

Fire Commission Regular Meeting

Minutes

April 8, 2026, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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

The video of the [Regular Meeting, 4.8.26](#) is now available.

President Collins called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

1. Roll Call

| Title | Name | |
|---|-----------------------|---------|
| President | Paula Collins | Present |
| Vice President | Allan Low | Present |
| Commissioner | Stephen A. Nakajo | Present |
| Commissioner | Armie Morgan | Present |
| Commissioner | Marcy Fraser | Present |
| | | |
| Chief of Department | Dean Crispen | Present |
| | | |
| Deputy Chief – Administration | Sayumi Brannan | |
| | | |
| Support Services | Michael Mullin | |
| Homeland Security | Erica Arteseros-Brown | |
| Fire Marshal | Chad Law | |
| ESER Project Manager | Garreth Miller | |
| Assistant Deputy Chief, EMS | Tony Molloy | |
| Assistant Deputy Chief, Community Paramedicine | April Sloan | |
| | | |
| Staff | | |
| Deputy Director of Finance | Mark Corso | |

Ramaytush Ohlone Land Acknowledgement

President Collins read the land acknowledgment.

2. General Public Comment

Members of the public may address the Commission for up to three minutes on any matter within the Commission's jurisdiction that does not appear on the agenda. Speakers shall address their remarks to the Commission as a whole and not to individual Commissioners or Department personnel. Commissioners are not to enter into debate or discussion with a speaker. The lack of a response by the Commissioners or Department personnel does not necessarily constitute agreement with or support of statements made during public comment.

There was public comment from Miss Eileen Boken regarding the Auxiliary Water Supply (AWSS).

3. Approval of the Minutes [*Discussion and action*]

Discussion and possible action to approve meeting minutes.

- Minutes from Regular Meeting on March 11, 2026.

Commissioner Low moved to approve the minutes from March 11, 2026, and Commissioner Fraser Seconded. President Collins, Vice President Low, and Commissioners Nakajo, Morgan, and Fraser voted in favor of the motion. The Motion passed.

There was no public comment.

4. Chief of Department's Report [Discussion]

Report From Chief of Department, Dean Crispen

Report on current issues, activities, and events within the Department since the regular Fire Commission meeting March 11, 2026, including budget, academies, special events, communications, and outreach to other government agencies and the public.

Chief Crispen attended several events: the Hibernian St. Patrick's Day Parade; Lunar New Year event honoring Supervisor Connie Chan; the Lee Family Association spring event; and the EMS Ambulance Patient Offload Time (APOT) event. Chief Crispen thanked Commissioner Fraser for attending the EMS APOT event. Chief Crispen attended the Irish Israeli Italian Society of San Francisco luncheon to honor retired Lieutenant Gerry Shannon for his actions during the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake. Chief Crispen attended the Igniting Hope Gala hosted by the San Francisco Firefighters Cancer Prevention Foundation (SFFCPF) to honor retired Captain and SFFCPF President, Anthony Stefani, and three University of California physicians. The Department finalized the Local 798 MOU which provides a comprehensive disaster preparedness class for all members. Chief Crispen thanked Chiefs Kasper and Brown for developing this class. Given the third alarm fire at 50 Golden Gate Avenue in December 2025 and similar fires nationwide, Fire Marshal Law worked on lithium-ion battery legislation which was presented by Supervisor Bilal Mahmood. The legislation proposes a sales ban on of non-Underwriters Laboratories (UL) rated lithium-ion battery devices in San Francisco. UL rated batteries can ignite and emit toxic gases like carbon monoxide. Chief Crispen attended the Department of Human Resources' (DHR) Emerging City Leaders Graduation ceremony which honored Section Chief Christopher Bonn and Battalion Chief Dustin Winn. Chief Crispen attended the San Francisco Coalition of Asian American Government (CAAGE) Lunar New Year celebration with Chief Brannan to honor Captain Tyson Yee; the Mayor's Ramadan Iftar event honoring Battalion Chief Dustin Winn; the Department vs. San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) soccer tournament; the Women's History Month celebration; and the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) Strive Conference in Las Vegas. Chief Crispen attended several other events including the SFPD Graduation; a NERT information table at the District 2 Open House at Fort Mason; and Tulip Day in Union Square. The Department has been negotiating budget cuts with the Mayor's office, including. The budget will be complete by May. The 137th Recruit Academy Class is in its eleventh week. EMS Class 29 has 14 members and is in its second week. The Level 2 Class, which begins on April 27, will combine with Class 29 to form a cohesive group of Paramedics and EMTs. \$100 million of the proposed \$535 million ESER Bond on the June ballot would be used to replace Stations 2, 8, and 40. Construction is scheduled to begin in the middle of 2027. \$130 million would be allocated to the Emergency Firefighting Water Supply System. Chief Crispen thanked Chiefs Mullin and Miller for their work on the upcoming groundbreaking for the new Division of Training facility. He also acknowledged retired Chief Jeanine Nicholson for advocating for the new facility. Supervisor Stephen Sherrill and Fire Marshal Law have been working on forming Technical Advisory Council (TAC) which would assist Fire Marshal Law with exceptions to the Sprinkler Ordinance. Battalion Chief Neal Cavellini and Lieutenant Matthew Scola are working on expanding the Chaplaincy Program to include different faith groups. The Department is working with PG&E on gas shut-off legislation. Chief Crispen presented several General Orders (GOs):

