m.
 - A. The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
 - B. Roll Call was taken.
 - C. A quorum was declared present with five (5) members in attendance, one (1) absent.
 - D. Introductions were made.

- II. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION
There was no public communication.

- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2022 (VOTE)

ON MOTION of Member Lyle, seconded by Member Summers, the Advisory Board approved the Minutes of September 12, 2022.

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1

- IV. MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT

- A. Fire Chief's Report (Chief Tony Mecham)

1. The August, September and October 2022 Fire Chief's Reports were provided which covered a summary of organizational highlights, a review of bureau reports and community performance data.
2. Chief Mecham provided information on the following topics:
 - Operations
 - Performance
 - Desert Season
 - Flu
 - Facilities
 - Apparatus
 - Budget
 - Staffing
 - Village 13

Also, District 2 and District 4 are bringing forward a board letter on December 13 that will task County Fire with doing a study on ambulance services across the East County, which is called the Alliance Model. County Fire will be tasked to hire a consultant and evaluate ambulance services in the back country, and potentially put under the control of the fire department.

Director Collins provided information on the following:

- Borrego – The application has been filed with LAFCO. Early next year will have a good idea of how this will go through with LAFCO.
- Ag Pass update – Two different trainings were held. 68 people in total now have an Ag Pass. Will come back to the Board of Supervisors in the Spring for full implementation and outreach to the other cities.



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Member Summers announced that on Thursday, December 1, the Ramona Community Planning Group will be presenting Chief Mecham with recognition and appreciation for the improvement he has brought into the community of Ramona.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Approving the Fire Advisory Board Meeting Schedule for 2023

ON MOTION of Member Summers, seconded by Member Lyle, the Advisory Board voted to approve the proposed meeting schedule for 2023.

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1

B. SDG&E Donation for Roadside Fire Retardant – Pending Board of Directors Action

ON MOTION of Member Shanley, seconded by Member Lyle, the Advisory Board voted to receive an update on the SDG&E donation and support the proposed recommendation to receive the funding for the purpose of applying long-term fire retardant along the roadside and evaluation corridors.

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1

C. Consolidated Fire Code Revisions – Pending Board of Supervisors Action

ON MOTION of Member Summers, seconded by Member Lyle, the Advisory Board voted to receive this update and support the proposed updates to the Consolidated Fire Code.

ACTION: David Sibbet will send out a strike out underline version to the members.

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1

D. Defensible Space Ordinance – Pending Board of Directors Action

ON MOTION of Member Summers, seconded by Member Lyle, the Advisory Board voted to receive this update and support the proposed updates to the Defensible Space Ordinance.

ACTION: David Sibbet will send out a strike out underline version to the members.

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1

VI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items.

VII. NEXT MEETING

The next Fire Advisory Board meeting will be held on Monday, March 6, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. at the San Diego County Fire Office (County Operations Center) – 5560 Overland Ave, Suite 400, Balboa Room, San Diego, CA 92123.



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VIII. 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.

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DRAFT

Ambulance Services in the San Diego County Fire Protection District—Pending Board of Directors Actions to Implement a New Service Delivery Model

On October 4, 2021, the State of California enacted Assembly Bill 389. This legislation included provisions authorizing the Board of Supervisors to designate a fire agency as the lead ambulance transportation agency for the service areas under the County’s responsibility as outlined in the Health and Safety Code Sections 1797.230-1797.231. Most of the County’s unincorporated area, including much of the San Diego County Fire Protection District, receives ambulance transportation through the Unified Service Area.

The new provision for services outlined in AB 389 has the potential to support enhanced patient care, additional firefighting resources in our most vulnerable communities, and to reduce long-term costs for taxpayers. On December 13, 2022, the Board of Supervisors directed County staff to contract for a consultant to review ambulance transportation service delivery models for San Diego County. Today’s actions include receiving an update on this effort and supporting pending Board of Supervisors action to potentially designate the San Diego County Fire Protection District as the lead fire agency for ambulance transportation services in the Unified Service Area and San Diego County Fire Protection District and meet the statutory requirements of 1797.230-1797.231.

Recommendation: Support the recommendation to designate the San Diego County Fire Protection District as the lead fire agency for ambulance transportation services, if recommended by the consultant.

Agricultural Pass—Pending Board of Supervisors Action to Fully Implement the Agricultural Pass Program in the San Diego Region

In early 2022, the County Board of Supervisors (Board) asked staff to explore the feasibility of developing an Agricultural and Livestock Pass (Ag Pass) Program for San Diego County to support agricultural operators protect their crops and livestock during an emergency. The Ag Pass authorizes certain staff, who are training, to enter evacuated areas to care for their livestock and crops. In August 2022, staff presented a proposal to the Board to implement a pass for both the agriculture and livestock industries in the unincorporated area. The Board approved, and the County started the Ag Pass Program in September 2022 by rolling out “Phase 1” to the livestock industry, which included accepting applications for all commercial cattle and equine operations. County Fire and the Ag Pass Program partners plan to return to the Board on April 4, 2023, to recommend the immediate rollout of the second and final phase of the program. Approval of Phase 2 would expand the program to the agricultural industry by opening up applications to an approximate 4,000 agriculture operators in the unincorporated area.

Recommendation: Support County Fire’s recommendation to authorize the full implementation of the San Diego County Agricultural and Livestock Pass (Ag Pass) Program, which would include the immediate rollout of the second and final phase to the agricultural industry in the unincorporated area.

Fire Mitigation Fee—Pending Board of Supervisors Action to Adopt Revised Fire Mitigation Fees to Reflect Actual Costs

In 1985, the Board of Supervisors established the Fire Mitigation Fee (FMF) Ordinance for fire protection districts, under the law, to impose fees and offset the impacts of development on public facilities or

services. For San Diego County, Planning and Development Services collects fees when building permits are issued and disperses funding quarterly. San Diego County Fire serves as the program administrator to meet state legislative requirements, including annual reporting of information.

The County has been undergoing a comprehensive nexus study, in accordance with AB 602 to determine the connection between development and fire and emergency medical services. This work involves all local fire protection districts with a goal of updating the FMF, by jurisdiction, from the Fiscal Year 2018-19 level. The updated fee includes the San Diego County Fire Protection District.

Recommendation: Receive a report on County staff efforts to update the Fire Mitigation Fee to meet the criteria established in AB 602 for comprehensive nexus studies. Support the proposed FMF increase for the San Diego County Fire Protection District.

California Board of Forestry's Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map—Discussion Item

California's Board of Forestry to receiving public comment on proposed changes to the Fire Hazard Severity Map.

Recommendation: Discuss the proposed changes and determine if the Fire Advisory Board will take action to the draft changes.