



Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District

10545 Armstrong Ave., Suite 200 • Mather, CA 95655 • Phone (916) 859-4300 • Fax (916) 859-3702

ADAM A. HOUSE
Fire Chief

ADOPTED ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN FIRE DISTRICT
Thursday, February 26, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Held at the following locations:
10545 Armstrong Avenue – Board Room
Mather, California
&
Remotely Via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by President Costa. Board members present: Clark, Costa, Jones, Rice, Stark, Webber, and Wood. Board members absent: Goold and Saylors. Staff present: Chief House and Board Clerk Rittburg.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were received.

CONSENT ITEMS

Moved by Director Webber, seconded by Wood, and carried unanimously by members present to adopt the consent calendar as follows:

- 1. Action Summary Minutes**
Recommendation: Approve the Action Summary Minutes for the Regular Board Meetings of January 8, 2026, and January 22, 2026.
Action: Adopted the Action Summary Minutes.
- 2. Amendment of the Board of Directors Policies & Procedures – Executive Committee Scope and Purpose**
Recommendation: Approve the amended Board of Directors Policies and Procedures, including updates to the Executive Committee meeting frequency and Executive Committee Charter.
Action: Approved.
- 3. Revision of Board Policy 01.022.02 – Meal & Refreshment Policy**
Recommendation: Approve the revisions to the Meal & Refreshment Policy.
Action: Approved.
- 4. Continuing Emergency Work Approval – 10545 Armstrong Avenue**
Recommendation: Determine that an emergency continues to exist and authorize contracting without a competitive solicitation for bids pursuant to PCC Section 22050 for

the repair, demolition, and clean-up services required to restore 10545 Armstrong Avenue to a condition safe for occupancy.

Action: Approved.

PRESENTATION ITEMS

- 1. Firefighters Burn Institute**
(Joe Pick, Firefighters Burn Institute)
Recommendation: Receive plaque.
Action: Plaque received from the Firefighters Burn Institute.
- 2. EMS Excellence**
(EMS Chief Jon Rudnicki)
Recommendation: Receive the presentation.
Action: Presentation received; EMS Chief Jon Rudnicki presented commendations to the crew and citizens who provided assistance including Director Stark and the survivor spoke.

ACTION ITEMS

- 1. Adopt Resolution – Industrial Disability Retirement – Firefighter Jason Watts**
Recommendation: After discussion in Closed Session, consider adopting a Resolution finding Firefighter Watts has suffered job-related injuries incapacitating him for the performance of duties as a Firefighter, and direct staff to continue working with Firefighter Watts through his Industrial Disability Retirement process with CalPERS.
Action: None, item to be voted on after discussion in Closed Session.

REPORTS

- 1. PRESIDENT’S REPORT - (President Costa)**

No Report

- 2. FIRE CHIEF’S REPORT — (Chief House)**

Good evening, Directors, Colleagues, and Members of the Public

Chief House stated he couldn't be more proud as the Fire Chief. The EMS Excellence presentation is a reflection of what our men and women do every day. They do exceptional work.

Deputy Chief Wagaman and Chief House met with the Folsom Fire Department's Fire Chief and Operations Chief last week to continue discussions regarding their current operations and to explore potential opportunities for collaboration. They also had the opportunity to congratulate Chief Jason Solak on his selection as Folsom's newest Fire Chief.

Chief Nygren and Chief House attended a Rancho Cordova luncheon where Sheriff Jim Cooper was the guest speaker. It was a valuable opportunity to engage with our regional partners and connect with community members in attendance.

Chief House also attended the Changing of the Guard ceremony for South Placer Fire District for Fire Chief Darin Snedeker. Chief Snedeker was selected as the fire chief effective January 1, 2026, following the retirement of Chief Mark Duerr.

Finally, I look forward to seeing everyone at our Annual Awards Gala tomorrow evening, where the District will honor Members of the Year recipients, nominees, and members receiving commendations and recognition in several additional categories. Doors open at 6:00 p.m., with dinner served at 7:00 p.m.

