

**FIRE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

August 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=46701

President Morgan 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	Excused
Chief of Department	Jeanine Nicholson	Present
Darius Luttrupp	Deputy Chief – Operations	
Shayne Kaialoa	Deputy Chief – Administration	
Sandy Tong	Deputy Chief – EMS and Community Paramedicine	
Mike Mullin	Support Services	
Shon Buford	Equity, Diversity & Inclusion	
Julie Mau	Training	
Erica Arteseros Brown	Homeland Security	
Ken Cofflin	Fire Prevention	
Garreth Miller	ESER Project Manager	
Tony Molloy	ADC EMS	
Simon Pang	Community Paramedicine	
Assistant Chiefs		
Ken Yee	Division II	
Nicol Juratovac	Division III	
Staff		
Mark Corso	Deputy Director of Finance	

RAMAYTUSH OHLONE LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Secretary Kathy Aguas-Aclan read the land acknowledgment.

2. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was public comment from Timothy Crenshaw. Mr. Crenshaw requested reconsideration for entry into the 135th Academy Class of 2025.

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

Discussion and possible action to approve meeting minutes.

- Minutes from Regular Meeting on July 10, 2024.

Vice President Fraser moved to approve the minutes and President Morgan Seconded. Commissioners Feinstein and Nakajo voted in favor of the Motion.

There was no public comment.

4. 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 June 12, 2024, including budget, academies, special events, communications, and outreach to other government agencies and the public.

Chief Nicholson attended a FIRESCOPE Board of Directors meeting on July 10, to discuss local, state, and national trends. Chief Nicholson acknowledged EMT Alia Dong-Stewart and Paramedic Gerald Colbert of Station 49 who were honored at the Tenderloin Museum. Three HBCU interns concluded their internship for the Department with a closing reception which Chief Nicholson attended. She also attended a Board of Supervisors Rules Committee meeting regarding the Charter Amendment put forward by Local 798 to change the retirement age from 58 to 55. The Department will be conducting approximately 130 interviews over the next two weeks for the 135th Academy Class. Chief Nicholson emphasized the importance of these interviews because people could be in the Department for the next 25-30 years. Chief Nicholson thanked all members who participated in the Pistahan Parade and Festival and Firefighter Appreciation Night where multiple departments from Sacramento and the Bay Area were honored. EMT Ismael Orozco was honored for saving the life of a suicidal patient. Chief Nicholson announced her retirement at the end of the month and thanked the Commissioners who attended the Board of Supervisors meeting on July 30 where she was honored. A press conference at Headquarters following today's Commission meeting will formally announce Chief Nicholson's retirement. Chief Nicholson concluded by thanking the Commissioners for their support and guidance over the years.

President Morgan thanked Chief Nicholson for her report and excellent service to the city of San Francisco and the Department. He was unable to attend the ceremony at the Board of Supervisors meeting but is looking forward to hearing about it from the Commissioners that did attend. President Morgan also commended Chief Nicholson for her excellent leadership and ability to relate to every member of the Department.

Vice President Fraser thanked Chief Nicholson for her report and her service to the Department. Vice President Fraser enjoyed the Board of Supervisors ceremony honoring the Chief.

Commissioner Nakajo thanked Chief Nicholson for her report. He attended the Board of Supervisors ceremony honoring the Chief and enjoyed hearing the Board's positive remarks about the Chief. Commissioner Nakajo wished Chief Nicholson a happy, healthy retirement and thanked her for her leadership.

Commissioner Feinstein chose to wait on commenting on Chief Nicholson's retirement until the next Fire Commission meeting.

