

**FIRE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

February 14, 2024, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 416, San Francisco California, 94102

The meeting video can be reviewed by clicking the below link:

https://sanfrancisco.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=180&clip_id=45432

President Nakajo called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

1. ROLL CALL

Commission President	Armie Morgan	Present
Vice President	Marcy Fraser	Present
Commissioner	Stephen Nakajo	Present
Commissioner	Katherine Feinstein	Present
Commissioner	Paula Collins	Present
Chief of Department	Jeanine Nicholson	Present Remotely
Darius Luttrupp	Deputy Chief -- Operations	
Shayne Kaialoa	Deputy Chief - Administration	
Sandy Tong	Deputy Chief – EMS and Community Paramedicine	
Mike Mullins	Support Services	
Shon Bufford	Equity, Diversity & Inclusion	
Erica Arteseros Brown	Homeland Security	
Ken Cofflin	Prevention	
Julie Mau	Training	
Niels Tangherlini	EMS	
Simon Pang	Community Paramedicine	
Assistant Chiefs		
Bill Storti	Division II	
Nicol Juratovac	Division III	

RAMAYTUSH OHLONE LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

President Morgan read the Ramaytush Ohlone Land Acknowledgement.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

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

Discussion and possible action to approve meeting minutes.

- Minutes from Regular Meeting on January 24, 2024.

Commissioner Feinstein Moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Collins Seconded. The motion was unanimous.

There was no public comment.

5. 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 24, 2024, 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 they hired Dr. Steven Chang as the Department Physician who will take the place of Dr. Brokaw who will retire in March. She mentioned that she attended events, including a community paramedicine town hall, an EMS Advancement Academy, and several Lunar New Year events. She wished President Morgan a happy birthday and announced that February is Black History Month. She described the unfortunate event involving the driverless Waymo incident in Chinatown and stated that the individuals responsible had been arrested. She mentioned that she and Chief Bufford met with the chief of LA County Fire to discuss our DEI program and our Racial Equity Action Plan. They also attended a meeting held by Director and Dr. Cheryl Davis from the Human Rights Commission to discuss Racial Equity Action Plans. She stated that panel interviews have been conducted for the next H-2 academy which will start in June. She added that she has been having lots of conversations with different people from the mayor's office, Public Works, and Rec and Park about our capital projects and our needs, and the challenges that they are having meeting those needs. She stated that former Chief Ed Phipps died last week and asked that the meeting be adjourned in his memory.

President Nakajo stated he appreciated Chief Nicholson talking about the Waymo incident in Chinatown and that he was glad those individuals were arrested. He expressed his concern on how members can respond in situations such as that and he acknowledged the Department and their leadership in terms of these driverless vehicles. He also thanked Chief Nicholson for the announcement of the new Department Physician, Dr. Chan, and thanked Vice Present Fraser for being a part of the interview process. He also commented on the long-term effects of driverless cars and the workload it is adding to the Department and acknowledged that technology is coming.

President Morgan thanked Chief Nicholson for her report and congratulated her on the selection of the Department's Medical Director. He also thanked Vice President Fraser for helping with the interviews.

Vice President Fraser explained the process she was involved in with the selection of the physician's position. She confirmed that the Chief spoke with the LA City Fire Chief and

other chiefs from around the country about driverless vehicles and that they are going to work together on the legislative level because there's nothing they can do right now. After all, the DMV and the CPUC have the say in regulating them. She thanked Chief Nicholson for her report. Chief Luttrupp provided an overview of what they are doing at a national level.

Commissioner Collins thinks it's very valuable to pose the issue of autonomous vehicles as a public safety issue because nationally, there are entities who pride themselves in looking after public safety, especially in vehicles and those are potential allies.

Commissioner Feinstein confirmed that members are still writing unusual occurrence reports when they have an issue with driverless cars. She confirmed that members have submitted 92 of those reports to date.

There was no public comment.

REPORT FROM OPERATIONS, DEPUTY CHIEF DARIUS LUTTROPP

Report on overall field operations, including greater alarm fires, Bureau of Fire Prevention & Investigation, Training within the Department., and Airport Division.

