



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, January 13, 2022 Remotely Via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by President Saylor. Board members present: Clark, Goold, Orzalli, Saylor, White, and Wood. Board members absent: Jones, Kelly, and Sheetz. Staff present: Chief Harms, General Counsel Lavra, and Clerk Penilla

President Saylor announced at the beginning of the meeting that Action Item #2 has been removed from the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Local 522 Vice President Matt Cole presented during public comment prior to Closed Session on behalf of the membership. He described the uncertain times the fire service is faced with due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The membership has been dedicated, running more calls than ever, coming to work whenever called, and making sure the community is best served by Metro Fire. The fire service will have to make changes as we begin to navigate the new world we live in with COVID-19. He wants to make sure Metro Fire is a place people want to come and work, and tonight the Board has a chance to get back into the existing union contracts. He thanks the Board for their time, and the many viewers who joined virtually tonight.

CONSENT ITEMS

Action: Moved by Wood, seconded by Clark, 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 December 9, 2021.
Action: Approved Action Summary Minutes.
- 2. Action Summary Minutes**
Recommendation: Approve the Action Summary Minutes for the Special Board meeting of January 5, 2022.
Action: Approved Action Summary Minutes.
- 3. Sacramento County Authorized Signature List**
Recommendation: Approve list of employees authorized to sign all fiscal documents for Metro Fire.
Action: Approved the signatory list.

PRESENTATION ITEMS

- 1. Certificate of Achievement Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting**
(Dave O'Toole, Chief Financial Officer)
Recommendation: Receive presentation, no action required.
Action: No action taken.

ACTION ITEMS

1. **Notice of Award Amendment – AFG20 Cardiac Monitor/Defibrillators**
(Erin Castleberry, Administrative Specialist)
Recommendation: Approve the amendment to the FY2020 AFG award and adopt the budget amendment resolutions.
Action: Moved by Clark, seconded by Wood, and carried unanimously by the members present to approve the amendment to FY2020 AFG Award and adopt Resolution Nos. 2022-002 and 2022-003.

2. **Approval of Dissolution Agreement with the California Fire and Rescue Training Authority** (General Counsel Lavra)
Recommendation: Approve the Dissolution Agreement and provide authority to the Fire Chief or his designee to approve the agreement on behalf of Metro Fire as a member of CFRTA.
Action: This item was removed from the agenda.

3. **Industrial Disability Retirement – Engineer Brent W Barsdale**
Recommendation: After discussion in Closed Session, consider adopting a Resolution finding Engineer Brent W. Barsdale has suffered job related injuries and is eligible for an Industrial Disability Retirement.
Action: Moved by Wood, seconded by Clark, and carried unanimously by the members present to approve staff's recommendation and adopt Resolution No. 2022-004.

The board recessed to closed session at 6:25 PM.

CLOSED SESSION

1. **Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9 (a) – One (1) matter of Workers Compensation Settlement Authority**
James Novotny and the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District
Claim #s SMDO -549452; SMDK – 548684; SMRY - 192204 –
Workers Compensation Settlement Authority
Colin Conner of Lenahan, Lee, Slater, Pearse & Majernik, LLP
Action: Moved by White, seconded by Wood, and carried unanimously by members present to give the District's third party negotiator settlement authority.

2. **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.

3. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9 (a) – one (1) matter of Industrial Disability Retirement.

- A. Brent W Barsdale and the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District
Claim # SMDM - 548819 - Industrial Disability Retirement
Ty Bailey, Deputy Chief, Administration

Action: No action taken.

The board reconvened to open session at 7:53 PM.

REPORTS

1. PRESIDENT'S REPORT—(President Saylor)

President Saylor announced on January 19th at 9:00AM at the State Capitol, Room 437 there will be an Oversight Hearing for Ambulance Patient Offload Delays, please attend if you can.

Cap-to-Cap is scheduled in-person for the first time since 2019. This year's conference will be from April 30th through May 4th. Staff members attending will be Chief Harms, DC Bailey, Chief Economic Development Officer Jeff Frye, and Deputy Fire Marshal Fields. Board members scheduled to go in 2020 will be offered to attend this year, those members were President Saylor, Directors Clark, Sheetz, and Wood. For Board Members interested in attending as an alternate let President Saylor and Clerk Penilla know, and if a Board Member cannot attend an alternate will be selected based on previous attendance.

2. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT—(Fire Chief Harms)

Chief Harms began his report by congratulating all the members who retired at the end of 2021.

