

January 19, 2016, 6:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, 333 Civic Center Plaza

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

1. Chairperson Rickman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Roll Call found Directors Ahmad, Maciel, Vice-Chairperson Smith and Chairperson Rickman present.
3. Items from the Audience - None

Bill Sartor, Assistant City Attorney, addressed the Board stating the Tracy Rural Fire District board would like to look into provisions of the Joint Powers Agreement relative to legal counsel. At the next regular South County Fire Authority meeting, the counsel for the Tracy Rural Fire District, and City staff will present a joint staff report to address when it might be beneficial to appoint an independent legal advisory and clarify the rules.

4. Approval of Minutes – It was moved by Vice-Chairperson Smith and seconded by Director Ahmad to adopt the regular meeting minutes of October 20, 2015. Voice vote found all in favor; passed and so ordered.
5. ACCEPT A REPORT ON THE SOUTH COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE PERFORMANCE FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 – Dave Bramell, Division Chief, presented the staff report.

The report is a summary of emergency response performance for the first quarter of fiscal year 2015/2016. The total number of Fire Department incidents in the South County Fire Authority for the first quarter of fiscal year 2015/2016 increased by 15.9% or 256 calls compared to the same quarter in fiscal year 2014/2015. Response performance remains on par and consistent.

Board Member comments and questions followed.

Vice-Chairperson Smith asked if the higher loss in Tracy Rural was due to response time. Division Chief Bramell responded those particular details on incidents are not in the report, but staff can get that information to the board.

Director Ahmad requested statistics on how long it takes a second engine company to arrive on scene. Division Chief Bramell responded the reporting system does record the individual response times of unit, and staff can extract that data.

The South County Fire Authority accepted the report.

6. RECEIVE INFORMATION REGARDING THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT'S HAZARDOUS MATERIAL RESPONSE PROGRAM AS IT RELATES TO HAZARDOUS MATERIAL VEHICLES AND THE USE OF MUTUAL AID FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIAL INCIDENTS – Randall Bradley, Fire Chief, presented the staff report.

Recently the Fire Department permanently placed the vehicle that was used as the primary hazardous material response vehicle (HM 9) out of service due to mechanical failure, reliability, age, mileage, maintenance costs and safety concerns. When the vehicle was placed out of service, all of the equipment was relocated to a reserve fire engine that continues to serve as the primary Fire Department Hazardous Material response vehicle. At no time was service levels reduced due to the previous hazardous material unit's operational status. The Fire Department maintained and continues to maintain an effective hazardous materials response capability. Staff identified three options for replacement and will be returning to the City, Tracy Rural Fire District Board and the South County Fire Authority (SCFA) Board with a recommendation.

Option 1 - CalOES was authorized to purchase twelve Type II Hazardous Materials Response Vehicles that will be placed strategically throughout the state to bolster the state's hazardous materials response capabilities. While staff is confident SCFA will be chosen as one of the twelve sites, a final decision will be made in mid-calendar year 2016. If the vehicle is assigned to SCFA, the vehicle can be used for all SCFA responses but must remain available and be staffed as a state resource when requested. Due to the very low frequency of hazardous material responses within the SCFA jurisdiction (and anticipated state responses), the assigned vehicle would be used as SCFA primary hazardous response apparatus.

Option 2 - Apply for an Assistance to Firefighter Grant in the 2016/2017 funding period.

Option 3 - Purchase a Hazardous Materials Vehicle - If Option 1 or Option 2 is not realized, the department plans to request funding in a future budget year.

Mutual Aid: Staff provided information regarding the current status of the Fire Department's hazardous materials response program as it relates to hazardous material response vehicles and the use of mutual aid for hazardous material responses.

Board Member comments and questions followed.

Vice-Chairperson Smith asked if the City does not get a grant, would Plan C funds be used to purchase a vehicle. Troy Brown, City Manager, responded staff will have to check if Plan C funds are available for the vehicle.

Veronica Vargas addressed the board regarding a succession plan, planning ahead and making sure budgets are allocated, and having the right fee structure for fire services and safety.

The South County Fire Authority Board accepted the report.

- 7. TO ELECT A CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIRPERSON OF THE SOUTH COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE 2016 CALENDAR YEAR – Division Chief Bramell presented the staff report.

Annually the Board of Directors will elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson from its members. These positions rotate from each member agency and the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall not be appointed from the same member agency.

Director Smith was elected as Chairperson, and Director Maciel was elected as Vice-Chairperson.

- 8. Items from the Audience – None
- 9. Adjournment – It was moved by Vice-Chairperson Maciel and seconded by Chairperson Smith to adjourn. Voice vote found all in favor; passed and so ordered. Time: 6:35 p.m.

The above are action minutes. The above agenda was posted at Tracy City Hall on January 12, 2016.

Chairperson

Attest:

Secretary