



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

FIRE DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

LOCATION: CAL FIRE/Santa Cruz County Fire (virtual)
DATE: May 19, 2021
TIME: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
PUBLIC ACCESS: MICROSOFT TEAMS MEETING

LINK: Click here to join meeting: [Join Teams Meeting \(FDAC\)](#)

CALL IN: [916-318-9542](#) Conference ID: 974 988 555#

APPROVED MINUTES

I. ROLL/CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

Meeting called to order at 4:07 pm

Present:

Volunteer Firefighters Representative/Chair:	Doug Aumack
Second District Representative:	Carey Pico
Fifth District Representative/Co-Chair:	Arnie Wernick
Office of Emergency Services Manager:	Michael Beaton

Absent:

First District Representative:	Vacant
Fourth District Representative:	John Walker
Third District Representative:	Janet Webb

II. ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA

Michael Beaton clarified that Abby Young may not be eligible as commissioner appointee per Santa Cruz County Code 2.120.020.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 17, 2021

Motion: Pico

Motion Seconded: Aumack

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Walker, Webb

IV. PUBLIC INPUT/ORAL COMMUNICATION (ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA)

(3 minutes per person)

A. None

V. PUBLIC INPUT/ORAL COMMUNICATION (ITEMS ON AGENDA)

(3 minutes per person)

A. None

VI. CORRESPONDENCE:

A. None

VII.

BUSINESS MATTERS

- A.** Welcome new Commissioner Abby Young (Aumack)
 - i. See “Additions/Changes to Agenda” above.
- B.** Board of Forestry Fire Safe Rules (Aumack)
 - i. Began a discussion that will continue at every meeting that covers “Wildfire Safety Update” to address public questions.
- C.** Discussed the possibility of adding a paid Battalion Chief (BC) administrative position to work with County volunteers (Wernick)
 - i. Discussed how this BC will be able to provide more in-depth administrative support that will benefit County Fire.
- D.** Budget topics
 - i. Bi-monthly budget status report (Wernick)
- E.** Updates from Commissioners:
 - i. Recruitment Subcommittee (Aumack)
 - a. 5 applications were received.
 - ii. Volunteer Company Officers Representative (Aumack)
- F.** Santa Cruz County Fire Chief’s Report (Armstrong)
 - i. Catching up with purchases, including new vehicles, SCBA’s, and new cradle points for tablet command.
 - ii. Have been hosting online webinars to prepare public for fire season.
 - iii. Handbook draft update almost complete.
 - iv. Very dry fuels and weather concerns.
 - v. CAL FIRE has transitioned into fire season as of 5/17.
 - vi. State has new Blackhawk Helicopters.
 - vii. Crews are dwindling since camps have been defunded.
- G.** Announcements

VII. ADJOURNMENT AT 4:42 PM

Motion: Wernick

Motion Seconded: Aumack

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Walker, Webb

Set next regular meeting – Wednesday, July 21, 2021 at 4:00 pm, location TBD.

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.