Schell Vista Fire Protection District

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MEETING MINUTES
Schell-Vista Fire Protection District
Board of Directors Regular Meeting

Date: Wednesday, May 6, 2026
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: 22950 Broadway -Station #1

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Director Hal Stober called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. Directors Bob Kruljac, Bill Steach, Hal Stober, and Ken Finn were present. A quorum was met. Director Mindy Neves was absent.

Also present were Chief Ray Mulas, District Accountant Stacie McCambridge, Clerk of the Board Robin Woods, and Firefighters Matt Garner, John Green, Kevin Plume, Chanton Em, Johnny Valasquez, Mickey Breen, Jaden Filippi, George Norton, Humberto Botello, Dave Volat, and Cesar Perez.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mickey Breen read the following letter to the Board:

Directors,

My name is Mickey Breen, and I'm here tonight representing L1401, the Schell Vista Professional Firefighters.

I just want to briefly speak to the two items that were presented to Directors Finn and Kruljac yesterday. At their core, these proposals are meant to be practical, balanced solutions that work for both the District and the nine career staff.

What we're bringing forward does not create additional burden on the District. In fact, it provides a pathway to save money—potentially up to $60,000—while still maintaining a meaningful benefit for employees through the in-lieu option. At the same time, it keeps our compensation aligned with Sonoma County Fire District, which was the intent behind Measure H.

More importantly, this isn't just about numbers. It's about the working relationship between labor and the Board. Approving both of these items would go a long way in improving the sentiment on both sides of the table. It shows a willingness to work together, to find solutions, and to move forward in a positive direction.

I also want to acknowledge, respectfully, that this contract was at a point where it was likely going to be imposed on the nine of us. In that context, I chose to sign the last, best, and final offer. That decision was made with the intent of moving forward and avoiding further division.

Additionally, our current MOU already provides the Board with the authority to make additional salary adjustments at any time during the term of the agreement. This gives you the flexibility to act on these items without disrupting the structure of the contract.

We're not asking for anything unreasonable --- we're asking for consideration of solutions that are fiscally responsible, fair to the workforce, and beneficial to the District as a whole.

I appreciate your time and your consideration tonight.

Thank you
Mickey Breen

3. AGENDA ADJUSTMENT AND CONSENT

There were no adjustments to the agenda

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

a. Approval of the minutes of April 1, 2026, Regular Meeting- **Discussion and Action**

Director Stober introduced the April 1, 2026, minutes. Director Kruljac made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2026, Director Steach seconded the motion. Director Stober opened the floor to questions, discussion and public comments. There were no public comments A vote was called, and the motion passed. The Minutes were approved by the following vote:
Ayes- 4 Noes-0 Absent-1 Abstain-0

b. Approval of the Minutes of April 6, 2026, Special Meeting-**Discussion and Action**

Director Stober introduced the April 1, 2026, Special Meeting minutes. Director Kruljac made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2026, meeting. Director Finn seconded the motion. Director Stober opened the floor to questions, discussion and public comments. Director Finn addressed the Board stating that he wanted it on record that he and Director Kruljac felt slighted by the actions and comments of the Present of the Board during the special meeting. Director Stober called for a vote, and the motion passed. The Minutes were approved by the following vote:
Ayes- 4 Noes-0 Absent- 1 Abstain-0

c. Review of the May 2026 Accountant's Report-**Discussion and Action**

Director Stober introduced the Accountant's Report. Director Kruljac made the motion to accept the Accountant's Report for May 2026, as presented. Director Finn seconded the motion. Director Stober opened the floor to questions, discussion and public comment. There were no public comments. A vote was called, and the motion passed. The Financial Reports were approved by the following vote:
Ayes- 5 Noes-0 Absent- 1 Abstain-0

5. CHIEFS' REPORT

Chief Ray Mulas will report on District operations and activities.

Administrative:

1. I spent five days down in Seaside at the FDAC conference where I attended classes on Hostile Work Environment, Firefighter Bill Of Rights, investigations, consolidated purchasing, and changes to the statewide resource ordering. Chief Akre and Dana gave a presentation on Sonoma County's Measure H which was the highest attended of the conference.

2. The Ferrara Engine 3881 has been sold and taken ownership by Zantenye fire department. The selling price was $40,000, less commission by Garage which was 10%.

3. I have not contacted the two parties interested in the Parade Rig since I was concentrating on selling the old 3881. I will make contact this week with both of them.

4. I am obtaining bids on resealing and striping the parking lots of Headquarters and Station two, washing the Solar Panels and residing the pump house.

5. Painting of Station 2 should begin May 17th.

Operational

1. We have interviewed more new volunteers with some good potential candidates.

2. This Saturday we are hosting a wild land drill with CalFire at the Sonoma Raceway. We have 17 volunteers signed up for the various wild land exercises along with neighboring resources from Sonoma, Goldridge, CalFire, and the city of Petaluma. Chief Sean Jerry and Chief Mike Mulas have been working on this exercise during the winter.

