

Sonoma Valley Fire District

Board of Directors Meeting

May 14, 2024





Sonoma Valley Fire District

Board of Directors Meeting

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**MEETING AGENDA
SONOMA VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 6:00 P.M.
Location: Sonoma Valley Fire District Station 1
630 2nd Street W., Sonoma, CA 95476

This meeting is being conducted in person with videoconference capabilities in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act, California Government Code Section 54950, et seq. Agenda, Zoom link, and board packet materials are available at the following website: <http://sonomavalleyfire.org>

To join by phone: 1-669-900-9128

Meeting ID: 914 153 1767

Meeting Passcode: 3300

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum

Board of Directors: President William Norton, Vice President John (Matt) Atkinson, Treasurer Mark Johnson, Brian Brady, Mark Emery, Nick Greben, Terrence Leen.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Confirmation of Agenda

Opportunity for the Board to reorder agenda items.

5. Comments from the Public

(At this time, members of the public may comment on any item not appearing on the agenda. It is recommended that you keep your comments to three minutes or less. Under State Law, matters presented under this item cannot be discussed or acted upon by the Board at this time. For items appearing on the agenda, the public will be invited to make comments at the time the item comes up for consideration by the Board of Directors.)

6. Presentations

7. Consent Calendar

a) Approval of minutes from the regular meeting held on, April 9, 2024. **Action Item**

8. Fire Chief's Monthly Report

April/May Chief's Report

9. Old Business

10. **New Business**

- a) Resolution 2023/2024-05 ordering an election to be held and requesting consolidation with the November 5, 2024 County election. **Action Item w/Roll Call Vote**
- b) Resolution 2023/2024-06 opposing Initiative 1935 (CBRT) **Action Item w/Roll Call Vote**

11. **Other Business to Come before the Board**

12. **Comments from the Floor**

13. **Comments/Reports from the Board**

14. **Closed Session**

15. **Adjournment**

This meeting will be adjourned to a regular Board meeting on June 11, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Training Room of Sonoma Valley Fire District, Station 1, located at 630 2nd Street West, Sonoma, CA.

Copies of all staff reports and documents subject to disclosure that relate to any item of business referred to on the agenda are available at the following website at <http://sonomavalleyfire.org>.



Sonoma Valley Fire District
Board of Directors Meeting
 Agenda Item Summary
 May 14, 2024

Agenda Item No.	Staff Contact		
7a	Maci Bettencourt, Clerk of the Board		
Agenda Item Title			
Approval of the regular meeting minutes held on April 9, 2024.			
Recommended Actions			
Approve the minutes			
Executive Summary			
The minutes have been prepared for Board review and approval.			
Alternative Actions			
Correct or amend minutes prior to approval			
Strategic Plan Alignment			
Fiscal Summary – FY 23/24			
Expenditures		Funding Source(s)	
Budgeted Amount	\$	District General Fund	\$
Add. Appropriations Req'd.	\$	Fees/Other	\$
	\$	Use of Fund Balance	\$
	\$	Contingencies	\$
		Grants	\$
Total Expenditure	\$	Total Sources	\$
Narrative Explanation of Fiscal Impacts (if required)			
Not Required			
Attachments			
1. Minutes for April 9, 2024 regular meeting			

SONOMA VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES Tuesday, April 9, 2024

**Meeting was held in person at Station 1, 630 2nd Street W, Sonoma, Ca. 95476
and via video conference for general public access.
Join by phone: 1-669-900-9128 | Meeting ID: 914 153 1767 | Meeting Passcode: 3300**

1. Call to Order

Vice President Atkinson called meeting to order at 6:04 PM

2. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum

Board of Directors present: President William Norton, Vice President John (Matt) Atkinson, Treasurer Mark Johnson, Director Brian Brady, Director Mark Emery, and Director Nick Greben. Director Terrence Leen was excused.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Director Johnson and recited by all.

4. Confirmation of Agenda

None

5. Comments from the Public

Public and staff present/virtual: Chief Steve Akre, Sean Lacy, Dusty Garcia, Mark Branconi, Bob Norrbom, Jason Campbell, Laura Bañuelos, Erich Pearson, and legal counsel Bill Adams. No comments heard from the public.

6. Presentations

None

7. Consent Calendar

a) Board reviewed and approved the meeting minutes from the regular board meeting held on March 12, 2024. **M/S/P Johnson/Greben - 6 ayes/1 excused**

8. Fire Chief's Monthly Report

Monthly Chief's report attached.

