

Stanislaus County Fire Authority  
Meeting Minutes  
Board of Directors Meeting  
February 1, 2007

---

Chief Skiles called the meeting to order at 0905 hrs. The flag was saluted.

The following agency representatives were present:

Chief Steve Barrett	CDF –SCU
Chief Karl Curnow	Denair Fire District
Asst. Chief Randall Kelley	Hughson Fire
Asst. Chief Henry Benevides	Keyes Fire
Chief Jim Miguel	Modesto Fire
Chief Mike Wilkinson	City of Oakdale
Deputy Chief Rob Hoyer	Oakdale Rural Fire
Chief Bill Kinnear	City of Patterson
Chief Dale Skiles	Salida Fire District
Chief Steve Mayotte	Stanislaus Consolidated Fire
Fire Warden Gary Hinshaw	Stanislaus County
Chief Gary Thompson	Westport Fire District
Director Bob Kimball	West Stanislaus Fire District
Chief Mike Passalacqua	Woodland Ave. Fire

Also present were: Mike Kraus and Mike Payton, Modesto Fire; Walt Luihn, Oakdale Rural Fire District; Kim Morante and RaeLene Brown, Stanislaus Consolidated Fire; Mike Botto, Oakdale Fire; Ron Cripe, RFTC; Ken Slamon, Mimi DeSimoni, Matt Rivera and Shannon Thatcher, Fire Warden's Office; John Barindelli, Westport Fire; Dennis Wister, Community Development; Bill Houk, Supervisor O'Brien's Office, Royjindar Singh, Sheriff's Department.

Approval of Minutes: Walt Luihn requested the minutes be amended to reflect that he attended the January 4<sup>th</sup> meeting, Chief Mayotte requested that the minutes be amended to reflect that he questioned the 2/3 vote at the January meeting and, he wanted Chief Wilkinson's comments regarding haz-mat removed from the minutes. Chief Barrett made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 4, 2007 meeting with the noted changes, Walt Luihn seconded the motion. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

Agenda Items:

- A. Fire Investigator Tone Outs – Chief Miguel reported that currently the on-call investigator is identified as I-3. He wanted to know if that information is acceptable to the group, or do they want to know what investigator is coming. Does the group want them by name or a separate identifier? Chief Miguel said that information is always maintained in the call history as to what investigator responded. Chief Wilkinson suggested keeping the numbering system the same. There was no disagreement from the group.
  
- B. Radio Interoperability- Chief Skiles gave an update on the radio interoperability plan including Fowler Peak project, Diablo Grande, and Fire Frequency Sharing. There was discussion regarding the channel numbering system. Channels will be numbered 1-16. Chief Barrett suggested that White Fire 2 and 3 should remain as such. Asst. Chief Benevides noted that Keyes' channel 1 and 16 are used

for panic situations which could present a problem for them. All agreed that standardization would be the best. Chief Skiles said that if anyone has questions or problems with programming that they should contact Salida Fire. Chief Kraus discussed the proposed apparatus numbering system: Our current system has outgrown its usefulness so the Chief's Association requested this review be done and a proposal brought forward. A committee including SR911 has worked on developing this policy. A copy of the policy was distributed. He requested that all agencies take a look at it and bring their comments back to the Chief's Association meeting. He would like the new numbering system approved by May.

C. Special Operations Coordinator – A vote was taken to award the contract based on the proposals presented at the January meeting. The roll call vote reflected the following:

Those in favor of Oakdale City Fire's proposal

Those in favor of Stanislaus County's proposal

Asst. Chief Benevides - Keyes Fire  
 Asst Chief Kelley– Hughson Fire  
 Chief Wilkinson – Oakdale City Fire  
 Deputy Chief Hoyer – Oakdale Rural Fire  
 Chief Mayotte – Stanislaus Consolidated Fire  
 Bob Kimball – West Stanislaus Fire

Chief Barrett- CDF  
 Chief Curnow - Denair Fire  
 Chief Miguel – City of Modesto  
 Chief Kinnear- City of Patterson  
 Chief Skiles – Salida Fire  
 Chief Hinshaw – Stanislaus County  
 Chief Thompson – Westport Fire  
 Chief Passalacqua- Woodland Ave.