Chief Luttrupp provided an Operations update for January 2024. He reported that there was one greater alarm fire in the reporting period at 109 Lowell Street across Morris and Brunswick and that Chief Patrick Rabbit was the incident commander. He described the fire and attack in detail. He talked about helicopter rescue technicians and mutual aid and our responsibility inside of the greater fire service and public safety world and how the San Francisco Fire Department tried to be heavily involved in that. He touched on the Fire Prevention and Investigation Division where they saw an uptick in complaints that were all based around codes and legislation that had been held in abeyance, particularly in sprinkler inspections and other building system inspections; the Airport Division where the marine unit is back in operation; the Division of Training where they have been very busy; and NERT. His report is attached: <https://sf-fire.org/media/2937/download?inline>

Commissioner Feinstein thanked Chief Luttrupp for his report and acknowledged that a lot is going on and that things are getting better and safer for our citizens.

Vice President Fraser thanked Chief Luttrupp for his interesting report and uplifting NERT.

Commissioner Collins provided a bit of history on driverless vehicles starting with horseless carriages and how the American Automobile Association was founded more than a hundred years ago at the Cliff House and the thought was that education and

regulation were needed and she thinks this is just the slot they find themselves in right now with autonomous vehicles.

Commissioner Nakajo would like to be at the helicopter training when that opportunity occurs to take pictures of his fellow commissioners dangling from the rope. He also wondered why the Police/Fire Departments do not have a helicopter designed for their use. He would also like to be informed of the next surf rescue training the department offers as well as future Trans-Bay Tube exercises.

President Morgan thanked Chief Luttrupp for his report and commended all the members who responded to the fire at 109 Lowell Street.

REPORT FROM EMS AND COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE, DEPUTY CHIEF SANDRA TONG

Report on the EMS and Community Paramedicine Divisions.

Chief Tong provided her December report. She mentioned that their January metrics were pretty much as they were in December. She added that their on-task duties did increase and thinks some of that is regarding the ambulance patient offload times. She touched on activities for the EMS Division, where on January 8th, they started their 11th Level 2 paramedic academy with five recruits. She described in detail the photos in her report as well as the medical mission to El Salvador with the organization Castaneda Kids Foundation. She also touched on the Community Paramedic Division under ADC Simon Pang and highlighted some of his activities. She added that they have been chosen to participate in two civic bridge analyses, one is for EMS-6 and the other is for improving substance use disorder services. Both are 16-week programs hosted by the Mayor's Office of Innovation. Her report is attached: <https://sf-fire.org/media/2945/download?inline>

Vice President Fraser thanked Chief Tong for her interesting and comprehensive report. She confirmed that on page 11 of the attached report, the number under encounter types is the show of support when they are asked to respond to a place to assist with getting somebody conserved, whether it's to provide the long-acting medications, and in this month, they did not have any of those requests. She also confirmed that the ambulance patient offload time is bed availability.

Commissioner Feinstein confirmed that they are working on a technological application that would better divvy up and be able to show what the bed availability is in real-time so that tec res can look at that and be able to see what hospitals are impacted and which have available beds and if it fits within the patient's request and their insurance, then they can take them there.

Commissioner Nakajo thanked and acknowledged EMT Carlos Martinez and the 12 members who responded to the Castaneda Kids Foundation. He also wanted to make sure there was a general appreciation coming from himself and his colleagues to the members of the paramedicine and EMS Division that's working every day. He also thanked his dear friend and associate, Mary Ishizaki for coming and donating to both Lifeline and to the Asian Firefighters for their toy program.

Commissioner Morgan thanked Chief Tong for her report and commended Carlos Martines for his work abroad and Mary Ishizaki for her generosity and support to the Fire Department. He also thanked Commissioner Nakajo for all the great work he does for the community and the Fire Department of San Francisco. He thanked Chief Sloan for educating Portland Oregon on the latest techniques and rescue theories.

There was no public comment.

5. OVERVIEW OF THE CITY'S BUDGET INSTRUCTIONS AND PROCESS FOR FISCAL YEARS 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 [Discussion and possible action]

Presentation from Mark Corso, Deputy Director of Finance and Planning on the Fire Department's operating budget for Commission review and discussion. Discussion and possible action to adopt the Fire Department's Operating Budget for Fiscal Years 2024-2025/2025-2026.

Director Corso provided an update on the budget process so far and requested approval of the strategy for the department's budget submittal. He added that they are still working on some of the details of the budget and stated that there will be no material or policy changes that are not presented before the commission and discussed today. His report is attached: <https://sf-fire.org/media/2946/download?inline>

Commissioner Collins Moved to adopt the budget as presented. President Morgan Seconded. The motion was unanimous.

6. ADJOURNMENT President Morgan adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m. in the member of Retired Chief Ed Phipps.