26 A-019, Deputy Chief, Emergency Medical Services; and 26 A-25, SFFD Engine Academy; 26 A-30, Assistant Deputy Chief (ADC), Support Services. Interviews for the Deputy Chief, EMS position will be held on April 14. Chief Crispen acknowledged the upcoming retirements of ADC Mullin and Captain Dustin Novo. Chief Crispen's report is attached: [Chief's report](#).

Commissioner Fraser thanked Chief Crispen for his report, and congratulated Chief Mullins on his upcoming retirement. She enjoyed seeing Chief Crispen at the United Fire Service Women's (UFSW) breakfast. Commissioner Fraser inquired about thermal runaway in lithium-ion batteries. Chief Crispen responded that thermal runaway occurs when lithium-ion batteries are charged on a non-UL rated outlet. This type of outlet can create a toxic environment depending on a building's electrical system. Commissioner Fraser was pleased to hear updates on the budget and the Chaplaincy Program, and thanked Lieutenant Mariano Elias and Rescue Captain Samuel Menchaca for doing a school visit in her neighborhood.

Vice President Low inquired how other cities such as New York have handled lithium-ion batteries. Chief Crispen responded that Supervisor Bilal Mahmood is developing new legislation which would require buildings to report the number of lithium-ion batteries in their building. Vice President Low suggested having Supervisor Mahmood's Legislative Aide present at a future Fire Commission meeting, and discussing the Technical Advisory Council (TAC). He is looking forward to learning about how TAC members are chosen and its role in connection to the Sprinkler Ordinance. Chief Crispen responded that TAC would have a range of community stakeholders that advise the Fire Marshal who makes the final decision. The Department will continue to provide updates to Fire Commissioners.

Commissioner Morgan inquired how many positions were lost last year due to budget cuts. Chief Crispen responded that fortunately, there were no layoffs, but some positions were unfilled. This year, the City is focusing on position deletion. Commissioner Morgan thanked Chief Mullin for his service.

Commissioner Nakajo thanked Chief Crispen for his report. He looks forward to hearing an APOT Summit update from Chief Molloy and Commissioner Fraser who attended the event. Commissioner Nakajo congratulated Chief Crispen for negotiating the MOU with Local 798, and Chief Mullin on his upcoming retirement. Commissioner Nakajo was pleased to hear updates on the budget, the CD4 position, and the SFPD Graduation. He expressed interest in learning more about the TAC. Commissioner Nakajo asked if the ESER Bond would be on the June ballot. Chief Crispen responded yes.

President Collins congratulated Chief Mullin on his upcoming retirement. She also would like to learn more about the TAC, and inquired if a consultant will be helping people with exemption claims. Chief Crispen responded that although the Department is not involved in helping the public make exemption claims, the media has reported that outside consultants not connected to the Department have been helping people.

There was no public comment.

Report From Administration, Deputy Chief Sayumi Brannan

Report on the Administrative Divisions, Fleet and Facility status and updates, Finance, Support Services, and Homeland Security.

Chief Brannan reported that Homeland Security is planning for several upcoming events: Red Bull Stunt Jump; Bob Weir public funeral at Civic Center; and Bay to Breakers. Homeland Security worked with the Department of Public Health (DPH) to coordinate prevention of radiation and nuclear detention (PRND) training. Chief Brannan showed pictures during the Superbowl of Bureau of Fire Prevention's (BFP) and EMS' deployment, plus the Cal OES' Type 1 Hazmat team from Fresno, CA. Captain Hashim