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 July 2024. There were no greater alarms during this reporting period. Chief Luttrupp attributed this statistic to the efficiency of his staff. A working fire on July 25, at 159 Beaver Street could have easily escalated to a second alarm. The street was tightly confined, making access difficult for responding companies. The large number of materials in the building was also a challenge for firefighters. There was an increase in water rescue and cliff rescue calls which is typical in the summer. The Fire Marshal's office has been conducting inspections to decrease the notices of violations. With the assistance of suppression companies, the Fire Marshal has been implementing new guidelines for the R-1, R-2 inspection program. The Fire Marshal continues to work with the Mayor's and Controller's offices to streamline its relationship with SFMTA, and increase housing throughout the City. Chief D'Arcy at the Airport Division will hire a new training captain and logistics officer. The Division of Training conducted a joint exercise with the Port and other Federal assets for emergency operations on board ships transporting electric vehicles. Other activities included an aerial ladder climb; the Napa SWAT team's use of the Division of Training facility; and the development of the Urban Search and Rescue Regional Task Force (RTF). NERT is working on training approximately 700 applicants to the program. Chief Luttrupp and Chief Kaialoa were acknowledged by the Consul of Singapore for establishing their NERT program. They also presented the NERT opportunity to the Consuls of Switzerland, the Philippines, and Indonesia at a disaster preparedness meeting at the Japanese Consul. Chief Luttrupp attended a symposium on autonomous road transit safety with several regulators at the state and national levels. Chief Luttrupp closed his presentation by thanking Chief Nicholson for the opportunity to serve as her Deputy Chief of Operations, and acknowledging the Chief's dedication to the Department. Chief Nicholson thanked Chief Luttrupp for his kind words. Chief Luttrupp's report is attached: <https://sf.fire.org/media/3045/download?inline>

President Morgan thanked Chief Luttrupp for his report. He inquired about the logistics officer position. Chief Luttrupp replied that this position was originally the training captain's responsibility, and that this position would provide much needed relief at the airport training division. Interviews have been conducted.

Commissioner Nakajo thanked Chief Luttrupp for his report and was pleased about his remarks about Chief Nicholson. Having served on the Fire Commission for 28 years, Commissioner Nakajo appreciates Chief Nicholson's commitment to the Department. Vice President Fraser thanked Chief Luttrupp for his report. She was extremely concerned about firefighters' health and safety at the fire at 159 Beaver Street, and the lack of accountability for the building conditions. Vice President Fraser appreciated the update

on autonomous vehicles and outdoor fires. She thanked Chief Nicholson for her service to the Department, and recalled the Chief responding to an incident in her neighborhood.

Commissioner Feinstein thanked Chief Luttrupp for his report, but was also concerned the “hoarding” conditions at the 159 Beaver Street fire. She inquired about the cleanup process, and if any preventative measures could be taken. Chief Luttrupp replied that companies spent hours removing burnt debris to prevent a rekindling of the fire. Through the R-1, R-2 inspection program, any hazards could be entered into the CAD for companies to be aware of in the case of an incident. Per Chief Nicholson and Chief Luttrupp, an APS referral could be made if necessary. Commissioner Feinstein enjoyed learning about the ladder climb since she declined climbing it in person.

There was no public comment.

REPORT FROM EMS AND COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE, DEPUTY CHIEF SANDRA TONG

Report on the EMS and Community Paramedicine Divisions.

Chief Tong provided her report for July. Average call volume was slightly less with approximately 400 calls, possibly due to less people in the city during summer vacation. Historically, the cardiac arrest survival rate included traumatic arrests, but this report designated traumatic arrests in its own category. Traumatic calls include injuries from gunshots and falls. Moving forward, the report will focus on just medical calls that were resuscitated. In July, 31 of 121 resuscitations received Return of Spontaneous Circulation (ROSC). Twice a year, EMS conducts a policy/protocol review along with the San Francisco Emergency Medical Services Agency. It is an opportunity to address any policy changes, medical care updates, and perform copy editing. EMS provided 2 ambulances for the 4th of July fireworks event, and received 9 calls which was more than anticipated. This feedback will be provided to EMSA for planning purposes. Like Chief Nicholson, Chief Tong commended EMT Alia Dong-Stewart and Paramedic Gerald Colbert of Station who were honored at the Tenderloin Museum. She encouraged the Fire Commissioners to visit the Tenderloin Museum which captures the rich history of African Americans in the Tenderloin community. EMS looks forward to future dialogue with the Tenderloin Museum. Station 49 hosted two dogs and a rabbit from The SPCA who also donated canine airway masks. Chief Michael Mason of Community Paramedicine Administration spoke at a webinar hosted by the National Association of Mobile Integrated Health Providers (MIH) regarding funding and sustainability of MIH and Community Paramedic programs. The Community Paramedicine speaker series continued with Ross Mirkarimi, Director of the Homeless Engagement Assistance Response Team (HEART) at Urban Alchemy. HEART provides services similar to the Street Crisis Response Team (SCRT). NYU’s School of Law report regarding community safety and non-police options for San Francisco first responders highlighted the work of SCRT and Street Overdose Response Team (SORT). Chief Tong concluded her report by thanking

