



# COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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## FIRE DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

**LOCATION:** CAL FIRE Headquarters  
Highway 9 in Felton, CA 95018  
**DATE:** March 21, 2012  
**TIME:** 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

**APPROVED** Minutes for March 21, 2012

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

First District Representative/FDAC Chair: Alex Leman  
Second District Representative: John Willett  
Third District Representative: Tom Scully  
Fifth District Representative: Arnie Wernick  
Office of Emergency Services Manager: Paul Horvat  
Volunteer Firefighters Representative: Position Vacant

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Fourth District Representative: Bob Stokes

- 1.0 Introductions/Call to Order  
Meeting began at 4:05 p.m.
- 2.0 Approval of Minutes from 1/18/2012
  - **Motion** to approve draft minutes made by Tom Scully.  
Motion seconded by John Willett.  
All in favor; none opposed.  
Motion passed
- 3.0 Oral Communications (items not on agenda, 3 minutes per person)  
No Discussion.
- 4.0 Correspondence
  - 4.1 County Fire Reorganization Document by Tom Scully 02/2012  
Discussion under 5.1 New Business.
- 5.0 Business
  - 5.1 New Business
    - A. Discussion of County Fire Reorganization Document:  
John Willett, Alex Leman, and Arnie Wernick expressed concern regarding the reported origination and distribution of this document by an FDAC member without prior discussion or review by all FDAC members. Tom

Scully clarified that this document was directed to Supervisor Coonerty alone for discussion, and was not intended to be distributed to county management and local fire agencies prior to FDAC review. While commending Tom Scully for his “out of the box” approach to County Fire’s current financial position, it was agreed by all that the suggestions proposed in the document would require further discussion and research.

- B. County Counsel recommendation regarding Teleconferencing:  
Per County Counsel’s recommendation, it was agreed that no further teleconferencing would take place. No motion was made as it was deemed unnecessary.

## 5.2 Old Business

- C. Budget Subcommittee Report:
  - 1) The proposed budget submitted on March 8, 2012 will reduce the current reserve by \$740,503, leaving a remaining \$775,099 in the County Fire Fund.
  - 2) Arnie Wernick supplied a graph comparing revenues, expenditures, and fund balance over the past 5 years which clearly demonstrates the depletion of the Fire Fund by the end of 2013/14 at the current level of service. At the next meeting, further detail will be provided on the graph regarding the cost cutting measures implemented over the last 5 years.
  - 3) Additional cost saving options are still under discussion at this time, e.g., transfer of the Street Naming/Addressing function back to the county.
  - 4) Tom Scully requested further information on the Braemoor trade-off with Paradise Park. Ginny Petras to provide at next meeting.
- D. SAFER Grant Update:
  - 1) Further explanation of allowable reimbursable expenses including refreshments for recruitment events was discussed.
  - 2) Ginny Petras will work with Chief Larkin and County Purchasing to develop a project worksheet for volunteer companies to submit for approval prior to their events.
- E. Update on the New Water Tender:  
It is in service and training has been underway.
- F. ISO Inspection Update:
  - 1) ISO review, done once every 10 years, is completed and our agency report is expected in 6 months. From that point we will have 6 months to make any recommended corrections.
  - 2) If corrections are needed, ISO will work with the agency to correct any deficiencies in order to improve the rating.
- G. Update on the Master Plan Adoption and Implementation:
  - 1) The Board of Supervisors approved the 3 year Master Plan on March 6, 2012, Item #21.

2) Updates from the Master Plan Committee to be added to all future FDAC Agendas.

H. Review of new 2012 Volunteer Application:

The new volunteer application is intended to provide updated information, as well as streamline and clarify the hiring process for new volunteer applicants.

I. Recruitment Subcommittee

No update at this time

6.0 Information Reports

6.1 Santa Cruz County Fire Chief's Report

- 1) The state has adopted new PPE specifications for emergency responders. We will be seeking a grant to aid in the purchase of these items.
- 2) All other items previously discussed.

7.0 Roundtable

No Discussion.

8.0 Adjournment and set next regular meeting – Wednesday, May 16, 2012

➤ **Motion** to adjourn made by Alex Leman.

Motion seconded by Arnie Wernick.

All in favor; none opposed.

Motion passed.

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