Anderson in Outreach, Recruitment and Development, worked on the interview process for the 137th and 138th Recruit Academy classes. The H3 EMT Academy begins September 14, and the Paramedic Academy begins October 13. Both academies will graduate on December 11. The Community Outreach Recruitment and Education Committee (CORE) has been collaborating with Department members, the community, and affinity groups to plan events. City College of San Francisco (CCSF) has been working with public safety agencies like SFFD, SFPD, Sheriff, and DHR on recruitment. Chief Brannan showed pictures of the 16th Annual Black History Month and Lunar New Year celebrations. CORE tabled at Galileo High School's Career Technical Education Fair. A Department ambulance and engine participated in the St. John's First Responder Day in the Richmond District. The Life Line Program helps the community communicate their needs in their native language. 80% of Life Line clients speak various Chinese languages (Cantonese, Taiwanese, and Mandarin). There are 10% Spanish speaking clients; three percent Russian speaking clients; and three percent other languages. Chief Brannan attended the Superbowl career fair with Captain Anderson. A former Cleveland Browns player applied to the Department. The Behavioral Health Unit (BHU) held a well-being and mental health orientation for the 137th Recruit Academy Class. BHU's calls for service continue to rise as members realize services are not only for members, but also for their families. BHU is working with the Physician's office, Human Resources, and Worker's Comp on offering additional assistance to members. The Office of Employee Health completed 24 return to work clearances; released a mental health and substance use video; and recorded the Roll Call podcast. The Investigative Services Bureau (ISB) completed 36 background checks for H3 Academies 15 and 29. ISB continued converting completed background checks into digital form. Captain Colin Carter attended Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) training at Travis Air Force Base, Incident Command System (ICS) 400, and a grant writing workshop, along with serving as a backup Public Information Officer (PIO). The Assignment Office (AO) completed Emergency Operation Center (EOC) and Bay Area Training & Exercise Program (BATEP) training. Chief Brannan congratulated Chief Mullin on his upcoming retirement. They are working on succession planning and onboarding his replacement. Chief Mullin completed 225 service orders. The Department received two new rescue captain vehicles with new SCUBA equipment. Lieutenant Carla Bisio has helped distribute PFAS free turnouts to 75% of the field. Members have received training on proper care for these turnouts. Chief Brannan invited all the Commissioners to the Division of Training Groundbreaking ceremony on April 16. Deputy Chief Garreth Miller, the Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response (ESER) Project Manager, provided an update on the new Division of Training. Swinerton Builders will begin the construction process on April 27, with completion in early 2029. The Fire Station 7 replacement project has begun. The Planning Commission determined demolition would not significantly impact the site's historical status. Chief Miller reported that there is a possibility of doing Station 7's CEQA process with other Department projects, As part of the 120th anniversary of the 1906 Earthquake, Station 35 will host a Fireboat demonstration on April 14. Chief Miller thanked and acknowledged Department IT staff, the Department of Public Works (DPW), the Department of Technology (DT), and Lieutenant Michael Magalong for upgrading the Department's network. Chief Brannan's report is attached: [Chief Brannan's report](#).

Commissioner Nakajo thanked Chief Brannan for her report, and was pleased to hear about a succession plan for Chief Mullin's position. He asked if the plan was specific to Support Services or more general. Chief Brannan responded that the focus is on Chief Mullin's position, but the Department plans to create a succession process for all positions. The onboarding packet for Chief Mullin's position is comprehensive because it includes position description as well as information on vendors; projects for the next two years;

apparatus; and specialized equipment. Chief Crispen responded that there is ample time for shadowing a new Support Services Chief since Chief Mullin announced his retirement a month before exiting. Commissioner Nakajo appreciated learning about succession planning, and offered his support. He inquired about how the Department fills positions in terms of training and transition. Chief Crispen responded that the Department's Executive Officer Program implemented by Chiefs Brannan and Rabbitt is an important part of succession planning. Battalion Chiefs and Captains shadow members in order to develop leadership skills. Commissioner Nakajo inquired about the water demonstration. Chief Miller responded that the water demonstration will be on April 14, 10:15am, at Station 35.

Commissioner Fraser thanked Chief Brannan for her report. She was pleased to learn about the Life Line Program; a former NFL player recruited by the Department; and the BHU Peer Support calls. Commissioner Fraser expressed concern over workplace violence. Chief Brannan responded that peer navigators have been conducting debriefs after violent incidents to help support members. Chief Crispen commended Chief Molloy's and Chief Sloan's leadership as the Department tries to address workplace violence. EMS and Community Paramedicine (CP) staff discussed their experiences and de-escalation techniques, and conducted a member survey during a town hall meeting. Commissioner Fraser was happy to hear that the Department's background check includes drivers' licenses.

There was no public comment.

5. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:19 a.m.