



TODD HARMS  
Fire Chief

# Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District

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## ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN FIRE DISTRICT

Thursday, September 22, 2022

Held at the following locations:

10545 Armstrong Avenue – Board Room

Mather, California

&

Remotely Via Zoom

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by President Saylor. Board members present in person: Clark, Goold, Rice, Saylor, Sheetz, Wood, and White. Board members present virtually via Zoom: None. Board members absent: Jones and Orzalli. Staff present: Acting Chief Mitchell, General Counsel Lavra, and Board Clerk Penilla.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Roger Mitchell reminded everyone of the upcoming fundraiser for the restoration project for old engine number 2. Several speakers will be present and lots of fun will be had. The event will take place on October 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm, please reach out to him directly or Deputy Chief Bailey for tickets.

**Director Jones joined virtually at 6:05pm.**

### CONSENT ITEMS

**Action:** Moved by Rice, seconded by White, and carried unanimously by members present to adopt the consent calendar as follows:

1. **Action Summary Minutes**

**Recommendation:** Approve the Action Summary Minutes for the Regular Board meeting of September 8, 2022.

**Action:** Approved the Action Summary Minutes.

### ACTION ITEMS

1. **Ratification of Resolution to Extend Teleconference of Board Meetings**

**(Government Code 54953(e) (3)) (President Saylor)**

**Recommendation:** Consider adopting a Resolution which would extend the ability to teleconference without compliance of Government Code paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953 from September 22, 2022 – October 21, 2022 or until further re-ratified.

**Action:** Moved by Clark, seconded by White, and carried unanimously by members present to adopt Resolution No. 2022-078.

### REPORTS

1. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**—(President Saylor) No report.

2. **FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**—(Acting Chief Mitchell)

#### Promotions

Congratulations to Benton Christensen and Hillary Smittle who were promoted to Fire Inspector II effective September 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **New Hire**

Welcome to Jake Whealen who was hired as the Geographic Information Data Analyst effective September 19<sup>th</sup>.

### **Recruitment**

Continuous Quality Improvement Manager (CQI) open through October 4<sup>th</sup>.

Reserve Firefighter (internal/external) open through October 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **Meetings/Conferences**

Sacramento 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb event, they were in a new location this year, and happy to be back post-pandemic. Thank you to everyone involved in planning the event, and to those who participated in the climb.

Deputy Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs Greene and Rudnicki attended the CalChiefs Conference in Sacramento. It was great to have the event locally, and we were able to reconnect and build back some relationships throughout the state.

### **OPERATIONS' REPORT**

Deputy Chief Mitchell shared there have been 4,106 total incidents since our last report on September 8, 2022; an average of 293 calls per day. There were 148 fire incidents, an average of 10.5 calls per day. Crews had two fire incidents as the storm front moved through last week with the wind.

As for OES Deployments, all engines and members deployed have returned safely back home. The rain was a welcome weather change for fire behavior.

Metro Fire responding crew received some positive feedback from an EMS call involving a 78 year old female complaining of weakness post fall. She fell face first on the court playing pickle ball, striking her forehead on the ground. Even though the patient was GCS 15, Paramedic Plotka determined the patient could have sustained significant spinal injury. She was placed in full spinal mobile restriction (SMR) and transported code 3 to MSJ. Paramedic Plotka also identified that her weakness was a new onset, and could have caused her to fall, so he advised MSJ of both a trauma and stroke alert. Per MSJ, the patient had multiple spinal fractures and significant artery damage in her spine that mimicked a stroke. MSJ praised our crew's treatment and assessment, mentioning that any additional head movement without SMR could have left her paralyzed. Excellent work to Captain Jon Davis, Engineer Steve Tafoya, Firefighter/Paramedic Ryan Bridges, Paramedic Artur Plotka, and Paramedic Noah Novotny.

### **3. SMFD – FIREFIGHTERS LOCAL 522 REPORT**

Vice President Matt Cole shared that the E-Board met last week, and they are preparing for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for the Firefighters Burn Institute this weekend. He invited everyone to come and participate in the remembrance event that created the institute on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>.

He wishes those members who moved onto other agencies all the best. He also welcomes Jake as the GIS Specialist. This is a position that has been vacant for some time, Local 522 worked closely with Administration to make the position what it is now. VP Cole is looking forward to strengthening the organization and retaining the employees we bring to Metro Fire.



