



SVFPD MINUTES April 9, 2026

SCOTT VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT A California Special District

Siskiyou County, California

P.O. Box 130, Greenview, CA 96037

(530) 468-2170 messages only

Location: Fire Hall, 317 Maple St.

Greenview, CA. 96037

<http://www.scottvalleyfire.com>

Chief Paul Buchter

530-598-7249 pbuchter@live.com

Assistant Chief Steve Poling

530 340-3245

c1501poling@gmail.com

Administrator Nancy Salucci

541 210-4618

scottvalleyfire1@gmail.com

Board of Commissioners:

Larry Alexander, Chair

Greg Lindholm, Vice Chair

Kevin Hullquist

Gregory Ryan

Summarized MINUTES from a regular Board of Commissioners meeting of Scott Valley Fire Protection District, Greenview, California. Chair Larry Alexander opened the meeting on Thursday, April 9, 2026. Also present were Commissioners Gregory Lindholm, Kevin Hullquist, plus Administrative Officer Nancy Salucci and Chief Paul Buchter.

Public Report Period: No report, but Jay and Terri Thesken stopped by to deliver cookies and their appreciation for the department's quick response to the recent Quartz Fire at their property.

BOARD REPORTS

Larry Alexander, Chair (Fire Safe Council Liaison)

Approval of Minutes The February 12, 2026 and March 26, 2026 minutes were approved. Motion Lindholm/2nd Hullquist. Four ayes, Passed.

Update on recruitment of new Administrator

Chair Alexander reviewed applications and spoke with three applicants. All agreed hiring Samantha Hess (Fort Jones FD Chief Joseph Hess' wife) in spite of her good qualifications, would be a conflict of interest. Salucci was instructed to contact County Counsel about this potential conflict of interest. Abby Dhalberg did not have the qualifications the Board is seeking. Another qualified applicant declined because SVFPD does not provide health insurance. Salucci was instructed to investigate the possibility of applicants being eligible for COBRA through the county. Chair The Board also asked what liability insurance we carried. [The Certificate of Coverage was sent to all Board members via Email on 4/13/26] Alexander suggested I once again contact Personnel Preference.

Progress on additional Board member recruitment Nothing to report.

Community Wildfire Protection Plan/Firesafe Council monthly update

Regular meetings are held to discuss and up-date the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) for the entire Scott River watershed. The Council has begun risk assessment but are not quite ready to hold public meetings. This is a volunteer-driven council that identifies projects and needs of Scott Valley land owners on an annual basis. Northern California Resource Center (a 501©3 non-profit organization) is the sponsor.

Continuing/new business Nothing to report

Gregory Lindholm, Vice Chair (Building oversight proposed Scott River Station)

Continuing/new business: Scott River Station The Merchants are no longer in a position to offer their property as a potential station site. Other suggestions were for Jim Hauser's property at Patterson Creek and Scott River Rd. Greg Lindholm will contact Hauser. Approaching other residents on Scott River Rd. about the possibility of locating a station on their property was discussed. Retired Chief Benny Austin spoke with Commissioner Lindholm and questioned the prudence and feasibility of investing in another station in a location that has neither volunteers to staff the station nor an accessible water source.

Kevin Hullquist

Continuing/new business: Hullquist continues to review the monthly receivables and payables prior to submission to the County Auditor.

Gregory Ryan Dalmatians Liaison Excused absence

Dalmatians Report No report this month.

SVFPD Minutes

April 9, 2026

Administrative Officer Nancy Salucci

Approval and payment of bills, deposits, donations, and ACH debits for IRS/EDD

ACH Debits: EDD 265.64; IRS 2424.52 .

Paul Buchter	1830.23	Salary
Steve Poling	3165.61	Salary
Nancy Salucci	3735.18	Salary
Siskiyou Tel	102.61	Utility
Pacific Power	665.80	Utility
Mean Gene's Gas	825.25	Kerosene
Joseph Hess	167.00	Training
USBank	564.43	Pump septic tank
Ft Jones Ace Hardware	24.66	Hdw and traps
Valley Tire	89.30	Flat tire repair
Allstar Fire Equipment	1,625.00	Repair SCBAs
Bonnie's Bookkeeping	890.00	Q4 2025, Q1 2026 payroll & tax prep

Motion to approve the April bills Hullquist 2nd Lindholm. All ayes, passed.

