

**FIRE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

**Wednesday, April 27, 2022 – 5:00 p.m.
This meeting was held remotely on WebEx**

The Video can be viewed by clicking this link:
https://sanfrancisco.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=180&clip_id=41141

President Feinstein called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

Commission President	Katherine Feinstein	Present
Vice President	Stephen Nakajo	Present
Commissioner	Francee Covington	Present
Commissioner	Armie Morgan	Present
Chief of Department	Jeanine Nicholson	Present.
Robert Postel	Deputy Chief -- Operations	
Thomas O'Connor	Deputy Chief --Administration	
Sandy Tong	EMS	
Ramon Serrano	Support Services	
Erica Arteseros	Homeland Security	
Natasha Park	Health and Wellness	
Brice Peoples	Diversity, Equity & Inclusion	
Simon Pang	Community Paramedicine	
Assistant Chiefs		
Ken Yee	Division II	
Michael Thompson	Division III	
Staff		
Mark Corso	Deputy Director of Finance	

2. RAMAYTUSH OHLONE LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

President Feinstein read the Ramaytush Ohlone Land Acknowledgement.

3. RESOLUTION 2022-08 [Discussion and possible action]

Resolution making findings to allow teleconferenced meetings under California Government Code Section 54953(e)

Commissioner Covington Moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Morgan Seconded. The motion was unanimous.

There was no public comment.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Richard Rothman from the Outer Richmond thanked the Fire Department and paramedics who came to assist his wife before she passed away. He added that every time they came, they were always very professional, kind, and courteous. He also expressed his concerns about the slow down on Chain of Lakes and the speed bumps in Golden Gate Park that may compromise emergency vehicle response times.

David Osgood with the Rincon Center Tenants Association expressed his concerns about the alarm testing instructions that are blasted into 4 to 500 residents' homes over the intercom that they should ignore any alarms that they hear, and he finds this dangerous as well as creating high liability. He added that he thinks this potential problem can be easily solved if the Fire Department would instruct all building managers to not tell occupants to ignore alarms if they're not going to hear the testing. He played the recorded announcement.

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES *[Discussion and possible action]*

Discussion and possible action to approve meeting minutes.

- Minutes from Special Meeting on March 2, 2022.

Commissioner Covington Moved to approve the minutes and Commissioner Morgan Seconded. The motion was unanimous.

- Minutes from Special Meeting on March 29, 2022.

Commissioner Covington Moved to approve the minutes and Commissioner Morgan Seconded. The motion was unanimous.

- Minutes from Special Meeting on April 6, 2022.

Commissioner Morgan excused himself from the vote as he was not at the hearing. Commissioner Covington Moved to approve the minutes and Vice President Nakajo Seconded. The motion was unanimous 3-0.

- Minutes from Regular Meeting on April 13, 2022.

President Feinstein Moved to approve the minutes and Commissioner Morgan Seconded. The motion was unanimous.

There was no public comment.

6. CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT'S REPORT *[Discussion]*

REPORT FROM CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT, JEANINE NICHOLSON

Report on current issues, activities, and events within the Department since the Fire Commission meeting on January 12, 2022, including budget, academies, special events, communications, and outreach to other government agencies and the public.

Chief Nicholson reported on activities since the last meeting. She announced that much of her time has been spent participating in vaccination hearings and in depositions. She provided a COVID update stating they are seeing a bit of an uptick and they have 25 members out, 15 are in quarantine, two are positive and 8 people are out on long-term COVID. She announced the graduation of the H-3 Level 2 class, and that she presented at the Budget and Finance Committee on the purchase agreement for the site on Carroll Avenue for the new fire training facility and she stated that she is happy to say that it passed today at the Assembly Appropriations Committee in Sacramento, the bill to release the trust on the Port land passed and it will go to the floor of the Assembly next. She acknowledged the great job by Chief Simon Pang who presented at the Board of Supervisors hearing on the Street Crisis Response Team, Street Wellness, and Street Overdose teams. She also mentioned that there was a hearing on the Dream Keeper Initiative, and it allowed them to discuss with the BOS the success of the city EMT program which received funding from the Dream Keeper Initiative.