Chief Nicholson for her service to the Department. Chief Tong Chief Tong's report is attached: <https://sf-fire.org/media/3029/download?inline>

Vice President Fraser thanked Chief Tong for her report, and was pleased about the non-police options mentioned in the NYU report and its mention in *The New Yorker*. She congratulated Chief Tong on EMS' participation in the Association of Mobile Integrated Health Providers. Vice President Fraser also encourages everyone to visit the Tenderloin Museum.

Commissioner Nakajo thanked Chief Tong for her report He enjoyed learning about EMS' task average and Del Seymour's work at the Tenderloin Museum. Commissioner Nakajo how long Ross Mirkarimi has been HEART's Director. Chief Tong believes Mr. Mirkarimi has been at HEART for at least a year. Commissioner Nakajo also inquired if a future meeting could discuss how the cleanup of homeless encampments has affected the Department.

Commissioner Feinstein was glad to see a decrease in Narcan administrations, and asked Chief Tong about this change. Chief Tong continues to track data, but cited a few possible reasons: continued efforts to address the opioid epidemic, bystanders administering Narcan prior to EMS' arrival, and reported deaths. Chief Tong noted Narcan Administration statistics only count Department members administering Narcan. Per Chief Nicholson, there were 39 overdose deaths in July.

President Morgan thanked Chief Tong for her report. He commended Del Seymour and EMTs' work at the Tenderloin Museum., President Morgan also asked if EMS tracked cardiac arrests due to opioids. Chief Tong responded that is not specifically tracked, but would research it.

There was no public comment.

5. RESOLUTION 2024-02

Resolution recommending that the Board of Supervisors authorize the San Francisco Fire Department to donate two obsolete ambulances to Dustys' Fishing Well for use in their City EMT program.

Deputy Director Mark Corso presented a resolution to donate a retired, non-operational ambulance to Dustys' Fishing Well for educational purposes in their City EMT program.

Commissioner Nakajo moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Feinstein Seconded. President Morgan and Vice President Fraser voted in favor of the Motion.

There was no public comment.

6. POSSIBLE CLOSED SESSION REGARDING NOMINATION FOR APPOINTMENT – FIRE CHIEF

Section 54957(b)(1) & S.F. Admin Code 67.10(b)). Discussion and possible action to nominate one or more people for appointment as Fire Chief by the Mayor.

(a) Public Comment on all matters pertaining to item 6, including public comment on whether to hold item 6(c) in closed session.

There was no public comment.

(b) Commission will discuss and possibly take action on whether to hold a closed session. (San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.10(b)).

Commissioner Feinstein moved to conduct item 6(c) in closed session. Vice President Fraser Seconded. The motion was unanimous.

Commission convened in closed session at 10:21 a.m.

Also in closed session was Deputy City Attorney Jen Huber, Commission Secretary Kathy Aguas-Aclan, and Temporary Secretary, Maureen Conefrey.

(c) Commission will discuss and possibly take action on the public employee nomination for appointment of one or more individuals to the position of Fire Chief. This item may be held in closed session pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957(b) and San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.10(b).

Commission reconvened in open session at 11:27 a.m.

(d) Commission may report any actions taken in closed session and will take action on whether to disclose information from closed session, pursuant to San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.12(a), (b).

President Morgan reported that 3 nominees will be forwarded for consideration to the Mayor's office. Commissioner Feinstein moved to not disclose discussions held in closed session. Vice President Fraser Seconded. The motion was unanimous.

7. ADJOURNMENT

President Morgan adjourned the meeting at 11:29 a.m.