Engineer Troy Nogosek - 21 years of service
Firefighter John Carr - 19 years of service
Engineer John Reeves - 21 years of service
Engineer Jeff Sjolín - 21 years of service
Engineer James Beil - 19 years of service
Firefighter Adam Russell - 27 years of service
Captain Shawn Condit - 34 years of service
Engineer Roy Rud - 30 years of service
DC Greg Casentini - 27 years of service

Together, they made up 219 years of service, and made an incredible impact on the organization. Congratulations and we wish them well on future endeavors.

Reassignment

Effective January 1 - Battalion Chief Matt Cole became the new Local 522 Vice President and transitioned to a day assignment.

Effective January 10 – Captain Adam Spiva was selected to fill the Mobile Integrated Health Program Coordinator position.

New Hire

Effective January 3 – Fire Mechanic Brandon Christian

Promotion

Effective January 6 – Captain Erik Paulsen

Effective January 10 – BC Scott Perryman

2021 Paramedic Program Update

All three FF/EMTs successfully completed their paramedic program at ARC. Two FF/EMTs passed the National Registry testing, the other is scheduled for later this month. Once the students have their state paramedic licenses, they can apply for the Sacramento County Accreditation Orientation which is next scheduled for February 7th. Chief Harms will have a full presentation on this program at the next Board Meeting.

On January 12th we sent a video message to members, including an update on staffing and impacts to the District and its members due to COVID, update on TeleStaff, reminder for annual Donated Leave, and many other updates. We will make sure the Board receives a copy of this video as well.

Lastly, Chief Harms thanked CFO O'Toole and the Finance Division for their continued excellent work. He also thanked professional staff and all members who are out on the streets. You are doing a tremendous job caring for people.

OPERATIONS' REPORT – (DC Mitchell)

COVID Update

Deputy Chief Mitchell gave a report on COVID. The recent spike has hit us hard, however our numbers are in alignment with partner agencies. As of tonight there are 97 total members off, 90 are line personnel, with 74 being COVID positive. There are about 30 line members per shift, so it is spread evenly throughout. These are the highest numbers since the start of the pandemic.

To help stop the spread of this very contagious variant we continue to follow CDC, CDPH, SCPH, and SCEMSA direction and protocols, conducting only necessary station activities, utilizing best practices for cleaning and disinfecting all facilities within the District, using decon by foggers when defined benchmarks are reached that indicate a hot spot in the stations

Staffing Update

We are continuing to brown out companies per the Emergency Staffing Plan. Shift Commanders are working with staffers to adapt to every situation, and we have close communication with Labor. We also worked with labor and will be moving up the engineer's exam to February

(currently 22 short). There are plans to meet with Labor on February 2nd to discuss 522's proposal to develop a plan for qualifying firefighters to work as engineers.

Additionally, lateral firefighters from 21-2 are finishing up their ride-along time to be counted as full staffing. Academy 22-1 will begin in late February and will include the 21 SAFER firefighter positions.

Lastly, an update on Telestaff that went down on December 11th, affecting almost all divisions especially, operations, payroll, and human resources. We quickly developed a plan to stand up google docs and has been very successful thus far. We are on a path for getting back with the vendor, current timeline is by the end of the month. The resiliency of our members through this unexpected added challenge is remarkable.

Wall Time Update

Ambulance patient offload time (APOT) is an ongoing system wide issue that we have been dealing with for a number of years. It has been exacerbated by this recent COVID surge. We are working very closely with our partner fire and county agencies.

On January 3, SCEMSA deactivated hospital initiated Emergency Department ambulance diversion for emergency department (ED) over-crowding for a minimum of two weeks. SCEMSA is holding weekly calls on EMS system status and the deactivation of hospital initiated diversion for all interested stakeholders.

Fire Chiefs, Ops Chiefs, and EMS Chiefs continue to work on strategies to improve hospital bed delays, and the following actions have been taken:

- Developed and implanted an ambulance draw down plan County wide last year
- Stopped all ambulance move-ups in County system last year
- Regular meetings with SCEMSA, hospital executives, and Chiefs to update on situation status and collaborative mitigation actions

On 01/07/2022 the 9-1-1 system reached ambulance level 0 due to extended wall times across the county, the following actions were taken:

