

October 21, 2014, 5:30 p.m.

Council Chambers, 333 Civic Center Plaza

Web Site: www.ci.tracy.ca.us

1. Chairperson Thoming called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. Roll Call found Directors Ahmad, Maciel, Rickman, and Chairperson Thoming present.
3. Items from the Audience - None.
4. Approval of Minutes – It was moved by Director Maciel and seconded by Director Rickman to adopt the special meeting minutes of April 1, 2014, and regular meeting minutes of April 15, 2014. Voice vote found all in favor; passed and so ordered.
5. ACCEPT A REPORT ON THE SOUTH COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE PERFORMANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 – Fire Division Chief Steve Hanlon provided a summary of historical Fire Department response information for fiscal year 2013/2014. The total number of Fire Department incidents in the South County Fire Authority (SCFA) for fiscal year 2013/2014 increased by 1.9% or 120 calls compared to the fiscal year 2012/2013. With the exception of higher than normal structure fire losses in the City of Tracy's area and lower than normal losses in the Mountain House Community Services District, response performance remains on par and consistent.

Staff recommended the Board of Directors accept the South County Fire Authority Response Performance Report for fiscal year 2013/2014.

Director Maciel stated the report reflects SCFA was dispatched to 170 structure fires, 25 of those were out upon arrival of firefighters and 37 were working fires. Director Maciel asked how the remainder of the structure fires was categorized. Division Chief Hanlon responded the remaining were good intent but no fire.

Director Maciel stated because units were dispatched did not mean there was a structure fire. Division Chief Hanlon responded that was correct. Staff captures what they are dispatched to and what was found.

Director Rickman asked if staff compares response time to American Medical Response (AMR). Division Chief Hanlon responded no.

Fire Chief Nero added it is seldom, if at all, that AMR arrive on scene before our units arrive for Emergency Medical Service calls.

Director Thoming stated the report mentions that fire was extinguished prior to arrival of the Fire Department and asked if that was due to a sprinkler system or the resident. Division Chief Hanlon responded there was fire but it was out. The incident is required to be reported as fire by the National Incident Reporting system.

Director Maciel referred to the Safeway fire and asked if large centers like the Safeway Distribution Center have their own fire suppression abilities. Division Chief Hanlon responded it is required by building code. The fire was on Schulte Road at the distribution center and started in a semi-truck and extended into warehouse. The sprinklers contained the fire, but did not put it out.

Director Maciel stated he was not sure if they have a fire hose in a glass case. Division Chief Hanlon responded the fire hose in the glass case is required.

Director Maciel asked if there was training of employees. Division Chief Hanlon responded no. It is rare to see a fire brigade on scene extinguishing the fire.

Fire Chief Nero added there are no installations in our jurisdictions that have organized fire brigades. Those are mostly confined to refineries and high hazard operations. Required.

Director Thoming asked why require the equipment if no one is required to know how to use it. Fire Chief Nero responded the equipment is required in case there is someone to use it, but without having an active and trained fire brigade, which is not required, people are reluctant to get involved.

Director Ahmad asked if there were any adjustments made from the dispatch center recently that improved the turn out time or call processing time. Fire Chief Nero responded no. Approximately a year ago staff did make requests of EMS, the Valley Regional Dispatch Center and headway was made for a temporary period of time. Fire Chief Nero added there was a requirement by San Joaquin Emergency Medical Service Agency (SJEMSA) that they emergency medical dispatch each call, which raised the response time very close to where it was previously. Fire Chief Nero added there has been nothing implemented through the dispatch center to reduce or enhance response time.

Director Ahmad asked if the Fire Department is on the same channel as the ambulance. Division Chief Hanlon responded yes.

Director Ahmad asked about fire suppression and whether the Fire Department is switching. Division Chief Hanlon responded the department switched to a different repeated channel and are assigned a tactical channel.

Executive Director Troy Brown stated the City of Tracy and the Authority should adopt a unified building code. The unified building code comes from State level. The State creates a unified code to propagate through the counties and cities to create an environment where things are the same. This is done for several reasons such as mutual aid so there is some commonality in terms of response around public service.

