

# SONOMA VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 21, 2023

**Meeting was held in person at Station 1, 630 2<sup>nd</sup> Street W, Sonoma, Ca. 95476  
and via video conference for general public access.  
Join by phone: 1-669-900-9128 | Meeting ID: 914 153 1767 | Meeting Passcode: 3300**

### 1. Call to Order

President Norton called meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

### 2. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum

Board of Directors present: President William Norton, Vice President John (Matt) Atkinson, Brian Brady, Mark Emery, and Nick Greben. Treasurer Mark Johnson and Terrence Leen were excused.

### 3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Director Emery and recited by all.

### 4. Confirmation of Agenda

Chief Akre requested that new business item come after comments from the public due to Fire Marshal Smith and Captain Lewis each having an item to present. President Norton agreed.

### 5. Comments from the Public

Public: Sean Lacy, Trevor Smith, Mason Lewis  
Virtual: Suzi Molofsky, Bob Norrbom, Gary Johnson, Gabe Stirnus, and Jennifer Jason.  
No comments heard from the public.

### 6. Presentations

None

### 7. Consent Calendar

a) Board reviewed and approved the meeting minutes from the regular board meeting held on February 14, 2023. **M/S/P Brady/Greben - 5 ayes/2 excused**

### 8. Fire Chief's Monthly Report

Monthly Chief's report attached

### 9. Old Business

None

### 10. New Business

a) FM Smith presented the District's Canine Therapy and Peer Support Program. All members of the Board expressed their excitement and appreciation for the opportunities Koda will bring to both the Community and District membership. **All in favor**

- b) Resolution 2022/2023-04 was adopted; authorizing participation in and approving the amended and restated joint exercise of powers agreement of the Fire Risk Management Services (FRMS) joint powers authority. **M/S/P Greben/Brady - 5 ayes/2 excused**
- c) Captain Lewis presented a proposal for implementation of solar installation at Stations 3 and 5. The Board agreed to enter into the contracts to ensure the District would receive the highest rate of return, NEMS 2.0. The systems will be installed within the next three years pending additional structural needs for each Station are addressed prior to system install to ensure the longevity of the solar panels. **All in favor**

**11. Other Business to come before the Board**

The Board discussed the upcoming FASIS Board nominations and chose to withhold any nominations.

**12. Comments from the Floor**

None

**13. Comments/Reports from the Board**

Director Emery expressed his condolences in the passing of Retired Fire Captain Jerry Sheppard. Chief Akre informed the Board that there are no services planned for Captain Sheppard and reminded the Board of Chief Ralph Keechler's memorial service on March 31<sup>st</sup> at the Vintage House.

Director Brady relayed a comment from a member of the community in regards to how impressed they were with the free hands-only CPR classes offered by the District.

President Norton expressed his admiration for FF/PM Brian Sweet and his volunteer work with Sonoma Overnight Support.

**14. Closed Session**

None

**15. Adjournment**

**M/S Greben/Norton - 5 ayes/2 excused**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:04 pm to a regular Board meeting on April 11, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. This meeting will be conducted in person with videoconference capabilities available to the public. *Copies of all staff reports and documents subject to disclosure that relate to any item of business referred to on the agenda are available at the following website: <http://sonomavalleyfire.org> under the Governance tab.*

Respectfully submitted,

Maci Bettencourt



# Sonoma Valley Fire District

*Proudly Serving the communities of*

Sonoma, Valley of the Moon, Glen Ellen, and Mayacamas

DATE: 3/21/2023  
TO: Sonoma Valley Board of Directors  
FROM: Chief Akre  
SUBJECT: Monthly Activity Report – February/March 2023

---

A. ADMINISTRATIVE:

1. SDC: No communication from DGS on staffing a second shift or an extension at SDC.
2. KWD: Staffing service is going very well. Our Personnel Subcommittee met with the KWD Board's HR Subcommittee. We had a productive meeting on a longer-term contract extension.
3. I met with Supervisor Gorin and CAO staff, and KWD Members on consolidation and potential funding. Met with her for in both Feb and March for 1x1 check -in meetings as well.
4. Chief Heine and I had a meet and greet with the new CAO Christina Rivera.
5. The Fire Service Working Group continues to meet to work primarily on a citizens-based initiative potential. We held Zone meetings with Zone 4 and 5 and will meet with additional Zones over the next few weeks. Polling has been done for the potential measure and we will receive initial results this week. The FSWG has been sending out weekly updates to the SCFCA and SCFDA members.
6. We held our monthly Command Staff meeting, as well as our All-Officers' Meeting, which included a training session from LCW.
7. BC Lacy, Captain Johnson and I attended the FDAC Annual Conference.
8. The EMS subcommittee continues to be actively working on supporting SCFD's bid on the RFP for EOA-1, and on the tiered response implementation.
9. I attended Cal Chiefs monthly E-Board meetings.
10. There was no SCFDA Monthly Meeting in February.
11. FASIS/EBA update: I attended multiple EBA and FASIS meetings, combined Board meeting and claims settlements. Also working on a contract extension with Sedgwick.
12. I participated in the interview process for the 3 finalists for the City Manager position.

B. INCIDENTS:

1. Sent 2 engines and BCs Andreis and Norrbom to Monterey for the recent flooding events.



# Sonoma Valley Fire District

*Proudly Serving the communities of*

Sonoma, Valley of the Moon, Glen Ellen, and Mayacamas

## C. BUDGET/FINANCE:

1. We are awaiting the final audit document from Chavan and Associates.
2. We are gearing up for budget preparations and an update to our fee schedule.

## D. PERSONNEL:

1. Engineer's and Captain's promotions have been announced.

## E. TRAINING:

1. Focus for career and volunteers on EMS and Cancer Prevention.
2. Individual Company choice training days.
3. Sent 2 more personnel to the Resiliency Conference.
4. A Driver Operator class is being scheduled for April. Hoping to add depth to volunteer rank.
5. Bay Area Firefighters Training Conference first week of March – very well attended and a successful training conference.

## F. EQUIPMENT:

1. New Type 3 from Hi-Tech is nearing completion. Expected delivery in 4 weeks.
2. New ambulance is being built, estimated delivery in July.

## G. BUILDINGS & LAND:

1. Continuing to work on Station 5 seismic upgrade project. Building permits have been issued for the project. Grant was waitlisted from Cal OES. Met with the Facilities subcommittee and received direction to go forward with preparing for the bid process.
2. Station 9: Waiting on the delivery of the heaters.

## H. PREVENTION & COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

- Glen Ellen Fire Safe Council Community Meeting/planning process
- Working with CalFire & County of Sonoma on strategic fuel breaks
- Working on new Motorola radio implementation

## I. ASSOCIATION:

1. We held a very successful event on March 10 for the FF Appreciation Crab Feed.
2. Open House will be on April 30<sup>th</sup>.