That concludes my report for this evening.

OPERATIONS REPORT – (Deputy Chief Wagaman)

No Report

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT – (Deputy Chief Fiorica)

Deputy Chief Fiorica reported:

COMMUNITY RELATIONS DIVISION

- The next Open House will be held at Station 50 on Saturday, March 21, 2026.
- The NorCal Fire Explorer Muster, being held on Sunday, April 26, at Station 21, has 16 teams registered so far. Registration closes on Monday, March 2, 2026. This is a great event for young folks looking to have a career in the fire service.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- Logistics Technician Recruitment closes February 27, 2026.
- Business Applications Analyst Recruitment closes March 5, 2026.
- Engineer Recruitment closes April 17, 2026.

RECRUITMENT & OUTREACH

- Del Campo explorers are in the stations. 4th year. Excellent quality of students moving through the program.
- Folsom/Cordova program moving along slowly but steadily. The 27/28 school year is now the target start date.
- The California Department of Education is updating CTE curriculum standards. Captain Tim White is serving on a committee representing the industry for the Public Safety Pathway. It will be a fast-moving project, but it will give us a say in state requirements for programs like these.

SUPPORT & EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES – (Deputy Chief Mitchell)

Deputy Chief Mitchell called EMS Chief Rudnicki to the podium to introduce newly hired Doctor Kamara Graham, Medical Director in the EMS Division. Dr. Graham joined our agency on February 1, after an extensive recruitment process. We're very fortunate to have Dr. Graham apply as she works in the region at multiple hospitals. Dr. Graham introduced herself to the Board and stated she is really excited and honored to have the opportunity to work with Metro Fire and be part of this team.

3. SMFD – FIREFIGHTERS LOCAL 522 REPORT – (Captain Brett Randle, Local 522 Director)

Captain Randle thanked the MMP group for picking up extra shifts. He expressed congratulations to everyone involved in the EMS excellence event/presentation.

4. COMMITTEE AND DELEGATE REPORTS

All Committee Meetings will be held at the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District Board Room, 10545 Armstrong Avenue, Mather, California unless otherwise specified.

A. Executive Committee – (President Costa)

No Report

B. Communications Center JPA – (Deputy Chief Fiorica)

The Communication Center JPA Board last met on February 24, 2026. During that meeting the Board approved the job description and contract for the Deputy Director of Operations position and gather staff approval to move forward with the recruitment for the position.

The Board also approved a change to the meeting schedule moving from two meetings per month to one meeting per month beginning in March. The Board then participated in a Special Board meeting covering training on the Brown Act.

There was no other reportable action taken. Our next meeting is scheduled for March 24, 2026.

C. Finance and Audit Committee – (Director Jones)

The Finance and Audit Committee met tonight and received a very informative presentation by CFO O'Toole. For example, there was a slide about one-time revenue at risk and the Voluntary Rate Range Program (VRRP) which is worth approximately 16.5 million which is an annually renewed and comes from the federal government. This is something we need to look closely at for the next few months and with a little bit of luck, it will continue to help our programs here.

D. Policy Committee – (Director Clark)

No Report

BOARD MEMBER QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Director Jones thanked Metro Fire staff for hosting the CALAFCo strategy retreat today and also a board meeting tomorrow. She stated she heard kudos and appreciation to Metro Fire from CALAFCo for hosting and she wanted to pass that on to everyone.

Director Clark welcomed Dr. Graham to Metro Fire. He had the chance to meet her at the Citizens Academy last night. Congratulations to the crew and Director Stark for saving the life of the citizens that spoke tonight during the EMS Excellence.

Director Rice stated that he is closing out his career and the next 60 days are really going to be spent closing the door as the President of the California Professional Firefighters. He wanted everyone to know if you don't see him in the next couple of months, that's the reason why.

