

Sonoma County Fire Districts' Association

MEETING MINUTES

Gold Ridge FPD, Station 1, Hessel

Hybrid meeting (In person/Zoom) 6pm October 26, 2023

1. Call to Order

President Klick called the meeting order at 18:05 hours and thanked those who are attended the meeting.

The following members were in attendance.

Name	District	Name	District
Steve Klick	SCFD	Shepley Schroth-Cary	Gold Ridge
Sean Grinnell	SCFD	Bill Adams	Counsel
Gary So	SCFD	Marti Campbell	North Sonoma Coast
Daren Bellach	Kenwood	Steve Akre	Sonoma Valley
Bob Briare	SCFD	Jason Nunes	Graton
Gary So	SCFD	Paul Barry	Cazadero
Jeff Vilaquette	Rancho Adobe	Carol Pigoni	Cloverdale
Bob Taylor	Cloverdale	Dave Gallon	Rancho Adobe
Bob Gloeckner	Gold Ridge	Rob Stewart	Northern Sonoma County
Ray Petersen	Rancho Adobe	Matt Abercromby	Northern Sonoma County
Charley Lachman	Gold Ridge	Dominic Cardinalli	Gold Ridge
Frank Treanor	SCFD	Ron Busch	SCFD
Bill Adams	Counsel		

2. Amend/Approve the Agenda

No action taken.

3. Treasurer's Report

Sec/Tres Grinnell reported the account balance of \$5,381.85.

4. Committee Reports

a. FDAC / FDAC EBA / FAIRA / FASIS

Director Pigoni provided a written report and asked if there were any questions. None were asked.

b. LAFCO

No report

c. Political Action

i. FDAC Legislative Report/Cal Chiefs

<https://www.calchiefs.org/page/legislative-reports>

<https://www.fdac.org/page/A5>

d. Cal Chiefs

Chief Heine was sworn in as the new President of Cal Chiefs last week. Chiefs Akre and Westrope are also in leadership positions-Sonoma County is very well represented.

5. Old Business

a. Approve past minutes - July 27, 2023

Motion to approve the minutes of July 27, 23, made by Gold Ridge, 2nd by Sonoma County, approved all, none were opposed.

b. EMS EOA Update – Chief Heine

President Klick reported that Sonoma County will sign the contract for EOA 1 tomorrow and we will start service January 16th @ Midnight.

c. SCFDA in person meeting locations/programs

Chief Akre will hold the January meeting in Sonoma Valley (Kenwood) – Rancho Adobe will host the meeting in April.

d. SCFDA Dues

President Klick said we have not collected dues in a couple of years. We charged \$50 per district, but with fewer districts, we might need more. I think \$1500 per year for all districts collectively is the right amount considering inflation. I was thinking of a structure based on fully staffed stations, working out to roughly \$60 to \$70 per station. Several members voiced their approval of the idea and the fairness of it. We will work on what that will look like at a future meeting.

6. New Business

a. REDCOM update:

Chief Schroth-Cary reported that the REDCOM Board will exercise its out clause with AMR. The reasons for this. It got sent to the DAWG committee which will meet via special meeting and report back in 45 days to the BOD. We are venerable because of the public private relationship and the ability to raise costs-which they have done, which impacts member agencies. We also have to comply with SB 438, which means we have to move away from the private provide model and the EOA will have a new provider which will no longer be the biggest user (AMR) and the inability to get good data. And an opportunity to create a command center in our dispatch center.

Director Treanor asked if we could build a coalition of fire agencies to oversee this and will we offer current employees' employment in the new agency. A) Yes, that is the direction, but it is also emotional, but we plan on hiring them. The retirement system is also something to work with or to create new opportunities and who will the new employer be? Chief Villaquette added that no one is going to be left behind. Chief Bellach said that SCFCA is also a huge supporter of the project. Bill Adams added some history of REDCOM and the County when there was no REDCOM.

7. Program: Sales Tax Initiative Does and Don'ts

The presentation power point was emailed out to everyone prior to the meeting and will be attached to these minutes.

Chief Schroth-Cary introduced Attorneys Nick Sanders and Bill Adams who will answer any questions you might have. This is a presentation, but it is intended to be an active dialogue as well. Nick Adams has been helping the Chiefs Association with sales tax measure. His expertise is election law. Nick provided several handouts (attached).

Q/A: You cannot use public money for campaigns. What happens with communication? There are two buckets- Information and Campaign. No fire house funds can be used to tell people what to vote for. Chief Schroth-Cary asked how do boards safely endorse tax measures? A) In an open public/regular meeting, cite the Gov Code and use resolution to endorse. Q) How is that not campaigning? A) Because it's a resolution- a decision by the BOD, you are not saying vote for it, you are saying this is good. If you are going to sign an endorsement, sign it and put an Asterix-and then note Tiltle for ID purpose only. Do not appear in uniform for campaign flyers. How do you answer this question? This is a good thing, right? Yes, you can

answer that, but just do not go out and say vote yes for it. “My district supports this”. Please follow the link and listen/watch the video, a lot of valuable dialogue occurred.

Here is the link to the meeting, presentation starts at: 23:30 and ends at 1:15:31

Video Link: https://centralfireauth-my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/personal/sgrinnell_sonomacountyfd_org/EdSqRCU2P15Gp8uFqce82W4BjS07SDX4hnas3vowyrgtkA?e=BiIA6t

Audio Link: https://centralfireauth-my.sharepoint.com/:u:/g/personal/sgrinnell_sonomacountyfd_org/EWMNWyrPVLxIiouXE_19qnYBXuEWntI9lpi1md73g1ZDSw?e=9PgJX6

8. Good of the Order
None mentioned.

9. Next in person Meeting January 25, 2024, location Sonoma Valley Fire District (Kenwood).

10. Close
President Klick ended the meeting at 19:25.