

**FIRE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

July 12, 2023, 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=44057

President Nakajo called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

1. ROLL CALL

Commission President	Stephen Nakajo	Present
Vice President	Armie Morgan	Present
Commissioner	Katherine Feinstein	Excused
Commissioner	Marcy Fraser	Present
Commissioner	Paula Collins	Excused
Chief of Department	Jeanine Nicholson	Present.(remotely)
Darius Luttrupp	Deputy Chief -- Operations	
Sandy Tong	Deputy Chief – EMS and Community Paramedicine	
Julie Mau	Division of Training	
Shon Bufford	Equity, Diversity & Inclusion	
Simon Pang	Community Paramedicine	
Assistant Chiefs		
Ken Yee	Division II	
Scott Darmstadt	Division III	

RAMAYTUSH OHLONE LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

President Nakajo 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 June 28, 2023.

Vice President Morgan Moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Fraser Seconded. The motion was unanimous.

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 21, 2023, including budget, academies, special events, communications and outreach to other government agencies and the public.

Chief Nicholson appeared remotely via Webex as she needed to attend the mayor's Department Head meeting. She formally welcomed Chief Luttrupp and Chief Kaialoa to the command staff. She announced that Assistant Deputy Chief Gareth Miller has been hired as the new Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response Chief. She mentioned that they will be leveraging video production this coming year, including a seven-minute video that talks about overall department operations and the history of Community Paramedicine and City EMS programs. She touched on events she attended including providing media interviews in terms of autonomous vehicles and mentioned that the California Public Utilities Commission has decided to delay the vote until August and that no progress has been made with crews or other companies in terms of sitting down with the Department with their engineering and policy people and she finds that disheartening. She announced that Julie Mau was selected as the new Assistant Deputy Chief for the Division of Training.

There was no public comment.

Vice President Morgan commented that there was going to be a rally at the steps of City Hall by the Teamsters against the autonomous vehicles on Friday.

Commissioner Fraser confirmed that the Department has had little movement on response from the policy folks of the AV Companies on how they will have their vehicles stop interfering with emergency scenes and responses and that the number of incidents is increasing not decreasing and that is a concern.

President Nakajo announced that the Commission sent a letter to the CPUC specifying their concerns with driverless vehicles. He also confirmed that Captain Baxter will remain with the Public Information Office and will be joined by Justin Shore and Mariano Elias along with alternates Curtis Contreras and Sam Menchaka.

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 June 2023. He reported there were no greater alarm fires in June, but there were 21 reports of fires, with 17 working fires, 11 water rescues, and four cliff rescues. He described the pictures in his report which is

attached: <https://sf-fire.org/media/2798/download?inline>. He touched on Fire Prevention, where they are on pace with the bulk of their inspections; the Airport Division and the Division of Training, where he welcomed Chief Mau. He thanked everyone who came to the 131st Academy graduation and announced that the 132nd Academy class started on June 26th with 58 recruits. He talked about the rich history and dedication of former Chief Postel and stated he would also like to feel that sense of ownership as the first Luttrupp in the San Francisco Fire Department.

Vice President Morgan thanked Chief Luttrupp for his report and congratulated him on his new position. He mentioned he was glad there were no greater alarms.

Commissioner Fraser thanked him for his report and welcomed him. She confirmed the collaboration with the CHP was through a general order including a method of operation so that they understand the terms and when people can fly and when they can't fly and that it's been a good collaboration. She also confirmed that lithium batteries are not supposed to be in carry-on or checked luggage and various rules apply.

President Nakajo thanked him for his comprehensive report and stated his appreciation for his presentation format and his references to pages so they could follow along. He acknowledged and congratulated Chief Mau on her appointment as Chief of the Training Division. He announced that Commander Buckley has agreed to present on the Fire Reserves sometime in August.

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 June report. She stated they averaged 357 calls a day, which was pretty much the same as May. She announced on June 8th, members of the EMS command staff and the field providers participated in a tabletop MCI drill that was conducted by the local EMSA and the drill mimicked an explosion and an active shooter situation where there were about 130 patients. She also attended the Pride Parade on June 25th. On June 30th the EMS division hosted 25 high school students who were participating in the mayor's youth program called Operation Genesis which is a program to introduce high school students to all aspects of public safety. She noted that the EMS Division responded to 145 cardiac arrests and resuscitation was attempted on 51 of those, 40 of them were transported to the hospital and 11 were terminated in the field because they were not able to revive them. She touched on the Community Paramedicine

Division stating that since 2017 they have been able to train 72 members into Community Paramedicine. Her report is attached: <https://sf-fire.org/media/2801/download?inline>

Vice President Morgan thanked her for her great report and information.