9. Old Business

None

10. New Business

a) Director Greben motioned to accept the fund balance allocations based on SVFD FY 22/23 financial audit. **M/S/P Greben/Emery - 6 ayes/1 excused**

11. Other Business to come before the Board

Chief Akre reminded the Board of upcoming calendar dates; County Chief's dinner, April 18th at Rancho Adobe. Please RSVP to Maci by end of day, Friday.

12. Comments from the Floor

None

13. Comments/Reports from the Board

None

14. Closed Session

President Norton, adjourned to closed session at 6:45pm, closed session began at 6:51pm and adjourned to public meeting at 7:41pm.

Report from closed session: The board gave instruction to staff. No reportable action at this time.

15. Adjournment

M/S Johnson/Greben– 6 ayes/1 excused

Meeting was adjourned at 7:42pm to a regular Board meeting on May 14, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. This meeting will be conducted in person with videoconference capabilities available to the public. *Copies of all staff reports and documents subject to disclosure that relate to any item of business referred to on the agenda are available at the following website: <http://sonomavalleyfire.org> under the Governance tab.*

Respectfully submitted,

Maci Bettencourt
Clerk of the Board



Sonoma Valley Fire District

Proudly Serving the communities of

Sonoma, Valley of the Moon, Glen Ellen, and Mayacamas

DATE: 4/9/2024
TO: Sonoma Valley and Kenwood Board of Directors
FROM: Chief Akre
SUBJECT: Monthly Activity Report – March 2024

A. ADMINISTRATIVE:

1. SDC: No Update.
2. KWD: Staffing service continues to go very well. I continue to attend monthly BOD Meetings. I met with the HR Subcommittee, and finalized a job description for an administrative officer to start on July 1. The recruitment is currently open. We have scheduled a joint Consolidation subcommittee meeting this Friday 4/13.
3. The Labor/Mgt Group met in March and continued work on the many future growth considerations and opportunities that will present to the District. We next meet on 5/16.
4. REDCOM Update: Holding monthly REDCOM Board Meetings. I have had to recuse myself from a number of meetings and topics as they relate to potential bidders. We anticipate the AP Triton report to be released very soon and then the work will shift to developing the RFP.
5. The Fire Service Working Group continues to meet to work on the citizens-based initiative Measure H. This has now transitioned to implementation mode. We are developing a work plan with priorities in order to best support and guide all receiving agencies as well as the SCFCA. The FSWG has been sending out regular updates to the SCFCA and SCFDA members. We continue to monitor the CBRT initiative.
6. We held our monthly Command Staff meeting.
7. The EMS subcommittee continues to be actively working on supporting service provision for EOA-1 during the transition period, on the tiered response implementation, and expanded scope EMT.
8. I attended the monthly Cal Chiefs E-Board meetings. I am also on the Cal Chiefs Legislative Task Force subcommittee that includes representatives from our Policy Advocates, CPF, FDAC, and CDSA. We meet monthly.
9. BC Lacy, FM Smith and I attended an all City Staff Meeting and provided updates. Sean and I also attended a TEST Meeting with Public Works and PD. Trevor, Gary and I attended a General Plan update meeting with City Staff.
10. The SCFDA Dinner/Meeting will be held on 4/18 at Sally Tomatoes in RP, and hosted by the Rancho Adobe FD. Presentation will be on Fire District funding mechanisms for capital projects.



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11. FRMS update. We held a special Board meeting in March to address employee benefit considerations for new customers. Our next regular meeting will be on 4/22 at the FDAC Conference.
 12. BC Lacy and I attended the monthly SCFCA Meetings. Tomorrow's SCFCA Meeting will be co-hosted by SON and KWD at the KWD Fire Station.
 13. I represented the County's Fire Op Area Coordinators during a Tsunami Warning Exercise.
- B. INCIDENTS:
1. N/A
- C. BUDGET/FINANCE:
1. We are starting the Budget preparation season. I have a City Budget pre-meeting today. Jenn completed the draft prelim budget, which I will be updating prior to our presentation and discussion in June.
 - 2.
- D. PERSONNEL:
1. Maribel Gonzalez will begin as our full-time Administrative Assistant on 4/15. We are very excited to have the added capacity.
 2. 2 of our internal FF candidates have completed the pre-employment process. WE are in open recruitment and hope to identify 2 additional candidates in the near future. We anticipate starting another new hire academy in July.
 3. Captain Jason Campbell has been selected to fill the temporary Administrative Captain position and will begin his assignment on 4/29.
 4. We have put together a job announcement and flyer for the new Fire Mechanic's position.
- E. TRAINING:
1. Focus on training in March has been on EMS scenarios and CPR training as well as getting started on our annual wildland refresher training.
 2. 2 members just completed a swiftwater rescue training class.
- F. EQUIPMENT:
1. The new stakeside pickup was delivered this month. This is the former chassis for 3348 and had a stakeside body with liftgate installed. This will be a great asset to the department and association.



