

April 19, 2011, 5:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, 333 Civic Center Plaza

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1. Call to Order – Chairperson Ives called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
2. Roll Call – Roll call found Directors Abercrombie, Muniz and Chairperson Ives present. Director Reece absent.
3. Items from the Audience - None.
4. Approval of Minutes – It was moved by Director Abercrombie and seconded by Chairperson Ives to adopt the regular meeting minutes of January 18, 2011. Voice vote found Director Abercrombie and Chairperson Ives in favor. Director Muniz abstained. Director Reece absent. Motion carried: 2:0:1:1.
5. APPROVE AMENDMENT NO. 3 TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF TRACY AND THE SOUTH COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY FOR PROVISION OF FIRE SERVICES TO THE AUTHORITY'S JURISDICTIONAL AREA AND AUTHORIZE THE BOARD CHAIRPERSON TO SIGN THE AMENDMENT – Dave Bramell, Fire Division Chief, presented the staff report. The City of Tracy and the South County Fire Authority entered into an Agreement for Provision of Fire Services to the Authority's Jurisdictional Area (Fire Services Agreement) on September 7, 1999. The original agreement has two amendments. The first amendment added the Mountain House Community Services District (MHCS D) to the jurisdictional area of the SCFA. Amendment No. 2 added the Delta Island School north of Tracy to the jurisdictional area of the SCFA.

Amendment No. 3 incorporates the first two amendments by reference. Amendment No. 3 will define the jurisdictional area of the SCFA to include the City, Tracy Rural Fire District and MHCS D. Amendment No. 3 will also clarify the responsibility of maintaining public liability and property insurance. The amendment further updates the correct noticing locations for the contractor and the SCFA.

Amendment No. 3 will summarize services as defined in "Article II Services" of the Provision of Fire Services to the Authority's Jurisdictional Area Agreement. The existing Article II defines in detail the services provided within the jurisdictional area of the SCFA. The existing language presents some challenges in that the performance objectives adopted by the SCFA differ from language in the existing agreement. The proposed language is all encompassing and will provide flexibility should the SCFA adopt or modify performance objectives in the future.

Staff recommended the Board of Directors approve Amendment No. 3 to the Agreement for the Provision of Fire Services to the Authority's Jurisdictional Area and authorize the Board Chairperson to sign the amendment.

Robert Tanner, 1371 Rusher Street, addressed the Authority regarding the performance times for confining fires to room of origin in Tracy area 75% of the time and in the rural 25% of the time. Mr. Tanner stated the performance times were very achievable. The response times are now faster. Mr. Tanner asked why confining moderate risk structure fires to the room of origin for the City is not at 100%, and the rural area at 50%. Mr. Tanner added that those percentages seem achievable and wondered why the bar is being lowered and the Authority is not aiming for a better standard.

Chairperson Ives asked Mr. Tanner if he was referring to Agenda Item No. 6. Mr. Tanner responded he was referring to the January 18, 2011, minutes included in the agenda packet. Chairperson Ives stated Mr. Tanner's question will be addressed under Agenda Item 6.

Director Abercrombie stated that as Division Chief Bramell pointed out, the approval of the amendment went to Council first, then to Rural and then to the JPA. Previously, the approval process had gone to Rural, then the JPA, and then to Council. Director Abercrombie indicated there did not seem to be a consistent flow for the approval of agreements. Director Abercrombie further stated he felt the agreement should be reviewed by the JPA first.

Bill Sartor, Assistant City Attorney, responded that when the Prepaid Services Agreement was being prepared and when staff had everyone together, the agreements were presented at the same time. Amendment No. 3 consisted of minor housecleaning and is between the City and the SCFA for the provisions. SCFA was not a party to the Prepaid Services Agreement. It was a matter of timing for this particular agreement.

Director Abercrombie stated he understood but the agreement approval process seems different each time.

It was moved by Director Abercrombie and seconded by Director Muniz to adopt SCFA Resolution 2011-002 approving Amendment No. 3 to the agreement between the City of Tracy and the South County Fire Authority for provision of fire services to the Authority's jurisdictional area and authorizing the Chairperson to sign the amendment. Voice vote found all in favor; passed and so ordered. Director Reece absent. Motion carried: 3:0:1.

6. **ACCEPT AND FILE THE THIRD QUARTER 2010/2011 RESPONSE PERFORMANCE REPORT** – Dave Bramell, Fire Division Chief, presented the staff report. The department continuously strives to meet its "first-due" response time performance objectives and its goal to assemble an effective response force at working structure fires.

