

Escalon Consolidated Fire  
Protection District

1749 Coley Avenue  
Escalon, CA 95320  
Phone 209-838-7500  
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Board of Directors

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

Rick Mello, Fire Chief

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ESCALON CONSOLIDATED FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MINUTES  
JANUARY 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 4:00 p.m. on January 12, 2023.

II. ROLL CALL

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

Others present Fire Chief Rick Mello, Administrative Assistant Katy House, Battalion Chief Dan Morriss, Firefighter Engineer Dave Velasco, Reserve Firefighter Louis Roach, and Battalion Chief Moe Silva.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. No public comment.

IV. MINUTES

Minutes for the meeting on December 7, 2022, were approved on a motion by Director Koops and a second by Director Mekelburg.  
4-AYES 0-NAYES 1-ABSENT

V. BILLS

December bills in the amount of \$82,854.69 were approved to be paid on a motion by Director Mekelburg and a second by Director Koops.  
4-AYES 0-NAYES 1-ABSENT

VI. COMMUNICATIONS

A. No communications.

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

### A. Status of Fire Department

- a. 111 calls for the month and 1,193 for 2022.

### B. Training Division and Reserve/Volunteer Program

- a. December Drills  
12-6-2022                      End of Year Wrap up                      (9 participants)
- b. We are scheduling interviews for potential Reserves / Volunteers in January.
- c. The toy drive was on December 23<sup>rd</sup>, and we were assisted by Escalon PD, the VFW, and students from Escalon High School.

### C. Prevention

We were given the opportunity to review plans for the proposed McDonald's site. The plan addresses all of the Fire Districts concerns, and we offered no objection to the plans as submitted.

The ongoing plans request from Harmony Properties to expand Almond Grove MHP has gone to appeal with the City. Chief Morriss has had extensive conversations with the City, Harmony Properties, and State of California Housing and Community Development (HCD). HCD is the governing body that oversees and enforces codes within mobile home communities. The concerns by the City that directly affect the District are public safety access and water supply. Both issues have been addressed and are in compliance. It is noted that Almond Grove is covered under "Pre-Existing Non-Conforming" fire codes. If any expansion should occur outside of their current property lines that expansion would have to conform to current codes and standards.

The District has had an application for new business at 1205 Plaza Ave. MIP & GK Goods will open as a local thrift shop.

The District has reviewed and approved Safety Sites Plans for all schools within the District.

Completion of our Smoke Detector Battery Replacement program was completed in early December. The number of homes served has diminished and we will begin a drive to advertise that service to the community in the coming months in an effort to increase our numbers. We know there are customers in our area who need this service and it is our goal to reach them.

### D. Apparatus and Equipment

- a. E 1-1 went to Burton's Fire for repairs.

### E. Buildings and Grounds

- a. We are preparing for bids on the bathroom addition / remodel.

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

- a. Meeting 1-4-22, canceled due to weather emergency.

### G. San Joaquin County Radio Users Group

- a. Meeting 12-21-22, general business and dispatcher lunch.

### H. Miscellaneous

- a. The toy distribution for the Annual Christmas Toy Drive was held on December 23. 45 families and 130 kids benefited. This year we were joined by Escalon High Athletes and Cheerleaders.



- b. The Annual Christmas Tree pickup took place on Saturday, January 7, 2023. 168 trees have been picked up as of January 10.
- c. We have been awarded \$507,236.00 in ARPA funds by the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors. \$287,887.00 for SCBA's, \$79,859.00 for SCBA Filing Station \$139,490.00 for Station 1 Solar Upgrade.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discuss Board member training Ethics / Public Law / Sexual Harassment

- a. Chief Mello awaiting training dates, costs, and other information.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discuss / Approve allocation of ARPA funds of \$507,236.00.

- a. Approved on a motion by Director Hogan and a second by Director Mekelburg to authorize Chief Mello to spend \$507,236.00 on the projects approved by the County.  
4-AYES 0-NAYES 1-ABSENT

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 February 9, 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: February 9, 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.