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2. Apparatus spec committee is currently working on developing specs for a "Rural" Type 1 engine. We need to have this sized engine to be able to best serve District 5 and 3. We are taking a field trip to Marin County this week to look at both a Rural Type 1 and their new station at Tomales.
3. City approved purchase of a new ambulance. City is also attempting to donate a surplus ambulance to the Ukraine.

G. BUILDINGS & LAND:

1. Solar installation is nearing completion.
2. Station 2's upstairs remodel in anticipation of accommodating M302's crew is nearly completed.

H. PREVENTION & COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

I. ASSOCIATION:

1. We held a very successful Easter Egg Hunt again this year.
2. We are gearing up for the 4th of July as well as Open House, and Mother's Day Brunch.



Sonoma Valley Fire District
Board of Directors Meeting
 Agenda Item Summary
 May 14, 2024

Agenda Item No.	Staff Contact
10a	Maci Bettencourt, Clerk of the Board

Agenda Item Title
 Resolution 2023/2024-05 ordering an election to be held and requesting consolidation with the November 5, 2024 election.

Recommended Actions
 Order election and request consolidation with County election on, November 5, 2024.

Executive Summary
 The regular biennial election for our District Board Directors will be held on November 5, 2024. The positions of four Board members (Director Atkinson, Director Brady, Director Emery and Director Norton) will expire at the end of 2024. In order to participate in the County election, the Board must pass a resolution ordering an election and requesting consolidation.

Alternative Actions
 Decline to consolidate with the County election

Strategic Plan Alignment

Fiscal Summary – FY 23/24

Expenditures		Funding Source(s)	
Budgeted Amount	\$	District General Fund	\$
Add. Appropriations Req'd.	\$	Fees/Other	\$
	\$	Use of Fund Balance	\$
	\$	Contingencies	\$
		Grants	\$
Total Expenditure	\$	Total Sources	\$

Narrative Explanation of Fiscal Impacts (if required)

- Attachments**
1. County information on consolidated elections
 2. Consolidated general election timeline
 3. Resolution 2023/2024-05



SONOMA COUNTY
Clerk-Recorder-Assessor
www.sonoma-county.org/cra

REGISTRAR OF
VOTERS DIVISION

P.O. Box 11485
435 Fiscal Dr.
Santa Rosa, CA 95406
Tel: (707) 565-6800
Toll Free (CA only):
(800) 750-VOTE
Fax: (707) 565-6843

MEMORANDUM

TO: DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR/SECRETARY
FROM: SONOMA COUNTY REGISTRAR OF VOTERS
DATE: APRIL 10, 2024
SUBJ: INFORMATION ON UPCOMING CONSOLIDATED ELECTIONS

The regular biennial election of your District Board Directors will take place on November 5, 2024. Nominations for offices in your district open on July 15, and close on August 9, 2024. If any incumbent fails to file during the nomination period, there will be a five-day extension through 5 p.m. on August 14, 2024, for anyone other than the incumbent officer. The Registrar of Voters Office would like to assist you in any way possible in meeting all of your filing deadlines. Enclosed is a sample Resolution form to request consolidation, a Notice of Offices to Be Filled and Statement of Responsibility for the Statement of Qualifications and a Notice of District Boundaries.

As a convenience to your candidates, we have enclosed forms for submitting Candidates' Statements of Qualifications. These forms may be provided to any candidate wishing to include a printed Statement of Qualifications in the Sonoma County Voter Information Guide. In addition, please find enclosed a timeline of the November 5, 2024, Election as well as the roster for your district. **Please review the roster and let us know of any discrepancies.**

If your district requires payment in advance for printing statements, candidates must secure a receipt from your office as proof of payment before a statement will be accepted for filing by our office. We will send out cost estimates via email as soon as they are available.

Statements of Qualifications must be filed at the same time all other nomination documents are filed in the office of the Registrar of Voters. Statements may be withdrawn but not changed during the nomination period or extended nomination period if applicable.