It was moved by Director Maciel and seconded by Director Rickman to accept the South County Fire Authority Response Performance Report for fiscal year 2013/2014. Voice vote found all in favor; passed and so ordered.

6. ACCEPT A REPORT ON THE SOUTH COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE PERFORMANCE FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF FISCAL YEAR 2014-

2015 – Fire Division Chief Steve Hanlon provided a summary of historical Fire Department response information for the first quarter of fiscal year 2014/2015. The total number Fire Department incidents in the South County Fire Authority for the first quarter of fiscal year 2014/2015 increased by 2.4% or 38 calls compared to the same quarter in fiscal year 2012/2013. Response performance remains on par and consistent.

Staff recommended the Board of Directors accept the South County Fire Authority Response Performance Report for the first quarter of fiscal year 2014/2015.

It was moved by Director Maciel and seconded by Director Rickman to accept the South County Fire Authority Response Performance Report for the first quarter of fiscal year 2014/2015. Voice vote found all in favor; passed and so ordered.

7. RECEIVE AND ACCEPT THE FIRE CHIEF'S INFORMATIONAL UPDATE REGARDING FIRE GOVERNANCE, ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT AND FIRE SERVICE IN MOUNTAIN HOUSE – Fire Chief Al Nero provided the informational update.

Fire Governance: The City and consultant, Management Partners, provided a presentation to the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) during their October 9, 2014, meeting. Management Partners presented their fiscal analysis report regarding the effect on the San Joaquin County and the non-detachment policy. Comments were also made by City Manager Troy Brown, Tracy Rural Fire District (TRFD) Chair Tim Smith, Fire Chief Nero, and TRFD's consultant Dwane Milne. After discussion, LAFCo voted to return the report to the City and directed the City to return to LAFCo in February 2015, for a progress report. Their decision included no change in the non-detachment policy, which will continue for the time being. Staff is preparing to return to LAFCo at their February, 2015, meeting with a progress report.

Advanced Life Support: Approximately a year ago the City received a letter from the San Joaquin County Emergency Medical Services Agency (SJEMSA) that suspended SCFA's ability to provide ALS service (paramedic service). After discussion and investigation staff negotiated a temporary agreement that was signed in April, 2014. The Department has met or exceeded all of the requirements of the benchmarks included in the temporary agreement that was signed in April, 2014. The SJEMSA has extended the temporary contract as they develop a long-term successor agreement. That agreement is expected by December 31, 2014. The SCFA may need to convene a special meeting in December 2014, to consider the successor agreement. Fire Chief Nero commended Captain Michael Oliveri and Captain Steve Bliss for their hard work and creative ideas in developing policies and practices to meet all of the benchmarks. The SJEMSA has indicated that process developed by staff will be used as an example for the other ALS providers in the County.

Mountain House: Tracy Rural Fire Protection District (TRFPD) has had a contract with Mountain House Community Service District (MHCS) to provide services. Approximately a year ago a letter was received from MHCS stating they were going to exercise their ability to cancel that contract. MHCS distributed requests for proposal. TRFPD provided a proposal to MHCS to continue the provision of fire services. The proposal is very near the existing contract. Staff is scheduled to provide a presentation to the review panel on October 29, 2014. The French Camp Fire District also submitted

a proposal. According to the schedule, a decision should be made in early December 2014.

Director Maciel asked if the French Camp Fire District is contiguous with Mountain House. Fire Chief Nero responded no. Mountain House has a lot to consider should they wish to contract with that agency.

Chairperson Thoming also thanked Captain Michael Oliveri, Captain Steve Bliss and Division Chief Kellogg and others for their efforts developing policies and practices to meet all of the benchmarks regarding ALS service.

The South County Fire Authority accepted the Fire Chief's informational update regarding Fire Governance, Advanced Life Support and fire service in Mountain House.

8. Items from the Audience - None
9. Adjournment – It was moved by Director Maciel and seconded by Director Rickman to adjourn. Voice vote found all in favor; passed and so ordered. Time: 5:56 p.m.

The above are summary minutes. The above agenda was posted at Tracy City Hall on October 16, 2014.

Chairperson

Attest:

Secretary