

Escalon Consolidated Fire  
Protection District

1749 Coley Avenue  
Escalon, CA 95320  
Phone 209-838-7500  
Fax 209-838-3926



Board of Directors

Joe Camara, Board Chairperson  
Jason Koops, Vice Chairperson  
Mikey Schilber, Secretary  
Zach Hogan, Director  
Vacant, Director

Rick Mello, Fire Chief

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ESCALON CONSOLIDATED FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MINUTES  
APRIL 2023

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The monthly Board of Directors meeting of the Escalon Consolidated Fire Protection District was called to order by Director Joe Camara at 4:04 p.m. on April 19, 2023.

II. ROLL CALL

Directors present: Joe Camara, Mickey Schilber, Jason Koops, and Zach Hogan.

Others present Fire Chief Rick Mello, Administrative Assistant Katy House, Battalion Chief Dan Morriss, Firefighter Engineer Dave Velasco, and Reserve Firefighter Nathan Rodriguez.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. No public comment.

IV. MINUTES

Minutes for the meeting on March 9, 2023, were approved on a motion by Director Hogan and a second by Director Koops. Director Schilber abstained.  
3-AYES 0-NAYES 0-ABSENT

V. BILLS

March bills in the amount of \$25,832.31 were approved to be paid on a motion by Director Hogan and a second by Director Koops. Director Schilber abstained.  
3-AYES 0-NAYES 1-ABSENT

VI. COMMUNICATIONS

A. No Communications.

## VII. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT - April 2023

### A. Status of Fire Department

- a. 111 calls for the month and 288 for 2023.

### B. Prevention

Fire Prevention: All mercantile inspections have been migrated to a web-based data processing. This process will help with record keeping, enforcement, and tracking.

Weed Abatement: Crews will begin surveying the district looking for properties with a history of not keeping a proper fire break from structures. We have also developed a list of vendors who will be available to mitigate any problematic areas with regard to weed abatement.

Newly approved businesses: Tahoe Pizza is now open. It is in the plaza, at the site once occupied by Sicily Pizza. Patched Pumpkin is relocated to the corner of Sacramento and Hwy 120. Sabor Latino Tacos is open at 2100 Main Street.

A code exemption was granted to Zinc Farms for the construction of a solar farm over their proposed parking lot. The exemption was related to the height of the panels and our ability to access the property. The number of access lanes was ample and allowed us to access all areas of the property. Ease of access was the main consideration and reason for the exemption.

Escalon Livestock Market (ELM): ELM's fire protection systems (Water tanks and fire pump) have been in disrepair for quite some time. This came to the attention of the district by chance and has been addressed. The leaks on the water storage tanks have been fixed and a new fire pump is set to be installed soon. The fire alarm was also repaired after multiple false alarms due to a change to VOIP system. The new management has been very helpful and has worked well with us through this lengthy process.

### C. Apparatus and Equipment

- a. E 1-1 is back from Burn's Truck and Trailer with a new radiator and turbo as well as the transmission services.
- b. E 1-2 was towed to Burn's and had a fuel pump installed.
- c. E 1-4 went to Hi-Tech for a relief valve issue.
- d. R 1-1 went to Hi-Tech for an electrical problem; still not complete, waiting for parts.
- e. Annual fire extinguisher service completed.
- f. The new SCBA fill station should arrive this month.
- g. MSA SCBA's should arrive in May.

### D. Buildings and Grounds

- a. The upstairs bathroom project (phase 1) is complete. Phase 2 is ready to begin.

### E. San Joaquin County Fire Chief's Association

- a. Meeting 4-5-23, general business (unable to attend).

### F. San Joaquin County Radio Users Group

- a. Meeting 3-15-23, meeting canceled due to lack of a quorum.

H. Miscellaneous

- a. The Appreciation Dinner is Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup>.
- b. We are continuing the trial period for the new Reserve / Volunteer shift pay system.
- c. Starbuck's hosted "coffee with a firefighter" on Saturday, March 25 from 10 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. All who attended enjoyed the event and it was well attended by Escalon Fire personnel.
- d. VFIS has finalized our claim for the damaged bay door. The final settlement is for \$12,784.75 which included emergency repairs, door replacement costs, less the \$1,000.00 policy deductible.
- e. On Tuesday, April 11, Escalon Fire personnel attended the celebration of life for Modesto Fire Captain Doug McCollough. Captain McCollough passed away on March 19 from job related cancer.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Status of Board Member Online Ethics & Sexual Harassment Training

- a. Due by June 2023

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Resignation of Director Billy Mekelburg and Process to Fill Opening

- a. Post vacancy for 15 days
- b. Vacancy submission due by 11 a.m. May 4<sup>th</sup>.

B. Elect New Vice Chairperson

- a. Director Schilber nominated Director Koops as Vice Chairperson; Director Camara seconded.  
3- AYES 0-NAYES 0-ABSENT

C. FASIS Resolution 23-1

- a. Approved by roll call vote, motioned by Director Schilber and a second by Director Hogan.

X. ACCOUNCEMENTS OF FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

Regular Board meetings are held the second Thursday of every month at 4:00 p.m. located at 1531 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Escalon, California. The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on May 11, 2023.

XI. CLOSED SESSION

A. No Closed Session

XII. RECONVENE OPEN SESSION

XIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS FOLLOWING CLOSED SESSION

A. No reportable action taken during the closing session.

XIV. ADJOURN

XV. CERTIFICATION

Date: May 11, 2023



By: Joe Camara, Board Chairperson

AVAILABILITY OF PUBLIC RECORDS: All public records relating to open session items on this Agenda which are not exempt from disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act, and which are distributed in connection with the open session items are available for public inspection at the District Office, 1749 Coley Avenue, Escalon, California 95320 at the same time that the public records are distributed or made available to the legislative body. If, however, the public records are not distributed until the Meeting at which the Agenda item is considered, then the public records will be made available to the public at the location of the Meeting as listed on the Agenda at the District Office, 1749 Coley Avenue, Escalon, California 95320. Persons who require disability-related accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, should contact the Fire Chief at least 24 hours prior to the meeting for which accommodation is required. The Fire Chief, Rick Mello, can be contacted in person or by mail at the District Office, 1749 Coley Avenue, Escalon, California 95320 or by telephone at (209) 838-7500.