



Schell Vista Fire Protection District

22950 Broadway Sonoma, Ca. 95476

Ph. (707) 938-2633 / Fax. (707) 935-9681

www.schellvistafire.org / e-mail: info@schellvistafire.org

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

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

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

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

Also present were Chief Ray Mulas, District Accountant Stacie McCambridge, Clerk of the Board Robin Woods, and Firefighters Johnny Valasquez, Sean Witherell, Mickey Breen, Humberto Botello, Kevin Plum, and Jerry Jauregui.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

3. AGENDA ADJUSTMENT AND CONSENT

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

a. Approval of the minutes of March 4, 2026, Regular Meeting- **Discussion and Action**

Director Neves introduced the March 4, 2026, minutes. Director Kruljac made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2026, meeting with the correction in item 7d, Strategic Plan Review, of changing the replacement for Ernie Loveless to Director Bill Steach. Director Finn seconded the motion. Director Neves 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- 5 Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstain-0

b. Approval of the Minutes of March 25, 2026, Special Meeting-**Discussion and Action**

Director Neves introduced the March 25, 2026, Special Meeting minutes. Director Kruljac made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2026, meeting. Director Steach seconded the motion. Director Neves 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- 5 Noes-0 Absent- 0 Abstain-0

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

Director Neves introduced the Accountant's Report. Director Kruljac made the motion to accept the Accountant's Report for April 2026, as presented. Director Finn seconded the motion. Director Neves opened the floor to 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- 0 Abstain-0

5. CHIEFS' REPORT

Chief Ray Mulas presented the Board with the following report:

Administrative

1. *We have listed on Garage Inc. old 3881 for \$45,000, there is a small fee for any sales made through the site.*
2. *We have received the FY 25-26 Q2 Sonoma County Measure H payment of \$202,900.12 through direct deposit.*
3. *The Sonoma County Tax Collector released the third quarter newsletter on tax measure revenue in the county, it is available online.*
4. *We have received two bids for painting station 2, Director Steach has copies of both, I hope we can get the Board's approval tonight so we can get a start date.*
5. *I am currently soliciting bids for stripe and sealing both stations, re-siding the pump house, the bathroom showers remodel and changing the parking lot lights to solar or low voltage.*
6. *The new insurance has been accepted and will be in place April 1st.*

Operational

1. *Our engine should be returning soon from Golden State after warranty work and other repairs.*
2. *The old parade rig (#321) has been returned to station 2 and I have two potential offers they just need to do visual inspections.*
3. *The generator is being wired and should be up and running soon.*

In reference to making the District website ADA compliant, Chief Mulas explained to the Board that Jim Galli is checking with Streamline to see what they offers in bringing websites up to compliance code. He will report back to the Board.

Chief Mulas explained that he is sending Firefighter Kevin Plume to train to become a Drone Pilot with Sonoma County. Zone 3 has a drone to share.

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

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

1. Facilities Committee (Bill Steach)

Director Steach presented the estimate of \$18,990 from Rasmusen Painting to paint Station to the Board for consideration. After reviewing the estimate, Director Finn made the motion to approve the Resmusen Painting estimate. Director Kruljac seconded the motion. Director Neves opened the floor to questions, discussion and public comments. There were no public comments A vote was called, and the motion to accept Rasmusen Painting estimate of \$18,990 to paint Station 2 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes- 5 Noes-0 Absent- 0 Abstain-0

2. Budget Committee (Bob Kruljac)

Director Kruljac presented the current year budget versus actual.

Clerk of the Board explained that she would set up a meeting with the Budget Committee to review the current year budget for any suggested revisions and start preparing the preliminary budget for FY 26-27.

3. Legislative Committee (Ken Finn)

Director Finn advised the Board that he didn't find any new legislative issues to bring to the Board.

Director Neves explained there was new training being required for people involved in financial matters of the District. There will be more information on the training in upcoming meetings.

4. Outreach Committee (Mindy Neves)

Director Neves advised the Board that the newsletter is slotted for April. It is a work in progress and she will advise the Board when it is ready for review.

7. NEW BUSINESS AND CONTINUE UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Tax Measure Ordinance-**Discussion and Possible Action**

1. Set Date of Public Meeting

Clerk of the Board, Robin Woods, explained the timeline for the public meeting and submitting the tax roll to the county. The Board agreed that the public meeting should be scheduled for the June Board Meeting, allowing time to complete the process for a timely submission.

2. Tax Measure needs to go to Voters. Resolution will be presented to the Board in May/June

The Board agreed that the Resolution regarding submitting the tax measure to the Registrar of Voters to be on the November Ballot should be presented in the June meeting. District Clerk, Robin Woods, will meet with Legal Counsel, Bill Adams, to prepare the necessary documents.

Firefighter Mickey Breen advised the Board that he will work with the association on the preparation of the informational postcards to be sent to the public.

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

Director Neves advised the Board that she has some information from Firefighter Johnny Velasquez but there is more to present to the Board. Chief Mulas is obtaining bids from parties interested in purchasing the Engine. This will be tabled to the next Board meeting.

c. Strategic Planning Review-**Discussion**

Director Neves presented the following review of the plan goals:

Currently we have moved out of the *Medium-Term Goals* (18 months - 3 years):

- Increase Staffing to 3-0 thanks to Measure H (Completed)
- Pay Parity (In-progress)
- Long term Capital improvement/Equipment Replacement plan/Maintenance Program (In-Progress)
- South County Facility Evaluation "Sonoma Raceway" (Conceptual/on-going discussions)
- Branding & Marketing Outreach- (New Patch and Stationary logo complete and in use.)

We are now into the *Long-Term* Goals (3-5 years) with the following goal focusses of:

- Full Administrative Staff Evaluation and Planning based on Fire Industry standard needs to run a Full-Time Fire District.
- Annexation and or Strategic JPA Evaluation for essential services identified by the Fire District Board Leadership

Director Neves said that the committee needs to meet again to discuss and edit the plan. She sent Assistant Chief Mike Medeiros suggestions for changes.

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

Director Neves explained that she is working on getting an approved evaluation form. This will be discussed in the closed meeting.

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

Director Neves advised the Board that this needs to be tabled as there are more edits to add.

f. Calendar Review (Robin)

Clerk Robin Woods reviewed upcoming 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 is 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 presented to the Board in June)

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

There were no announcements.

9. CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session pursuant to Government Code §54957 for Public Labor Negotiation and Government Code §54957.6(a) for Public Employee Benefit Negotiation

a. Conference with Labor Negotiators (Gov. Code §54957.6)
Agency Designated Representatives: Kenn Finn & Bob Kruljack.
Employees: Secretary/Clerk of the Board. Administrative Assistant/Accountant/Special Project Manager.

b. Public Employee Appointment/Employment (Gov. Code §54957)
Title: Fire Chief/Executive Management (Succession Planning)

Director Neves Called for a closed meeting at 7:49PM.

Director Neves resumed the open meeting at 9:07PM

Report: Director Neves reported that Decisions were made for 2 Labor groups. As the Board was waiting for advice from district Counsel, the MOU couldn't be signed.

10. CLOSED SESSION REPORT LABOR NEGOTIATIONS- **Discussion and Possible Action**

See report above.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Director Kruljac made the motion to adjourn at 9:13 PM. Director Stober seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned

Next scheduled meeting is May 6, 2026

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