



## **South Santa Clara County Fire District**

15670 Monterey Street Morgan Hill, CA 95037 • (408) 779-2121 • [www.sscbfd.com](http://www.sscbfd.com)  
Jake Hess, Fire Chief

### **MINUTES OF THE SOUTH SANTA CLARA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGUAR MEETING OF March 12, 2025**

#### **1. Opening**

##### **1.1. CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson Ramon Lopez**

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the South Santa Clara County Fire Protection District was held on Wednesday, March 12, 2025, at the Masten Fire Station located at 10810 No Name Uno, Gilroy, CA 95021.

Chairperson Lopez called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. A quorum was present via in-person pursuant to Government Code 54953(e).

##### **1.2. ROLL CALL – Acting Clerk Nick Giampaoli**

- a. Commissioners Present: Chairperson Lopez, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Lewis, Commissioner Monaco, Commissioner Keesling, Commissioner Acker, Commissioner Ludewig
- b. Fire District Staff: Chief Giampaoli, Chief Hernandez, Chief Mikesell, Consultant Athey, Masten Station Crew, Volunteer Winter
- c. Absent: None

##### **1.3. DECLARATION OF POSTING OF AGENDA**

Per Government Code 54954.2 – Acting Clerk Nick Giampaoli

##### **1.4. Introductions: Supervising Budget Analyst Dills-Thompson**

#### **2. Public Participation**

None.

**3. Agenda Amendments and Changes**

Commissioner Keesling requested Item 4(a) be removed from consent.  
Commissioner Acker requested Item 4(b) be removed from consent.

**4. Approve Consent Agenda**

**4(a) Minutes Approval**

Possible Action:

- a. Approve the February 8, 2025, Regular Meeting minutes.

**4(b) Expenditures Approval**

Possible Action:

- a. Approve Expenditures from February 1, 2025 – February 28, 2025.

**4(c) Staff Reports Approval**

Possible Action:

- a. Approve Incident Statistical Report.
- b. Approve Grant Writer Report.
- c. Approve Mitigation Fees Report.
- d. Approve Staffing Report.

**Motion:** Approve the consent agenda with the exception of Item 4(a) and Item 4(b).

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Monaco
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Keesling
<b>AYES:</b>	Lopez, Johnson, Lewis, Acker, Ludewig
<b>NOES:</b>	None
<b>ABSENT:</b>	None

#### 4(a) Minutes Approval

Commissioner Keesling stated that his quote regarding Santa Clara County Central Fire District's funding not adequate from their reports was not included in the minutes and would like that added.

**Motion:** No action to be taken. Deferred to April meeting for approval.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Acker
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Ludewig
<b>AYES:</b>	Lopez, Johnson, Keesling, Lewis, Monaco
<b>NOES:</b>	None
<b>ABSENT:</b>	None

#### 4(b) Expenditures Approval

Commissioner Acker asked about Doc#355 – iSimulate. Consultant Athey clarified that it was for ALS Manikins, not monitors and they will be reimbursed by the EMS Trust Fund.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Monaco
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Keesling
<b>AYES:</b>	Lopez, Johnson, Acker, Lewis, Ludewig
<b>NOES:</b>	None
<b>ABSENT:</b>	None

#### Regular Agenda Items for Discussion

#### 5. Old Business Info/Action

##### 5.1. South Santa Clara County Fire District Dissolution – Information/Action

Discuss the dissolution of the South Santa Clara County Fire District.

Possible action:

- a. Develop correspondence to be sent to the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors providing feedback regarding District dissolution.
- b. Develop correspondence to be sent to the Santa Clara County Local Agency Formation Commission providing feedback regarding District dissolution.

Chairperson Lopez stated that the item will be tabled until after the LAFCO meeting in April. Deferred to April meeting.

6. New Business

6.1. Proposed Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget Review – Information

Receive a report and discuss the proposed Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget.

Chairperson Lopez reported that the budget has been revised with the correct cost for personnel and that the benefit rates were not available until after the budget workshop. Lopez stated that the summary page provides end-of-year projections. Commissioner Acker inquired about the fire apparatus fund in the budget. Supervising Budget Analyst Dills-Thompson stated that The 2025/2026 budget does not include any capital asset purchases, and the solution was for Central Fire to lend apparatus to the District.

6.2. Fire District Consolidation Ad Hoc Committee – Information/Action

Possible action:

- a. Discuss and establish an Ad-Hoc Consolidation Subcommittee to support the consolidation of the South Santa Clara County Fire District and the Central Santa Clara County Fire District.

**Motion:** Commissioner Acker, Commissioner Monaco, and Chairperson Lopez will serve on the Ad Hoc Committee

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Monaco
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Johnson
<b>AYES:</b>	Lopez, Acker, Keesling, Lewis, Ludewig
<b>NOES:</b>	None
<b>ABSENT:</b>	None

7. Volunteer Firefighter Report – Brandon Winter

- Annual recertification for volunteers is in progress.
- Will participate in pancake breakfast.
- Planning Badge Pinning Ceremony in April.

8. Battalion Chief Report – Chief Main

- Chief Giampaoli reported on behalf of Chief Main.
- EMS response time compliance remains at 95%.
- Reported on four incidents of significance:
  - A medical emergency hiker at Henry Coe Park, a work-related injury at a mushroom farm, a structure fire, and a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

## 9. Chief's Report – Chief Hess

- Chief Giampaoli stated that Chief Hess was attending another meeting so he would provide the Chief report.
- CAL FIRE peak staffing will move to mid-April.
- Helicopter will soon be moving to night operations.
- Resource management will be conducting fuel reduction burns.
- CAL FIRE Grants in process. Hess has discussed grants with all five counties.
- Tech Services is in the process of relocating the helicopter base.
- Tech Services is in the process of expanding management services offices in Morgan Hill.
- Fire Hazard Severity Zone – LRA County Fire Marshal Hector Estrada is taking on a plan of action.
- LAFCO meeting for District dissolution is April 2, 2025.

## 10. Events

- LAFCO Meeting – April 2, 2025
- Pancake Breakfast
- Volunteer Badge Pinning Ceremony
- Commissioner Johnson requested that event dates and information be posted on the District website.

## 11. Request for Future Agenda Items

- Asset Inventory Report
- February Meeting Minutes
- Dissolution – Item 5.1

## 12. Commissioners' Comments

- Acker – Stated that it was a quiet meeting.

## 13. Next Meeting is April 9, 2025

## 14. Adjourn Meeting

*There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm.*

ATTEST

Signed by:

*Ramon Lopez*

Ramon Lopez, Chairperson

DocuSigned by:

*Nick Giampaoli*

Nick Giampaoli, Acting Clerk of the Board