



# COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

## FIRE DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

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**LOCATION:** CAL FIRE Headquarters  
Highway 9 in Felton, CA 95018  
**DATE:** December 5, 2012  
**TIME:** 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

### APPROVED Minutes for December 5, 2012

#### MEMBERS PRESENT:

First District Representative/FDAC Chair: Alex Leman  
Second District Representative: John Willett  
Third District Representative: Tom Scully (*arrived 4:18 p.m.*)  
Fourth District Representative: Bob Stokes  
Fifth District Representative: Arnie Wernick  
Office of Emergency Services Manager: Paul Horvat  
Volunteer Firefighters Representative: Doug Aumack

#### MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

- 1.0 Introductions/Call to Order  
Meeting began at 4:12 pm
- 2.0 Approval of draft minutes from September 26, 2012  
Russ Mackey submitted corrections to section 8.4.
  - **Motion:** Bob Stokes to approve draft minutes with corrections made to 8.4.  
**Motion Seconded:** John Willett  
**In Favor:** Alex Leman, Arnie Wernick, Paul Horvat, Doug Aumack  
**Opposed:** None  
**Abstained:** None  
**Absent:** Tom Scully
- 3.0 Oral Communications (items not on agenda, 3 minutes per person)  
None
- 4.0 Correspondence
  - 4.1 John Leopold inter-office correspondence dated 10/3/12 regarding annual reports
  - 4.2 BOS Letter dated 10/16/12 appointing Doug Aumack to the FDAC

Tom Scully arrived at 4:18 pm

- 5.0 Business
  - 5.1 New Business
    - A. Review of draft Bi-Annual FDAC Report and Roster for SCCO BOS
      - **Motion:** Bob Stokes to approve draft report with the addition of committee member start and end of term dates added.  
**Motion Seconded:** Paul Horvat  
**In Favor:** All  
**Opposed:** None

**Abstained:** None  
**Absent:** None

B. 2013 FDAC Calendar

C. Illegal Burning

- 1) John Willett requested that County Fire personnel notify MPUAPCD when flagrant air quality violations are discovered in the process of conducting smoke checks.
  - a) Chief Jalbert will confer with our Fire Prevention/Law Enforcement personnel and County Counsel for feasibility.
- 2) Our current policy, in light of the very recent regulation changes made by MPUAPCD, is that responders will educate residents on the new regulations during this period of transition.

D. CERT Teams

- 1) A low impact, cost effective model for maintaining and implementing this program in the next fiscal year would greatly benefit the county.
- 2) OES has developed a database of the current 600 local CERT volunteers and can implement activation.

5.2 Old Business  
None

6.0 Informational Reports

6.1 Santa Cruz County Fire Chief's Report

- A. Scott Jalbert will be Chief Ferreira's interim replacement.
- B. Both Scott Jalbert and Ian Larkin will job share. Chief Larkin will take over Santa Cruz County Fire Department responsibilities.
- C. Catastrophic failure on E2921. Replacement options are being discussed.
- D. VFA Grant Awarded to County Fire in the amount of \$18,525 for new wildland gear PPE.

6.2 2012 Master Plan Staff Report

- A. Overview of goals accomplished in 2012 was discussed.

6.3 Updates:

A. ISO

- 1) The final 2012 ISO report has been received and the results show an improved rating for CAL FIRE/Santa Cruz County Fire from 6 to a 5 in hydrant areas and remained 8B in rural areas. Successful collaborative efforts of many different departments throughout the county contributed to this accomplishment.

B. Incidents

- 1) The recent rains have resulted in heavy call volume.
- 2) A damaging structure fire occurred in Bonny Doon last week at an ex-volunteer's home. Quick, efficient response by cooperating state and local agencies is credited for saving the home.

C. Training /Academies

- 1) The Basic Firefighter Academy will begin in February 2013. 8-12 potential candidates for County Fire are in process. Scotts Valley, Boulder Creek, Branciforte and Zayante should all contribute candidates for a maximum of 30 students.

D. Volunteer Handbook

No updates.

## 6.4 FDAC Reports

### A. Updates:

#### 1) Master Plan Subcommittee

*(Members: Paul Horvat, Arnie Wernick, Tom Scully)*

- a) No updates aside from Chief's report.

#### 2) Recruitment Subcommittee

*(Members: Scott Jalbert, Alex Leman, Vacancy)*

- a) Additional volunteers are needed for this committee and steering subcommittee. New candidates should be targeted.
- b) CSFA Recruitment workshops are in the planning stages for spring of 2013.

#### 3) Budget Subcommittee

*(Members: Arnie Wernick, John Willett, Scott Jalbert, Ginny Petras)*

- a) No Updates.

#### 4) County Fire Reorganization Committee

*(Members: Tom Scully, Paul Horvat, Bob Stokes)*

- a) Have met previously and plan to meet again December 10<sup>th</sup>. Seven ideas in progress. Budget subcommittee and Reorganization committee chairs to meet.

B. Volunteer Representative Update will be added to the next agenda.

## 7.0 Roundtable

7.1 Tom Scully – Complimented CAL FIRE crew, volunteers, and Felton Fire on an excellent job. Fire Safe council still making tremendous progress on burn piles. Making a substantial fire corridor.

7.2 Doug Aumack – Met with Co. 36, Loma Prieta and discussed training. Went to Water Rescue class taught by Bodi Tunheim. Co. 29 has experienced frustration with their engine's mechanical failure. Stated that Susan Mason emailed her opinion that there is angst between CAL FIRE and County Fire personnel.

7.3 Paul Horvat - OES applied for \$400,000 UASI grant for radios to cover dead areas resulting from narrow banding.

7.4 Ginny Petras – No Update

7.5 Ian Larkin – No Update

7.6 Scott Jalbert – No Update

7.7 Bob Stokes - Informed the FDAC of his approaching departure from FDAC within the next year.

7.8 Arnie Wernick – Co. 29 received a CFIP Grant (CA Forestry Improvement Program) and resulted in excellent clearance in the Las Cumbres area. Focusing on how to replenish the fleet in the upcoming fiscal year.

## 8.0 Adjournment at 5:38 pm.

- **Motion:** Paul Horvat to adjourn.
- Motion Seconded:** Arnie Wernick
- In Favor:** All
- Opposed:** None
- Abstained:** None
- Absent:** None

## 9.0

Next regular meeting – Wednesday January 16, 2013 at 4:00 pm

*The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs or activities. This meeting is located in an accessible facility. If you wish to attend this meeting and you will require assistance in order to participate, please contact the ADA coordinator at 831-454-2210 (TDD number is 831-454-2123 or 831-763-8123 from Watsonville area phones) at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting, to make arrangements. As a courtesy to those persons affected, please attend the meeting smoke and scent free.*