



Schell Vista Fire Protection District

22950 Broadway Sonoma, Ca. 95476

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MEETING MINUTES

Schell-Vista Fire Protection District Board of Directors Regular Meeting

Date: Wednesday, March 4, 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 7:05 PM. Directors Bob Kruljac, Bill Steach, and Ken Finn were present. A quorum was met. Director Hal Stober was absent. Also present were Chief Ray Mulas, Assistant Chiefs Mike Mulas and Mike Medeiros, District Accountant Stacie McCambridge, Clerk of the Board Robin Woods, Firefighters Matt Garner, George Norton, Mickey Breen, Humberto Botello, and Tony Mall. Guest District Counsel Bill Adams was also present.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

3. AGENDA ADJUSTMENT AND CONSENT

There were no changes to the agenda.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

a. Approval of minutes from February 4, 2026, Regular Meeting- **Discussion and Action**

Director Neves introduced February minutes and opened the floor to questions, discussion and public comments. There were no public comments. Director Finn made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2026, meeting. Director Kruljac seconded the motion. 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. Review of the March 2026 Accountant's Report-**Discussion and Action**

Director Neves introduced the Accountant's Report and opened the floor to questions, discussion and public comments. There were no public comments. Director Kruljac made the motion to accept the Accountant's Report for March 2026, as presented. Director Finn seconded the motion. A vote was called, and the motion passed. The Financial Reports were approved by the following vote:

Ayes- 4 Noes-0 Absent- 1 Abstain-0

5. CHIEFS' REPORT

Chief Ray Mulas gave the following report to the Board:

Administrative:

1. On February 20th we held a meeting with All Paid Staff, Command Staff and Volunteer representatives and our project coordinator. This meeting was for everyone to hold respectful, productive dialogue regarding some concerns and rumors circulating around the department. We, the Command Staff, heard the concerns and are working towards any changes that we feel will improve the operations of the district.
2. Measure H has so far issued \$ 61.9 million since its implantation October 1st, 2024. But the financial reports recently filed by fire agencies cover only FY24-25, the first fiscal year the tax was implemented. In that period, \$45.7 million was distributed to the agencies.
3. Working with Garage Inc. to post 3881 on their web site for sale, price appears to be around \$40-50,000. We should have the pictures uploaded by next week.
4. Our new engine has been sent up to Golden State for repairs from the gate incident, cost of repairs were estimated to be around \$7000-\$8000.
5. A badge Pinning was held for our new personnel and the new promotions on Saturday and was organized by Captain Garner.

Operational:

1. The department held the final training session at the Pearson Road house with about 25 volunteers last Saturday. The property owner fed the staff and volunteers and invited the neighbors to come and watch us train. The house was an extremely valuable resource for training and the exposure to the public was equally valuable.
 2. Since our web page has been redesigned, we have had 57,449 visitors to our various pages.
- Operational:

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

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

1. Facilities Committee (Bill Steach)

Director Steach had meetings with Assistant Chief Mike Mulas and with Chief Ray Mulas and Captain Matt Garner to discuss needs.

Bids are being obtained for the painting of station 2. They will need to discuss color choices.

A priority is to get the Kohler generator running. Assistant Chief Mike Mulas reported that the electrician will start on Friday, weather reporting.

2. Budget Committee (Bob Kruljac)

There was nothing to report,

3. Legislative Committee (Ken Finn)

Director Finn let the Board know that Legislation is just getting back in session. Nothing pending to report at this time.

4. Outreach Committee (Mindy Neves)

Director Neves informed the Board that she is working on an outline for the newsletter with a focus on Measure H. She asked for input on the timeline and



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number of newsletters per year. The Board decided that 2 newsletters would be preferred, one pre-summer and one in the fall. The target for the upcoming newsletter is April.

5. Advisory Group Committee (Mindy Neves)

Table

7. NEW BUSINESS AND CONTINUE UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

Director Neves shared with the Board documents she received from Firefighter Velasquez regarding the location and storage of Engine #321 including a bill for storage at his shop.

Director Neves opened the floor for discussion and public comments. The Board requested that the Engine be returned to Station 2 and requested additional documentation on the events and history of the engine being stored at Firefighter Velasquez's shop before any decisions can be made.

Director Finn made the motion to move the engine back to Station 2 for storage. Director Kruljac seconded the motion. A vote was called and the motion to move Engine #321 to Station 2 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes-4 Noes-0 Absent-1 Abstain-1

Directors Kruljac and Steach will work with Firefighter Velasquez on getting the engine moved To station 2.

This item will be added to next month's Board meeting for continuing discussion.

- b. SVFPD FYE 2025 Audit Draft - **Discussion and Action**

Director Neves and Clerk Robin Woods introduced the Audit Draft to the Board. Director opened the floor to questions, discussion and public comments. There were no public comments. Director Finn made the motion to accept the Audit Draft and to finalize it with the Auditor. Director Kruljac seconded the motion. A vote was called, and the motion passed by the following vote:

Ayes- 4 Noes-0 Absent-1 Abstain-0

- c. Commercial Insurance Proposal Update – **Discussion and Action**

Chief Mulas and Clerk Robin Woods, updated the Board on the proposals received from FAIRA and George Petersen Insurance. The Board asked that an Ad Hoc committee be formed to review options and present them to the Board at a special meeting on March 25, 2026. Committee members are Chief Ray Mulas, Assistant Chief Mike Mulas, Director Bob Kruljac, Clerk Robin Woods.

d. Strategic Planning Review-**Discussion**

Director Neves reminded the Board that Ernie Loveless needed to be replaced as a committee member. Director Bill Steach volunteered to be the replacement. Assistant Chief Mike Medeiros will send an email to the Board and the Committee to review the Plan to move forward.

e. Form 700 information - **Discussion**

Clerk Robin Woods updated the Board of the status of the filings.

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

Director Neves advised the Board that she will be sending a copy of the update to the Board to review and for their input.

g. Calendar Review (Robin)

Clerk Woods reviewed upcoming calendar events. Assistant Chief Mike Medeiros reported that a date has been set for the annual physicals.

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 May or June to provide time for parcel review**)

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 July)

May2026- Board needs to approve a Resolution & Ordinance to place the Special Tax on the Ballot.

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 public comments.



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9. CLOSED SESSION

Conference with Board Labor Negotiators (Government Code section 54957.6)

Agency designated representatives: Directors Robert Kruljac and Ken Finn regarding Represented Employees: IAFF Local 1401, Sonoma County Professional Firefighters

Prior to calling for a closed session, Director Neves asked if there were any public comments. Let the record report there were none.

Director Neves Called for a closed meeting at 7:54PM

Director Neves resumed the open meeting at 9:00PM

Report: There were no reportable actions.

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

Nothing to discuss.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Director Finn made the motion to adjourn at 9:02 PM. Director Kruljac seconded the motion.

The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned

Next scheduled meeting is April 1, 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