Commissioner Fraser thanked her for her interesting report. She confirmed that the Medical Examiner provides a report every month on the overdoses and how many cases they have closed due to specific drugs. She confirmed with Chief Pang that the biggest barrier the community paramedics face in trying to help people that they engage is that people don't want what they have to offer, and they can't compel people unless they meet the 51/50 criteria. Commissioner Fraser asked once they are deemed eligible or qualified for a 51/50 hold, how much success they have at getting them into a facility that is capable of caring for that person. Chief Pang responded that all the receiving hospitals in San Francisco accept people on psychiatric holds, the challenging part is how long that person stays at the hospital and is larger than what the Fire Department can do. President Nakajo confirmed that it is up to the staff at the hospital if they release somebody within a period less than what the hold allows, and the Department has no knowledge in terms of when that happens or when that person is released back out in the community.

President Nakajo thanked Chief Tong for her comprehensive report. He confirmed that there are about 12 other cities that have community paramedicine programs. He also confirmed that the SFFD's Community Paramedicine Program is at the forefront and the call volume is much greater than all the other programs. Chief Pang confirmed that nationwide, there are many mobile crisis response units.

There was no public comment.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEM 6

Public comment on all matters pertaining to Items 6 below, including public comment on whether to hold Items 6(b) and (c) in closed session.

There was no public comment.

6. POSSIBLE CLOSED SESSION REGARDING PERSONNEL MATTERS

a. VOTE ON WHETHER TO CONDUCT ITEMS 6(b) and (c) IN CLOSED SESSION
[Action]

The Commission may hear Items 6(b) and (c) in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54957(b) and Administrative Code Section 67.10(b).

*Vice President Morgan Moved to conduct the matter in closed session.
Commissioner Fraser Seconded. The motion was unanimous.*

Proceeded in closed session at 10:10 a.m.

Also in closed session: Secretary Maureen Conefrey, Deputy City Attorney Carlos Almendarez, Deputy City Kate Kimberlin, and Deputy City Attorney Caroline Page.

b. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE, CASE NO. 2023-03: COMMISSION DELIBERATIONS ON PROPOSED FINDINGS OF FACT, AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF FINDINGS OF FACT REGARDING COMMISSION'S DECISION ON VERIFIED COMPLAINT FILED WITH THE COMMISSION BY CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT [Action]

At a meeting on May 31, 2023, regarding the above-referenced matter, the Commission deliberated and reached a decision on employee termination. The Commission is now considering proposed Findings of Fact in relation to that decision.

Commissioner Fraser Moved to approve the Findings of Fact. Vice President Morgan Seconded. The motion was unanimous.

c. THE COMMISSION IS NOT MEETING WITH THE SAN FRANCISCO FIRE FIGHTERS LOCAL 798 IN CLOSED SESSION. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR ATTORNEY – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING. This item is for the Commission to meet in closed session with their labor counsel and provide direction for bargaining with the San Francisco Fire Fighters Local 798 (“Local 798”). Local 798 is not permitted to attend this closed session meeting. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6 and San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.10(e).

Anticipated Issue: Potential changes to the rules of Commission Appeals.

f. If Closed Session is held, reconvene in Open Session

1. Report on any action taken in Closed Session as specified in California Government Code Section 54957.1(a)(5) and San Francisco Administrative Code section 67.12(b)(4).

2. Vote to elect whether to disclose any or all discussions held in Closed Session, as specified in San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.12(a). *[Action Item]*

Reconvened in Open session at 11:08 a.m.

Vice President Morgan Moved to not disclose. Commissioner Fraser Seconded. The motion was unanimous.

7. ADJOURNMENT President Nakajo adjourned the meeting at 11:09 a.m. in honor of former Fire Commissioner Larry Griffin and the two Newark firefighters who lost their lives during a fire aboard a ship.