3. The volunteers Polenta feed was a sold-out success; the results have not been tallied yet.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS/BUSINESS (Directors to report on Committee activities)

a. Reports-**Discussions & Possible Actions**

i. Facilities Committee (Bill Steach)

Director Steach reported that he is working with Assistant Chief Mike Mulas and the painting of Station 2 will begin this month.

ii. Budget Committee (Bob Kruljac)

Director Kruljac advised the Board that the Budget Committee is preparing FYE 2027 and revised FYE 2026 budgets to review at the June meeting.

iii. Legislative Committee (Ken Finn)

Director Finn advised nothing new to report.

iv. Outreach Committee (Mindy Neves)

Chief Mulas reported that Director Neves is working on the newsletter and preparing it for review. He also said that the Board would need to decide on if the District wants one or 2 newsletters distributed per year.

7. NEW BUSINESS AND CONTINUE UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Tax Measure Ordinance-**Discussion and Possible Action**
Review of upcoming Public Meeting and Notice Postings in District.

Clerk Robin Woods reviewed the upcoming Public Meetings and requirements for both the Consideration and determination of the Special Tax to be Levied for 2026/2027 and submitting the ordinance ratifying the districts appropriation limit to be included on the November election ballot. She advised the Board that she is working with District Counsel in preparing for both meetings.

b. Future of engine #321 – **Discussion and Possible Action**

Chief Ray Mulas advised the Board that he has 2 parties interested in the engine and is putting it out to bid.

c. Strategic Planning Review-**Discussion**

Nothing to report at this time.

d. Fire Chief Performance Evaluation Process and Form Review-**Discussion and Possible Action**

Director Finn stated that based on the number of years of the chief's service, he doesn't feel it is necessary to provide an evaluation at this time.

Director Finn made a motion to not schedule an evaluation for the Chief at this time. Director Kruljac seconded the motion. Director Stober opened the floor to questions, discussion and public comment. There were no public comments. A roll-call vote was called, and the motion passed by the following vote:

Director Finn-Yes
Director Kruljac-Yes
Director Steach-Yes
Director Stober- Yes
Director Neves-Absent

e. Review of the SVFPD Board of Directors Policy and Procedures Manual, Updates-**Discussion and Possible Action**

There is nothing to report at this time. Item to be tabled.

f. Calendar Review (Robin)

Clerk of the Board reviewed upcoming action items on the calendar.

-Calendar Review Tax Measure
January -Determine the Preliminary Tax Rate
February-Request the Parcel Report from the county using the preliminary rate.
March-Notice of Public Hearing (2026 Public meeting to be set for June, Posting needs to be mid-May)
April 2026-Reminder that the renewal of the Tax Measure needs to go to the voters.
April/May-Conduct Public Hearing (**Public Hearing will be held in June)**
May2026- Board needs to approve a Resolution & Ordinance to place the Special Tax on the Ballot. (This will be added to June Agenda)
May/June-Allow time for property owner appeals of the tax levy.
June-Approval of the District Preliminary Budget
July-Approval of the Distract Tax Roll and Appropriations Limit
August 2026-The Special Tax election data needs to be to the Registrar of Voters the First week of August.
July/August- At the end of the Fiscal year, The District Board of Directors will be presented with the *Fiscal Year-End Report* containing information regarding the amount of special tax revenue collected and expended as well as the status of projects funded with proceeds of the special tax. (Ord. Section VII)
August/September-Tax Roll and Appropriations Limit Resolution sent to the County.

-Calendar Review General Business
Jan-Feb-Board to appoint Board Labor Negotiators for upcoming contract
April-Set up Budget Committee meeting to prepare preliminary budget for June meeting.
April-Annual Physicals
June-Preliminary Budget review and approval.

July 15-August 9 Board Members file for re-election with the Registrar of Voters.
(Terms ending in 2026 are Director Kruljac, Director Neves, and Director Steach)
August-Budget Committee meet to prepare final budget for Board approval in September.
September-Final Budget review and approval.
Nov-Nomination of Officers of the Board (Every 2 years. Next election 2027)
Dec-Election of Officers of the Board for January 1 start date. (Every 2 Years. Next election 2027)

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS/GOOD OF THE ORDER

Clerk Robin Woods informed the Board of the letter from LAFCO regarding the notice of their open representative positions. She advised the Board if anyone was interested to let her know and she would provide the details.

The Board was advised that the A shift had a "save the day" providing aid on a call saving his life.

The Board requested a special meeting to be scheduled on Tuesday, May 12th. Agenda and information will be posted 24 hours prior to the meeting.

9. ADJOURMENT

Director Finn made the motion to adjourn at 7:50 PM. Director Kruljac seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned

Next scheduled meeting is June 3, 2025

If Applicable, Board meeting documents are available to review at SVFPD Station 1, 22950 Broadway, Sonoma, CA 95476. Please call (707)938-2633 for an appointment