

Stanislaus County Fire Authority  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
May 5, 2011– 8:30 a.m.  
Regional Fire Training Center – Modesto, CA

Chief Skiles called the meeting to order at 0835. The flag was saluted.

**2. Roll Call:**

The following agency representatives were present:

CalFire SCU	Chief Jones
City of Ceres	Chief Lillie
Denair Fire	Chief Doerksen
Keyes Fire	Chief Watt
City of Modesto	Chief S. Slamon
City of Patterson	Chief Hall
Salida Fire	Chief Skiles
Stanislaus Consolidated	Chief Mayotte
Stanislaus County Fire Warden	Chief Hinshaw
Westport Fire	Chad Barindelli
Woodland Ave. Fire	Chief Passalacqua

Also Present: Mike Payton, Alicia Hinshaw, Hugo Patino Modesto Fire; Ray Jackson, Mimi DeSimoni, Ken Slamon, Fire Warden’s Office; Chad Homme, Stuart Dutter, Salida Fire; Marilyn Smith, MVEMSA;

Guests- John Bliss and Mary Shilts representing SCI Consulting Group

**3. Public Comment:**

Chief Watt reported that he contacted Senator Berryhill’s office regarding the bill to rescind the fire sprinkler ordinance.

**4. Approval of Minutes:** Chief Mayotte made motion to approve the minutes of the 4/7/11 meeting, Chief Hall seconded the motion. Motion was passed.

**5. Staff / Committee Reports**

- 5.1 Management, Fiscal, Legislative- Chief Skiles discussed upcoming legislation that can be found on the internet. Financial information will be provided with the business plan.
- 5.2 Fire Investigations- Reports were distributed. 26 fires were investigated, 24 of those were in the County area; a pretty typical month.
- 5.3 Fire Prevention- Report was sent out with agenda. Chief Slamon suggested that this organization should take a position on the Berryhill bill regarding fire sprinklers; the two fire marshals will write a letter to be considered at next month’s meeting. Chief Payton reported on the bill to allow fireworks at New Years. Discussion on the authority/responsibility of the Fire Prevention Bureau. Chief Watt discussed issues related to Keyes Fire District’s inability to protect

more growth, and the political implications of his denial of new development and the lack of funding.

- 5.4 Fire Communications- Chief Skiles reported in Chad's absence on the communications report. Discussion on progress of CAD. Mimi reported on the progress of the regional fire RMS system. MDC grant project is going to council for approvals, to be completed and installed by 7/1/11. Dispatch center to dispatch center meeting was held to discuss improvements to the system. Chief K. Slamon discussed the issue of radio coverage inside of buildings and how it is addressed in the fire code's Appendix J. The next CAC meeting is May 17<sup>th</sup>.
- 5.5 Fire Training- Stuart reported on the classes that were held during the last month.
- 5.6 EMS – Report included with agenda. MVEMSA is going to mirror the policy for exposure reporting that was presented to all the fire agencies, so there will be consistency throughout the County. She also reported on the SB that will allow the administration of rectal valium by school volunteers. SB49 will take away the fire agencies right to bill for vehicle accidents, a letter of opposition was included in the agenda packet. She is still working on the ATD program.

## 6. Agenda Items

- 6.1 **SCI Consulting Group** – Provided an overview of funding mechanisms available to fire agencies. John Bliss started with an explanation of ad valorem tax rates, then discussed impact fees, CFD or Mello Roos, special taxes, and benefit assessments. Mary Shilts discussed why it is important to enlist the help of a consultant particularly in terms of community outreach. They will be having a workshop in Stockton on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Handouts were provided.
- 6.2 **Operational Area Coordinator-** Chief Jackson reported that the FWO is still waiting for letters from all agencies so that red cards may be issued. Region 4 Area coordinator meeting is on May 25, 2011 at the CalEMA headquarters in Sacramento. XST refresher/re-qualification is scheduled for May 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. Chief Jones of CalFire provided preseason packets- similar to last year's information. CalFire has sustained significant budget cuts and will be going to 3/0 staffing on engines. The current administration is not as supportive of CalFire. There will be a limited B/C response from SCU. The 2011 CA Preliminary Seasonal Assessment was handed out and discussed. SCU will experience a normal start up – 6 engines May 16<sup>th</sup>. Air Attack will not be up and operational until June 16<sup>th</sup>. Assistance by Hire is the same as last year, a letter was included in the packet.
- 6.3 **Annual Business Plan-** A draft business plan was presented with significant reductions in service levels based on lower revenues and the desire to create a balanced budget. The plan will be voted on at the next meeting.
- 6.4 **Radio Infrastructure and Simulcast** – Lucian Thomas sent a communication outlining funding and sites for simulcast system. No site is available on the east side. There will be equipment purchased in June so the project is moving along.
- 6.5 **Resource Management-** A communication from SR-911 was read regarding limitations with only 2 fire dispatchers. Station coverage needs to be outlined

ahead of time through run-cards. Auto aid agreements need to be reviewed and the provided to SR-911 and the Operational Area Coordinator. SR911 requested that agencies not call the dispatch center to advise that they have resources available. Resource status is in CAD, so it isn't necessary to call in to tell the dispatcher. Station coverage was discussed, policy will be discussed at the next meeting.

- 6.6 Code 3 Response by Law Enforcement-** There has been discussion with L/E regarding recent requests for L/E code 3 when it wasn't warranted. They requested that the reason is stated over the radio.
- 6.7 Elections** – Chief Mayotte made a motion that the same officers stay in place for the sake of continuity of the organization; Chief Hinshaw seconded the motion. The motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 1110 hrs.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 2, 2011

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mimi DeSimoni  
Stanislaus County Fire Wardens Office