There were a total of 1,276 incidents in the South County Fire Authority (SCFA) during the third quarter of fiscal year 2010/2011. When compared to the same quarter last fiscal year, the total call volume for the quarter was down by 8.9% in the City, 4% in the Tracy Rural Fire Protection District (TRFD) and 20% in the Mountain House Community Services District (MHCS). Call volume has gone up by 34% on area freeways.

The most frequent incident response type across the jurisdiction remains emergency medical service calls. Medical-aid responses comprised 73% of the total call volume for

the quarter. The second most frequent incident type was alarms (8%) followed by fires at 7% respectively.

During the third quarter of FY 2010/2011 the department responded to 74% of all emergency calls in the City within 5 minutes. The response performance was the same in the second quarter but down 2% from the first quarter. The response performance in the Rural area was 85% in the quarter, an increase of 3% from the previous quarter total.

Response performance in the MHCSO was up 6% from the second quarter. For the first three quarters of Fiscal Year 2010/2011 combined, units arrived at calls within 5 minutes 47% of the time. Last quarter it was stated that as the MHCSO area develops to the north, the department may see a decline in response performance until a second facility is operational in the community.

During the evaluation period, the department was dispatched to a total of 40 structure fires. The most significant dollar loss fire was \$10,500 and occurred in the Rural area. There were 11 working structural fires in the City during the third quarter. The total dollar loss from structural fires in the City was \$33,740 with no single fire loss greater than \$6,000. There was one mattress fire in the MHCSO during the evaluation period.

The department's performance objective to confine moderate risk structure fires to the room of origin 75% of the time in the City and 25% of the time in the Rural was achieved during the evaluation period. The objective measures operational effectiveness once units arrive on the scene of a working structural fire. For the first three quarters of this fiscal year, the department confined working moderate risk structure fires to the room of origin or less 88% of the time in the City and 100% of the time in the Rural.

Call queuing is measured to determine the number of times simultaneous incidents occur in one fire company's first-due area. The third quarter statistics illustrate the department continues to see an improvement in call queuing in nearly all areas. The response performance presented by staff included only the time segments of turnout time and travel time. This is done to present comparative data relative to system changes made in 2008 as a result of the Standards of Response Coverage Study.

In 2008 the South County Fire Authority modified its first-due objectives to include the total response time. In the Tracy Rural area the total response time objective included a one minute-thirty second alarm handling time, a one minute turnout time and a seven minute-thirty second travel time (total response time 10:00). In the City the total response time objective was a one minute-thirty second alarm handling time, a one minute turnout time and a four minute travel time (total response time 6:30).

The department continues to evaluate best practices for analyzing and presenting response data. The fire service continues to seek appropriate benchmarks for all components of emergency response. Future response reports will reflect the most recently adopted performance objectives of the Authority. This will include each segment of response performance including alarm handling time from the secondary public safety answering point (PSAP), turnout time, and travel time.

Staff recommended that the South County Fire Authority accept the Third Quarter 2010/2011 Response Report

Director Abercrombie asked if the percentages were provided to assist with making decisions. Director Abercrombie also requested confirmation that no fines were imposed if certain requirements were not met. Division Chief Bramell responded there is no fine imposed. Previously in the Standards of Cover Report, staff had to re-evaluate the goals set, which were 5 minutes 95% of the time. That goal was not obtainable and not the industry norm. Staff would like to present that data based on best practices. The data is to assist with making informed decisions on what service to provide.

Director Abercrombie asked staff if they knew what the standards were for the rural areas of Lathrop and Manteca for confining moderate risk structure fires to room of origin. Division Chief Bramell responded he was not certain what standard the rural areas of Lathrop and Manteca were using as a performance objective. Division Chief Bramell added that typically a 5 minutes response time is used. Some jurisdictions look at averages. The industry is changing to look at the 90th percentile. The City's total response time of 6:30 is based on National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards. As far as confining to room of origin, Division Chief Bramell did not know if Manteca and Lathrop jurisdictions model those standards.

Director Abercrombie stated the goal is obviously 100% whether it is in writing or not.

Fire Chief Al Nero responded that was correct. There are no fines imposed for not meeting a goal. The goal is established by the City of Tracy and the Authority. Chief Nero stated most fire departments do not have those kinds of goals. It was admirable that the City does.

It was moved by Director Abercrombie and seconded by Director Muniz to accept the South County Fire Authority Third Quarter Fiscal Year 2010/2011 Response Report. Voice vote found all in favor; passed and so ordered. Director Reece absent. Motion carried: 3:0:1.

7. Items from the Audience - None
8. Adjournment – It was motioned by Director Abercrombie and seconded by Director Muniz to adjourn. Voice Vote found all in favor; passed and so ordered. Director Reece absent. Time: 5:20 p.m.

The above are summary minutes. The above agenda was posted at Tracy City Hall on April 14, 2011.

Attest:

Chairperson

Secretary