Commissioner Morgan congratulated the Chief on the new training facility.

Vice President Nakajo acknowledged the presence of Lt. Kato at the Cherry Blossom Festival in Japantown who was distributing good information on the SFFD to members of the public.

Commissioner Covington confirmed that candidates for the upcoming H-2 and H-3 academies are in medical background and clearing medical the process, and the H-2 academy is slated to begin at the end of June and the EMS academy is to start on Monday. She also confirmed that the process of selection for the H-2 has been run through the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Office with multiple panels and they refer the best candidates to the Chief who meets with them, and Chief Peoples and they select from those candidates who they want to extend an offer to.

There was no public comment.

REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATION, DEPUTY CHIEF TOM O'CONNOR

Report on the Administrative Divisions, Fleet and Facility status and updates, Finance, Support Services, and Training within the Department.

Chief O'Connor presented his March administration report. He mentioned that Chief Arteseros Brown of Homeland Security began the month with a Homeland Security special event emergency planning for the St. Patrick's Day parade where they had a great turnout by both the command staff and the men and women of the Department. He announced that the Department welcomed a new canine, Reva, who was given to Captain Gareth Miller. He touched on the office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, the Women's Boot Camp on Treasure Island which was sponsored by the United Fire Service Women.

He acknowledged the City EMT class that has morphed into the 9910-job classification with public safety trainees and he stated how fantastic it is to reach into the community and provide a pathway for men and women into the fire service. He mentioned that NERT and SFFD worked together on a drill for the anniversary of the 1906 earthquake event. He touched on the Health, Safety, and Wellness Division under Battalion Chief Natasha Parks where they had their second meeting of Coffee with a Clinician where they take members off-campus to a coffee house with a certified mental health professional and let them discuss concerns and issues they have out of the firehouse and in a neutral environment. He stated that the Physician's office is busy, and that Dr. Brokaw and Jennifer Greene from the Behavioral Health Unit visited Stations 10, 12, and 21 to discuss mental health and peer support resources. He also touched on the Investigative Services Bureau and Support Services Division.

Vice President Nakajo thanked Chief O'Connor for his comprehensive report. He thanked the command level staff in terms of having the NERT live exercise during April. He asked Chief Parks for feedback following the Coffee with a Clinician event. Chief Parks responded that they just completed their second Coffee with a Clinician this morning and that the Fire Credit Union provided the tea and coffee. She added that about 25 members showed up where they can talk to a clinician about anything, and the clinician gives them information about therapies and other helpful information, and she has gotten positive feedback on the event. She added that the goal is to hit a different Battalion every month. Vice President Nakajo expressed his appreciation to have events back live such as the gathering at Lotta's Fountain at 5:15 a.m. in which he mentioned that Commissioner Morgan was also there.

Commissioner Covington confirmed that the artwork for the gates on Station 49 should be complete by late spring and she suggested having a ceremony for the unveiling of it. Commissioner Covington stated that Coffee with a Clinician sounds great, and she thinks it is a wonderful opportunity for people to share and get information about such a stressful job.

Commissioner Morgan was glad to hear that the COVID numbers went down. He thanked Chief Parks for taking a picture of him with the Mayor at the Lotta's Fountain earthquake anniversary event.

President Feinstein thanked Chief O'Connor for his report, and she confirmed that when they do the drug testing, they test for just about everything, opiates, cocaine, marijuana, etc. She confirmed with Chief Nicholson that the COVID long haulers are members who have been out for 30 days or more and their condition is monitored by the Physician's Office.

Chief Nicholson asked that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of Eric Deng, who was a civilian member of the IT team, and he was senselessly killed last week in his home and leaves behind a wife and seven-year-old son.

There was no public comment.

7. AGENDA FOR NEXT AND FUTURE FIRE COMMISSION MEETINGS

[Discussion]

Discussion regarding agenda for next and future Fire Commission meetings.

- Update from the Fire Reserves
- Update from the CCSF Fire Science Program
- Invite members of the City's EMT program

There was no public comment.

8. ADJOURNMENT President Feinstein adjourned the meeting at 5:58 p.m. in the memory of Eric Deng.