If you have any questions regarding this or any other election related matters, you may call our office at (707) 565-6800 or write us at P.O. Box 11485, Santa Rosa, CA 95406. Your continued cooperation and assistance in the conduct of elections is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "TKennedy".

Troy Kennedy

Simplified Timeline for November 5, 2024, General Election

Dates are based on information available as of mid-April 2023 and could still change if new legislation is enacted.

For most dates that fall on a Saturday, Sunday, or county holiday, use the next regular business day for transactions. County holidays during this period include July 4 (Independence Day), Sept. 2 (Labor Day), Nov. 11 (Veterans Day), Thanksgiving (Nov. 28), and Day After Thanksgiving (Nov. 29).

Notification deadline for special districts	July 3, 2024
Specifications deadline for school districts	July 5, 2024
Nominations filing period	July 15, 2024 - Aug. 9, 2024
Consolidation deadline, measures	Aug. 9, 2024
Tax rate statement deadline, bond measures	Aug. 9, 2024
Measure letter assignments	Aug. 12, 2024
Extended nominations filing period	Aug. 12, 2024 - Aug. 14, 2024
Deadline to amend/withdraw measures	Aug. 14, 2024
Random alpha drawing	Aug. 15, 2024
Argument deadline	Aug. 16, 2024
Impartial analysis deadline	Aug. 16, 2024
Rebuttal deadline	Aug. 23, 2024
Write-in period	Sept. 9, 2024 - Oct. 22, 2024
Deadline to send ballots to currently registered UOCAVAs*	Sept. 21, 2024*
Target date to begin mailing County Voter Information Guides	Sept. 26, 2024
Voting by mail opens	Oct. 7, 2024
First day to process Vote-by-Mail ballots	Oct. 7, 2024
Official Ballot Drop Boxes are open 24/7 from Oct. 8 until 8 p.m. on Election Day	Oct. 8, 2024 - Nov. 5, 2024
Standard voter registration deadline	Oct. 21, 2024
Conditional (a.k.a. "same day") voter registration is available until 8 p.m. on Election Day	Oct. 22, 2024 - Nov. 5, 2024
11-Day Vote Centers are open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Oct. 26, 2024 - Nov. 4, 2024
Last day to request a ballot be mailed	Oct. 29, 2024
4-Day Vote Centers are open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Nov. 2, 2024 - Nov. 4, 2024
Election Day: ALL Vote Centers (both 11-Day & 4-Day) are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.	Nov. 5, 2024
Last day Vote-by-Mail ballots postmarked on or before Election Day can be accepted	Nov. 12, 2024
Deadline to transmit election results for presidential electors to SOS	Dec. 3, 2024
Deadline to certify election results	Dec. 5, 2024

*Unlike most dates that fall on a weekend or county holiday, this one does **not** move to the next business day.

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SONOMA VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT OF SONOMA COUNTY, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, ORDERING AN ELECTION TO BE HELD AND REQUESTING CONSOLIDATION WITH THE NOVEMBER 5, 2024 GENERAL DISTRICT ELECTION

WHEREAS, an election will be held November 5, 2024 in the Sonoma Valley Fire District for the purpose of electing Board Directors to fill positions which will expire in 2024;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board Directors of said district hereby request consolidation with any election that may be held on the same day, in the same territory, or in territory that is in part the same.

IN REGULAR SESSION, the foregoing resolution was introduced by Director _____, who moved its adoption, seconded by Director _____, and passed by the Board of Directors of the Sonoma Valley Fire District this 14th day of May, 2024 on regular roll call vote of the members of said Board by the following vote:

President Norton	Aye _____	No _____	Absent _____
Vice President Atkinson	Aye _____	No _____	Absent _____
Treasurer Johnson	Aye _____	No _____	Absent _____
Director Brady	Aye _____	No _____	Absent _____
Director Emery	Aye _____	No _____	Absent _____
Director Greben	Aye _____	No _____	Absent _____
Director Leen	Aye _____	No _____	Absent _____
Vote:	Aye _____	No _____	Absent _____

WHEREUPON, the President declared the foregoing resolution adopted; and

SO ORDERED:

ATTEST:

William Norton, President

Maci Bettencourt, Clerk of the Board



Sonoma Valley Fire District
Board of Directors Meeting
 Agenda Item Summary
 May 14, 2024