Director Webber thanked Director Rice for all of his service and that he's made a big impact in his tenure for the entire state of firefighters.

President Costa thanked Director Rice and looking forward to our continued work together. He congratulated Director Stark and the crew, it's great that you were there in someone's time of need.

CLOSED SESSION:

The Board recessed to closed session at 6:34 p.m. on the following matter(s):

1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957.6

- A. District Negotiator: Jack Hughes, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore
Employee Organization: Sacramento Area Fire Fighters Local 522
- B. District Negotiator: Jack Hughes, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore
Employee Organization: Battalion Chiefs Bargaining Group,
Sacramento Area Fire Fighters Local 522
- C. District Negotiator: Jack Hughes, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore
Employee Organization: Administrative Support Personnel (ASP)
Affiliate of Sacramento Area Fire Fighters Local 522
- D. District Negotiator: Jack Hughes, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore
Employee Organization: Safety Senior Management, Management
and Unrepresented Confidential Employees
- E. District Negotiator: Jack Hughes, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore
Employee Organization: Non-Safety Senior Management, Management
and Unrepresented Confidential Employees
- F. District Negotiator: Jack Hughes, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore
Employee Organization: EMT and Paramedic Memorandum of Understanding

2. PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9 (a) – ONE (1) MATTER OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMPROMISE AND RELEASE

Jeffrey Metzinger and the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District
Claim # SMDH- 549775
Workers' Compensation Settlement Authority
Colin Connor, Lenahan, Slater, Pearse & Majernik, LLP

Action: Moved by Webber, seconded by Jones, and carried unanimously by members present to give authority to its third-party administrator to conclude a settlement of the matter.

3. PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9 (a) – ONE (1) MATTER OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION SETTLEMENT AUTHORITY

Steven Johnson and the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District
Claim # 25-198515
Workers' Compensation Settlement Authority
Colin Connor, Lenahan, Slater, Pearse & Majernik, LLP

Action: Moved by Wood, seconded by Rice, and carried unanimously by members present to give authority to its third-party administrator to conclude a settlement of the matter.

4. PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9 (a) – ONE (1) MATTER OF INDUSTRIAL DISABILITY RETIREMENT.

Jason Watts and the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District

CLOSED SESSION REPORT OUT:

The Board reconvened in open session at 8:31 p.m. General Counsel John Lavra reported that the Board met in closed session on four items:

1. Conference with Labor Negotiator; the Board met with its designated labor negotiator; no reportable action was taken in closed session.
2. Workers' Compensation Compromise and Release for Jeffrey Metzinger, the Board voted unanimously to effectuate a settlement in that matter.
3. Workers' Compensation Settlement Authority, Steven Johnson, the Board voted unanimously to effectuate a settlement in that matter.
4. One Matter of Industrial Disability Retirement, of Jason Watts, no reportable action was taken in closed session and the Board will proceed with the vote in open session now on that matter.

ACTION ITEM CONTINUED TO AFTER CLOSED SESSION:

1. **Adopt Resolution – Industrial Disability Retirement – Firefighter Jason Watts**
Recommendation: After discussion in Closed Session, consider adopting a Resolution finding Firefighter Watts has suffered job-related injuries incapacitating him for the performance of duties as a Firefighter, and direct staff to continue working with Firefighter Watts through his Industrial Disability Retirement process with CalPERS.
Action: Moved by Director Wood, seconded by Jones, and carried unanimously by members present to adopt **Resolution 2026-005** finding Firefighter Jason Watts has suffered job related injuries incapacitating him for the performance of duties.

To view the video of the meeting, please visit the Metro Fire Website or our YouTube channel:

<https://metrofire.ca.gov/2026-02-26-board-meeting>

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9t-uKlc_oOUGNrmogdQ_QA

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.



John Costa, Board President



Brian Rice, Secretary



Marni Rittburg, CMC
Board Clerk