#### 4. COMMITTEE AND DELEGATE REPORTS

*All Committee Meetings will be held at the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District Board Room, 10545 Armstrong Avenue, Mather, California unless otherwise specified.*

**A. Executive Committee – (President Saylor)**

Next Meeting: TBD

**B. Communications Center JPA – (DC Wagaman)**

Report Out: Special Meeting, September 22, 2022 at 2:00 PM

The Communications Center is looking forward to the development of a five-year strategic plan.

Next Meeting: October 11, 2022 at 9:00 AM

**C. Finance and Audit Committee – (Director Orzalli)**

Next Meeting: October 27, 2022 at TBD

**D. Policy Committee – (Director Goold)**

Next Meeting: TBD

#### BOARD MEMBER QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Director Rice shared that he will be joining virtually for the meeting in October. He recently attended the Firefighter Memorial in Colorado Springs where Firefighter Tami Thacher's name was added to the wall for her job-related cancer. He remembers those who lost their lives 50 years ago in the plane crash that ultimately led to the creation of the burn center, especially Gene LeVine and his family. Director Rice also thanked Local 522's Honor Guard Matt Christiansen for his recent participation at the Colorado Springs Firefighter Memorial. Lastly, he thanked the Deputy Chiefs for their updates throughout the weeks while Chief Harms was out of town.

Director Goold would like to see a presentation from the Honor Guard at a future Board Meeting, and agrees with Director Rice that what they do and their dedication to training is truly special.

Director White congratulated those who were recently promoted, and those newly hired. He also congratulated retired Assistant Chief VanBrunt who is competing at the National Championship for the Firefighter Combat Challenge today, and wishes him all the best. Lastly, he shared that former logistics technician John DeGraff Jr. passed away recently, he is the son of retired Fire Captain John DeGraff, and asked for a moment of silence in his honor.

Director Saylor thanked to Board for their participation tonight, and for sharing so many different stories and perspectives.

**The board recessed to closed session at 6:30 PM with a moment of silence honoring Firefighter Thacher, Firefighter LeVine, and John DeGraff Jr.**

#### CLOSED SESSION

**1. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9 (a) – One (1) matter of Workers Compensation Settlement Authority.**

- A.** Anthony Fink and the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District  
Claim # SMDQ-550062 – Workers Compensation Settlement Authority  
Breanna Owen of Lenahan, Slater, Pearse & Majernick, LLP

**Action:** Moved by Goold, seconded by Rice, and carried unanimously by members present to give settlement authority to Metro Fire's third party administrator.

**2. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9 (a) – One (1) matter of Workers Compensation Compromise and Release.**

- A. Kyle Rutherford and the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District  
Claim # 4021038GB28-0001 – Workers Compensation Settlement Authority  
Colin Connor of Lenahan, Slater, Pearse & Majernik, LLP

**Action:** Moved by Goold, seconded by Rice, and carried unanimously by members present to give settlement authority to Metro Fire's third party administrator.

**3. Conference with Labor Negotiator  
Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957.6**

- A. District Negotiator: Jack Hughes, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore  
Employee Organization: Sacramento Area Fire Fighters Local 522
- B. District Negotiator: Jack Hughes, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore  
Employee Organization: Battalion Chiefs Bargaining Group,  
Sacramento Area Fire Fighters Local 522
- C. District Negotiator: Jack Hughes, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore  
Employee Organization: Administrative Support Personnel (ASP)  
Affiliate of Sacramento Area Fire Fighters Local 522
- D. District Negotiator: Jack Hughes, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore  
Employee Organization: Safety Senior Management, Management  
and Unrepresented Confidential Employees
- E. District Negotiator: Jack Hughes, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore  
Employee Organization: Non-Safety Senior Management, Management  
and Unrepresented Confidential Employees

**Action:** The Board took no reportable action.

**4. PERSONNEL MATTERS – PUBLIC EMPLOYEE EMPLOYMENT  
Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957**

Fire Chief Selection Process

**Action:** The Board took no reportable action.

The board reconvened to open session at 9:43 PM.

**ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting was adjourned at 9:47 PM.

  
Cynthia Saylor, President

  
Walt White, Secretary

  
Melissa Penilla, Board Clerk