- SCEMSA Duty Officer contacted
- The same day we placed a resource request for medical cots in area EDs. Sac OES accessed the shelter cache & was able to provide 40 medical cots, 10 to each hospital (UCD, SMC, KHS, MSJ). Metro EMS Chief & SFD EMS Chief contacted Emergency Department Managers to facilitate delivery of the cots and gain buy in for their use in consolidating patients in the ER to get ambulances back into the system
- EMS24 and Battalion Chiefs are being deployed to area EDs to offer assistance getting hospital gurneys moved to the ED and to advocate for patient consolidation
- Metro Fire's PIO engaged with local media outlets to discuss the EMS system impacts of hospital bed delays & educate the public on appropriate use of the ER and 911 system

Additionally, seven area hospitals submitted a request through the MHOAC for paramedics that will deploy to EDs to manage patients on hospital bed delay and act as nurse extenders. The state approved all resource requests, and medics will arrive next week. The county is building

out the medical surge plan and adding a total of 200 in-patient beds at 4 area hospitals. This is expected to be completed next week. Lastly, as President Saylor mentioned on January 19th, reps from all regional fire agencies will be attending a Senate Oversight Hearing on ambulance patient offload delays.

Statistics

Since our last report on December 9, 2021 there have been a total of 10,843 total incidents, which is about 318 calls per day (up nearly 25%). 68% were EMS related incidents, and there were 255 fire incidents, an average of 7.5 calls per day.

3. SMFD – FIREFIGHTERS LOCAL 522 REPORT – (BC Matt Cole, Local 522 Vice President) Vice President Cole began with a moment of silence honoring Firefighter Jonathan Flagler of LA County, who passed away on January 6th after battling a house fire. He is survived by his wife and two children.

VP Cole welcomes the new mechanic Brandon Christian.

Plans for a fourth shift representative to be added for additional support are underway. He is glad the engineer's test has been moved up, and reports there to be 38 people studying to take it. He also thanked DC Mitchell for his Operation Report and appreciates all the times it was mentioned that we are working with labor.

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)

Report Out: January 13, 2022 at 5:30 PM

President Saylor reports out the Executive Committee met earlier this evening and the only change being made was to the Finance and Audit Committee, Director Clark will now be the alternate.

B. Communications Center JPA – (DC Wagaman)

Report Out: January 11, 2022 at 9:00 AM

Deputy Chief Wagaman takes a moment to thank his Metro Fire family and the Board of Directors for their thoughts and prayers during a very difficult time in his life, It is humbling and truly special to be part of such an amazing organization.

DC Wagaman gave a report out from the recent Comms Center meeting, sharing that the new Executive Director will be Deputy Chief Troy Bair from Cosumnes Fire Department, pending the approval of his Board. Also, DC Wagaman will serve as chair, with DC Wilson from Folsom Fire serving as vice chair, for 2022.

Next Meeting: February 8, 2022 at 9:00 AM

- C. **California Fire & Rescue Training JPA – (Chief Harms)**
Report Out: December 14, 2021 at 10:30 AM
Chief Harms reports out that trainings through the JPA will continue through April 30th, with the dissolution occurring June 30th. General Council Lavra is working on the dissolution agreement.
- Next Meeting: January 19, 2022 at 10:00 AM
Location: 3121 Gold Canal Drive
Mather, CA 95670
- D. **Finance and Audit Committee – (Director Orzalli)**
Next Meeting: January 27, 2022 at 5:30 PM
- E. **Policy Committee – (Director Goold)**
Next Meeting: February 10, 2022 at 5:30 PM

BOARD MEMBER QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Director Wood congratulates Scott Perryman on his promotion to Battalion Chief, the success of the MIH program is thanks to him. He shares the Firefighters' Burn Institute is looking for volunteers for the Fill-the-Boot taking place from February 3rd through 6th. Lastly, he thanks all members for the work they are doing during these difficult times.

Director White congratulates the retirees and promotees! He is excited for the new union leadership, He wishes a speedy recovery to all members recovering from COVID, and thanks everyone who is working through this pandemic.

Director Clark wishes all retirees well in their retirement. He welcomed Deputy Chief Wagaman back, and thanked everyone for working under such challenging conditions.

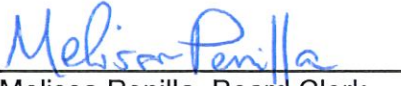
Director Saylor congratulated the retirees. She thanked the Public Information Officer for work on the recent news stories, she enjoys having her constituents call and text her when Metro Fire is featured in the news. She thanks all members, and support staff, for their continued work in the horrible pandemic conditions.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 pm.


Cynthia Saylor, Board President


Walt White, Secretary


Melissa Penilla, Board Clerk