Motion to approve the March bills Lindholm/2nd Hullquist. All ayes, passed.

Transferring workers comp provider from FASIS to SDRMA (approved in 2023)

Administrator Salucci entered into discussions with FASIS and SDRMA about switching workers' comp providers (as approved in 2023). She confirmed that costs for SDRMA are significantly less than for FASIS and explained that it would be more efficient to have our Workers' Comp and Property & Liability Insurance with one rather than two separate agencies. SDRMA offered a \$1200 incentive grant for us to purchase equipment. They also offered a reduced rate for our Liability insurance when both Workers' Comp and Property/Liability are carried by SDRMA. Chief Buchter was given the grant info and will pursue it.

A **Notice of Intent to Withdraw** with the caveat that the withdrawal could be rescinded by June 30th, was submitted to FASIS as required by the March 30, 2026 deadline. A motion was made by Hullquist/2nd Lindholm to transition from FASIS to SDRMA for workers' comp insurance. All ayes, passed.

Documents were presented and discussed.

1. Resolution # 040926 Authorizing Participation in the Special District Risk Management Authority Workers' Compensation Program was passed and signed.
2. Resolution # 040926-2 was passed and signed.
3. An Application for Certificate of Consent to Self-Insure as a Public Agency Employer Self-Insurer (Form A-2 (1-2016) was signed.

Fire Department closures throughout United States A brief discussion was led by Salucci about how volunteer fire departments are losing volunteers and finding it nearly impossible to recruit members.

Stability and Risk Assessment of SVFPD

SDRMA insurance representative's Risk Control and Safety Inspection on 3/25/26: Administrator Salucci met with Eric Lucero, Sr. Risk Control Specialist. SVFPD had zero reported losses since joining SDRMA in 2022 and our commitment to safety was "recognized and appreciated." Only two concerns were mentioned: 1) A trip hazard at the door to the training center (mitigated immediately (but temporarily) with orange safety tape); 2) A request to consult with an ADA accessibility expert to determine if the new building will require ADA access since Board meetings will be hosted there.

2026-2027 Budget preparation for County Auditor On hold until next month.

Administrator recruitment update A few applications have been submitted and forwarded to Commissioner Alexander.

Facebook update From a FB response, Leah Kraus referred one Administrator job application to Nancy Salucci.

Continuing/new business None

Assistant Chief Steve Poling (excused absence)

April 9, 2026

Chief Paul Buchter

Emergency Strike Team Participation Agreement (No discussion held. Deadline at May meeting)

Physical exam requirements for all firefighters With the Etna Clinic no longer accepting our applicants. Our new provider is Dr. Solis in Yreka.

Continuing/new business

- 130 Baseline Training will begin April 22 with classes, then in the field in Etna. All who attend will be eligible for wildland fire deployment.
- Agreements with all agencies (USFS, Cal-Fire, OES) are being up-dated.
- Snow Survey is showing only 2% of normal; ground water levels are normal; reservoirs are full.
- Chief will be submitting two new FF applications
- Chief has set-up an agreement with Dr. Solis in Yreka to conduct our new FF physicals now that the clinic in Etna is no longer doing them. Chief negotiated a reduced cost of \$350.
- FEMA grant equipment has arrived. It is “the best equipment I’ve ever seen,” per the Chief. Our cost share is 5% of the \$500,000 grant. FEMA is apparently now defunct, leaving CalFire and OES.
- The Chiefs are looking for grants to install hydrants off agricultural wells. Cost will be \$2,000,000 for installation of the first five wells.
- Training is being conducted on a monthly rotation basis between FJFD, SVFPD, Etna Ambulance, Etna FD. Chief Buchter is receiving “good feedback” on the training sessions.
- There are now four additional hydrants in Callahan.

Motion to Adjourn Hullquist/2nd Lindholm. All ayes, passed.

Date _____

Chair _____

Administrative Officer _____