

**October 15, 2013, 5:45 p.m.**

Council Chambers, 333 Civic Center Plaza

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1. Chairperson Rickman called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.
2. Roll Call found Directors Maciel, Thoming, Vieira and Chairperson Rickman present.
3. Items from the Audience - None.
4. Approval of Minutes – It was moved by Director Maciel and seconded by Director Thoming to adopt the regular meeting minutes of July 16, 2013. Voice vote found all in favor; passed and so ordered.
5. RECEIVE AND ACCEPT THE FIRE CHIEF'S INFORMATIONAL UPDATE – Fire Chief Al Nero provided the report. At the July 16, 2013, South County Fire Authority (SCFA) meeting, the Board inquired about sending a letter to the Joint Radio Users Group (JRUG) regarding using the most efficient method to dispatch SCFA units to reduce the call processing time. Fire Chief Nero indicated staff will prepare a draft letter to be added to the January, 2014, SCFA meeting agenda for the Board's consideration.

Bill Sartor, Assistant City Attorney, indicated that the item was not agendized.

Fire Chief Nero continued with the Informational Update.

Fire Chief Nero stated the fire governance was discussed at Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) during their August, 2013, meeting. The item was continued to the October 18, 2013, meeting. Staff is waiting on proposals from consultants who will verify financial data and help to develop an implementation plan. Staff intends to pursue strengthening the SCFA while determining the option of the Tracy Rural Fire Protection District (TRFPD) annexing the City into the District. Staff will provide detailed updates and seek direction from the SCFA.

Mountain House Community Service District (MHCS D) has provided notice to TRFPD of their intent to terminate their contract for fire services. TRFPD will begin discussions with MHCS D. Staff will keep the SCFA Board informed. The governance plan includes offering MHCS D a full membership in the SCFA. Fire Chief Nero stated SCFA may want to consider this option, pending the results of the TRFPD discussions with MHCS D.

The Fire Department received a letter from the Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) Director stating they intend to terminate the contract with SCFA to provide ALS service. Fire Chief Nero stated he had been in discussions with the Director of EMSA and was advised that a draft updated contract would be delivered on October 17, 2013, for consideration.

Director Maciel asked what alternatives were being sought for SCFA.

Fire Chief Nero responded MHCSO staff was seeking a reduction in costs such as staffing and volunteers. Fire Chief Nero stated the contract with TRFPD will be discussed in a couple of weeks.

Robert Tanner asked if Mountain House Community Service District goes away, will MHCSO buy the current station. Mr. Tanner also asked if the annexation would become a vote of the citizens or strictly Council. Mr. Sartor responded that if at least 25% of residents object, then the annexation will go to vote of the people.

Mr. Tanner asked if the citizen's vote is required, would it be widely announced that people need to vote. Mr. Sartor responded that all agencies would have public hearings which would be noticed in all areas.

The South County Fire Authority accepted the informational report.

6. ACCEPT A REPORT ON THE SOUTH COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE PERFORMANCE FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF FISCAL YEAR 2013/2014 – Division Chief Steve Hanlon provided the staff report. This report presents historical Fire Department response information for the first quarter of fiscal year 2013/2014. There were a total of 1571 incidents in the South County Fire Authority (SCFA) during the first quarter of fiscal year 2013/2014. This is a decrease of 118 incidents compared to the same quarter last fiscal year, but an increase of 151 incidents from the first quarters of 2011/2012 and an increase of 182 from 2010/2011. There were 24 structure fires in the South County Fire Authority during the first quarter of 2013/2014. This is an increase of 18 compared to the same quarter last fiscal year. Thirteen occurred in the City of Tracy, ten in the Tracy Rural Fire Protection District (TRFPD), and one in the Mountain House Community Services District (MHCSO). The loss from structure fires in the City was also up considerably. Structure fire loss in the City limits during the first quarter of fiscal year 2013/2014 was \$2,654,080 (property and content loss). The majority of that loss was attributed to fires in two manufacturing facilities, and one residential structure fire. A foam manufacturer on North MacArthur Drive suffered a \$2,090,697 loss after two fires that occurred on August 13 and 15, 2013. A Larch Road maker of semiconductor instruments suffered a \$355,000 loss on July 3, 2013, when one of their machines burned, and a single family residence on Lincoln Boulevard suffered a \$90,000 loss. The Department's goal is to confine residential structure fires to the room of origin or less 90% of the time. During the first quarter of 2013/2014, that goal was met 73% of the time in the City. There were no residential structure fires in the Rural area during the quarter, and the one structure fire in the MHCSO did not extend to the residence.

During the first quarter of fiscal year 2013/2014, the department responded to 54% of all emergency incidents inside of the City of Tracy within the total reflex performance objective of 6.5 minutes. The 90th percentile for all incidents in the City was 9 minutes and 15 seconds (9:15) meaning 90% of all incidents were responded to in 9:15 or less. In the first quarter of fiscal year 2013/2014, the Fire Department responded to 61% of all emergency incidents in the TRFPD within the total reflex performance objective of 10 minutes. The 90th percentile for all incidents in the rural area was 14 minutes and 57 seconds; 90% of all incidents were responded to within 14:57 or less. Response

performance in the MHCSD was 41% for all emergency incidents within the total reflex performance objective of 6.5 minutes. The 90th percentile for all incidents was 9 minutes and 57 seconds (10:07).

Director Maciel asked if the major losses financially were predominantly industrial. Division Chief Hanlon responded yes.

Director Maciel stated the fire service always looks for possible preventive measures, but in an industrial situation it is limited. Division Chief Hanlon responded in the case of the foam manufacturer it was not. Division Chief Hanlon added that the City's engineering staff were on the scene the next day assisting the manufacturer. The property owner and Prologis are working together to improve their fire protection, both housekeeping and the system.

Director Maciel added there were lessons to be learned, but primarily in house by the manufacturer. Division Chief Hanlon responded yes.

Director Rickman asked about the progress of the Hazmat team. Fire Chief Nero responded there is one additional person to train and seven trained Hazmat personnel will be deployed effective January 1, 2014.

The South County Fire Authority accepted the Emergency Response Performance Report for the first quarter of fiscal year 2013/2014.

7. Items from the Audience - None
8. Adjournment – It was moved by Director Maciel and seconded by Director Thoming to adjourn. Voice vote found all in favor; passed and so ordered. Time: 6:00 p.m.

The above are summary minutes. The above agenda was posted at Tracy City Hall on October 10, 2013.

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Chairperson

Attest:

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Secretary