



South Lake County Fire Protection District
— in cooperation with —
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

P.O. Box 1360 Middletown, CA 95461 - (707) 987-3089

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.
Located at the Middletown Fire Station Board Room,
21095 Highway 175, Middletown, CA 95461 and
1515 Ocean Ave, Santa Monica, CA 90401

This regular meeting is for the purpose of discussing the following items:

1. *President Stephenson called meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.*
2. *Chief Duncan led pledge of allegiance.*
3. *Present: Directors Rob Bostock, Jim Comisky and Madelyn Martinelli, and President Matthew Stephenson. Absent: Vice President Stephanie Cline. Also present: Paul Duncan, Battalion Chief Peter Avansino and Board Clerk Gloria Fong.*
4. **BOSTOCK/MARTINELLI MOTION** to approve agenda **AYES:** Bostock, Martinelli, Stephenson, Comisky. **ABSENT:** Cline. **NOES:** none. **MOTIONED CARRIED**
5. Citizens' Input: Any person may speak for three (3) minutes about any subject of concern provided it is within the jurisdiction of the Board of Directors and is not already on the today's agenda. Total period is not to exceed fifteen (15) minutes, unless extended at the discretion of the Board. *None.*
6. Communications:
 - 6.a. Fire Sirens: *Chief Duncan reports that they were actively working today, and shed is in place.*
 - 6.b. Fire Safe Council: *Minutes attached.*
 - 6.c. Volunteer Association: *Paid Call Engineer Gary Bevins reports the new recruit academy is underway with the three and going well. He was asked and reported there are a total of 24-25 volunteers.*
 - 6.d. Chief's Report
Chief Duncan adds to his report the air curtain incinerator is functioning with carbonizer located on Highway 175. It will run for next five weeks and is being funded through PG&E grant managed by CLERC. Being worked on are Valley Fire's 10-year anniversary and an oral 100-year history for anniversary of South Lake County Fire.
 - 6.e. Finance Report: *None.*
 - 6.f. Directors' activities report
Directors Bostock and Martinelli have no activity to report
Director Comisky reports on white paper attached to agenda. It's not an action item but instead is information for the Board to be aware of when brought up.

The Fire District Associations of California has been working on this the last five years, identifying funding shortages created at State level. Had some of the things not happened starting from 1978, District would not have gone for Measure L. Cal Fire has their line item in the State's budget but there is nothing there for fire protection districts. In 1978 the property tax was froze and dependent upon where each was at determined where the ad valorem would be for each fire district and is not the same across the board. The white paper breaks down the loss and asks the State is to allocate \$550 million a year to support fire protection districts and \$350 million to staffing. Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund shifted funding towards schools and then Prop 172 funds went to County where Board of Supervisors distributes to law enforcement and safety, with very little to fire districts. Partnered with California Fire Chief Association, League of California Cities and others, this paper went today to the Governor, Senators and Assembly Members with a distinct formula to distribute and quantify for staffing, infrastructure and emergency response capacity. Additionally, he's reached out for strategic planning to a firm, Center for Professional Excellence. Chief Duncan also has another, Jacob Green and Associates. Bids will be forthcoming.

7. Regular Items:

7.a. Board President tasks Equipment and Facilities Committee with review of building plans submission for Hidden Valley fire station.

7.b. Board President appoints to Ad Hoc Equipment and Facilities Committee, Directors Comisky and Stephenson, and to Ad Hoc Policy Review Committee Directors Bostock and Martinelli.

8. Consent Calendar Items: (Approval of consent calendar items are expected to be routine and non-controversial. They will be acted upon by the Board at one time without discussion. Any Board member may request that an item be removed from the consent calendar for discussion later.)

8.a. January 21, 2025 - Regular Meeting Minutes

8.b. Warrants – February

COMISKY/BOSTOCK MOTION to approve accept consent calendar.

AYES: Bostock, Martinelli, Stephenson, Comisky. **ABSENT:** Cline. **NOES:** none. **MOTIONED CARRIED.**

9. **MARTINELLI/BOSTOCK MOTION** to adjourn meeting at 7:38 p.m. All members in attendance are in favor of adjournment.

Respectfully submitted by
Gloria Fong, Clerk to the Board

Signed by:

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READ AND APPROVED BY
Matthew Stephenson
President, Board of Directors

Signed by:

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