The total vote was 8 for Stanislaus County Fire Warden's Office, 6 for Oakdale City Fire. Neither proposal achieved a 2/3 majority vote, therefore the contract could not be awarded.

Discussion followed: Chief Barrett suggested bringing new proposals in 30 days. Chief Mayotte suggested getting more members here. Chief Hoyer suggested that the 2/3 vote is not appropriate for making decisions regarding contracts, therefore the JPA agreement should be amended. He requested that this issue be placed on the next agenda for discussion. RaeLene Brown cautioned against changing the rules whenever things don't work out. Director Kimball suggested getting a parliamentarian involved. Chief Skiles said that a ruling should be made by County Counsel since they wrote the agreement. Chief Miguel wanted it noted that his vote for the Fire Warden's Office was based on the overall purpose of the Fire Warden's Office. He felt these types of services should be performed by that office; his vote was not a reflection of his opinion of the Oakdale Fire Department. Chief Hoyer made a motion to bring the issue back for a re-vote in 28 days at the next meeting and if the same impasse occurs, the group will make a decision on how to proceed then; Assistant Chief Kelley seconded the motion. Chief Miguel questioned whether another vote should be taken at this meeting? Should conversation continue and the votes recast? A roll call vote reflected the following action on the motion by Chief Hoyer:

Yes

No

Chief Barrett- CDF  
 Chief Curnow – Denair  
 Asst. Chief Kelley – Hughson Fire  
 Chief Hoyer – Oakdale Rural Fire  
 Chief Kinnear – Patterson Fire  
 Director Kimball- West Stanislaus Fire  
 Chief Passalacqua- Woodland Ave. Fire

Asst. Chief Benevides – Keyes Fire  
 Chief Miguel- City of Modesto  
 Chief Skiles- Salida Fire  
 Chief Mayotte- Stanislaus Consolidated Fire  
 Asst. Chief Barindelli –Westport Fire

Abstained

Chief Wilkinson – City of Oakdale

Chief Hinshaw – Stanislaus County Fire Warden

With a majority vote of 7/5 and 2 abstentions, the motion was passed. There will be a re-vote on the Special Operations Coordinator contract at the March 1, 2007 meeting.

Staff / Committee Reports

- a. Management, Fiscal, Legislative- Mimi requested that all agency representatives and their alternates turn in a Form 700 to her. They can be accessed on-line at the FPPC website or she has copies of the cover page for those who only need it. The Training Coordinator contract will go to the Board of Supervisors for approval next Tuesday 2/6/07.
- b. Fire Investigations- Chief Miguel supplied a report of investigations done in December and briefly discussed it.
- c. Fire Prevention -Chief Hinshaw reported that the Fire Prevention Bureau was in transition, with new Fire Prevention Specialists. He introduced Matt Rivera and Shannon Thatcher to the group. The FPB is beginning to look at those issues that have not been addressed in the past. Software is needed to track the activities as this been a deficiency in the system. Chief Slamon discussed the Fire Hazard Severity maps that the state has put out. He will send the electronic version to all the Chiefs. There may be some new restrictions in the high severity –SRA. Chief Slamon would like to see standards adopted for water supply and access. Chief Mayotte asked if sprinkler ordinance was progressing. Chief Slamon reported that the fire-sprinkler companies were reluctant to give out pricing information; he will continue to work on it. Chief Payton reported that classes are coming up on new codes. Dennis Wister also has information on seminars coming up and will pass it along.
- d. Communications – Chief Skiles covered that information in his earlier report. Regarding pagers, call-stripping is still an issue, however, the new CAD may offer opportunities for change. Call Salida if you have problems.

Chief Miguel reported that the Industrial Fire District Board, the Cities of Modesto and Ceres, LAFCO and the Fire Warden's Office have entered in discussion regarding the dissolution of the Industrial Fire District.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday March 1, 2007 at the RFTC.

The meeting was adjourned at 1055hrs.

Mimi DeSimoni

Clerk of the Board