Agenda Item No.	Staff Contact		
10b	Steve Akre, Fire Chief		
Agenda Item Title			
Resolution 2023/2024-06 to oppose Initiative 1935 (CBRT)			
Recommended Actions			
Approve Resolution			
Executive Summary			
Initiative 1935, the California Business Roundtable (CRBT) is a direct threat to Measure H. 1935 would retroactively require a 2/3 vote to pass any tax or fee increase. Further, it would require a sunset clause and to be a maximum of 10-years and then be voted on again. There is a large and strong coalition of opposition to this initiative, including: Cal Chiefs, CPF, League of Cities, CSDA, teachers, schools, etc.			
Alternative Actions			
None			
Strategic Plan Alignment			
Goal 1, Objective 1A; Goal 2; Goal 3, Objective 3C & 3D			
Fiscal Summary – FY 23/24			
Expenditures			
Budgeted Amount	\$	Funding Source(s)	
Add. Appropriations Req'd.	\$	District General Fund	\$
	\$	Fees/Other	\$
	\$	Use of Fund Balance	\$
	\$	Contingencies	\$
		Grants	\$
Total Expenditure	\$	Total Sources	\$
Narrative Explanation of Fiscal Impacts (if required)			
Potential loss of Measure H funding if 1935 passes in November 2024			
Attachments			
1. Resolution 2023/2024-06			

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SONOMA VALLEY
FIRE DISTRICT OF SONOMA COUNTY, STATE OF CALIFORNIA,
OPPOSING INITIATIVE 1935 (FORMERLY 21-0042A1)**

WHEREAS, an association representing California’s wealthiest corporations is spending millions of dollars to promote a deceptive proposition currently eligible for the November 2024 statewide ballot; and

WHEREAS, the proposed proposition, Initiative 1935 (formerly 21-0042A1), has received the official title: “LIMITS ABILITY OF VOTERS AND STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO RAISE REVENUES FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT”; and

WHEREAS, the measure would revise the Constitution to allow corporations to more easily sue public agencies, costing residents and taxpayers millions of dollars and disrupting essential services; and

WHEREAS, the measure would retroactively invalidate billions of dollars in local government funding for essential services and infrastructure, including all expected Measure H revenues and our recently updated fee schedule for services as well as to schools, fire and emergency response, law enforcement, public health, parks, libraries, housing, services to address homelessness and support mental health, and more; and

WHEREAS, if this initiative were to pass, the SVFD would lose the funding for critical service improvements to our Communities, including: the staffing for a third ALS Ambulance, building a new Fire Station 2, Vegetation Management and Prevention improvements as well as critically needed support services.

WHEREAS, the measure limits voters’ rights, containing undemocratic provisions that would make it more difficult for local voters to pass measures to fund services, provisions that retroactively cancel measures recently passed by local voters, and provisions that prevent voters from passing advisory measures that provide direction on how they want their local tax dollars spent; and

WHEREAS, the measure restricts the discretion and flexibility of locally elected boards to respond to the needs of their communities, and injects uncertainty into the financing and sustainability of critical infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the measure constrains state and local officials’ ability to protect our environment, public health and safety, and our neighborhoods against those who violate the law; and

WHEREAS, the measure is opposed by hundreds of local governments, firefighters and other first responders, healthcare providers, teachers, working families, and local elected officials.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Sonoma Valley Fire District opposes Initiative 1935 (formerly 21-0042A1);

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Sonoma Valley Fire District will join the No on Initiative 1935 (formerly 21-0042A1) coalition, a growing coalition of local government, public safety, labor, infrastructure advocates, and other organizations throughout the state. We direct staff to email a copy of this adopted resolution to the California Special Districts Association at advocacy@csda.net.

IN REGULAR SESSION, the foregoing resolution was introduced by Director _____, who moved its adoption, seconded by Director _____, and passed by the Board of Directors of the Sonoma Valley Fire District this 14th day of May, 2024 on regular roll call vote of the members of said Board by the following vote:

President Norton	Aye _____	No _____	Absent _____
Vice President Atkinson	Aye _____	No _____	Absent _____
Treasurer Johnson	Aye _____	No _____	Absent _____
Director Brady	Aye _____	No _____	Absent _____
Director Emery	Aye _____	No _____	Absent _____
Director Greben	Aye _____	No _____	Absent _____
Director Leen	Aye _____	No _____	Absent _____
Vote:	Aye _____	No _____	Absent _____

WHEREUPON, the President declared the foregoing resolution adopted; and

SO ORDERED:

ATTEST:

William Norton, President

Maci Bettencourt, Clerk of the Board