

FIRE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

DRAFT MINUTES

April 23, 2025, 5:00 p.m.

City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 400 ■ San Francisco ■ California ■ 94102

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

https://sanfrancisco.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=180&clip_id=49636

President Fraser called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

Commission President	Marcy Fraser	Present
Vice President	Paula Collins	Tardy
Commissioner	Stephen Nakajo	Present
Commissioner	Armie Morgan	Present
Commissioner	Allan Low	Tardy
Chief of Department	Dean Crispen	Present
Patrick Rabbitt	Deputy Chief – Operations	
Sayumi Brannan	Deputy Chief – Administration	
Simon Pang	Deputy Chief – EMS and Community Paramedicine	
Michael Mullin	Support Services	
Erica Arteseros-Brown	Homeland Security	
Patrick D’Arcy	Airport	
Chad Law	Prevention	
Marc Kasper	Training	
Garreth Miller	ESER Project Manager	
Adrienne Sims	Chief of Staff	
Tony Molloy	ADC EMS	
Assistant Chiefs		
Ken Yee	Division II	
Michael I. Thompson	Division III	
Staff		
Mark Corso	CFO	

RAMAYTUSH OHLONE LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

President Fraser read the land acknowledgment.

2. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was online public comment from Eileen Boken of the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods regarding water supply.

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

Discussion and possible action to approve meeting minutes.

- Minutes from Regular Meeting on April 9, 2025.

Commissioner Morgan moved to approve the minutes from April 9, 2025, and Commissioner Low Seconded. President Fraser and Commissioner Nakajo 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 Fire Commission meeting on April 9, 2025, including budget, academies, special events, communications, and outreach to other government agencies and the public.

Chief Crispin acknowledged Administrative Professionals Week, thanking the staff in the Chief's office. He attended several events in March and April: candidate interviews for the 136th Academy Class, including H3 candidates wishing to join the suppression side, which begins in July; budget talks with Director Corso regarding a possible \$916,000 deficit over the next two years; and the funeral for FF Tilafaiga Ta'Ape III. The 135th Academy Class is in their 13th week, and will graduate on June 6. Chief Crispin and Chief of Staff Sims attended an event for National Victims' Rights Week sponsored by SFPD and the District Attorney's Office. Chief Crispin showed a video of the Fire Ops 101 event, featuring four stations demonstrating various incidents such as auto extrication and CPR. He thanked Chief of Staff Sims, Local 798, and the San Francisco Fire Credit Union for organizing and sponsoring this event, respectively. Chief Crispin attended the first annual Ner Tamid Society Passover Seder meal. He attended Dispatchers Week event, and thanked Chief Cannon for all his work at the Dispatch Center. Chief Crispin, Chief Rabbit, and Chief of Staff Sims attended a Zoox ride and safety discussion. Along with Chief Pang, Chief Crispin visited stations 5 and 9. The Behested Payment Legislation was announced at Station 13, allowing the Department to work with private partners to acquire new apparatus. The San Francisco Firefighters Cancer Prevention Foundation donated new turnout bags. Chief Crispin attended the District 2 Resiliency and Preparation Townhall at Station 51 with Chief Rabbitt, Chief of Staff Sims, and Supervisor Sherrill to discuss water supply and fire protection. Chief Crispin thanked the Fire Commission for attending the 1906 Earthquake Memorial Event and 1906 Survivors Luncheon. He was honored to be acknowledged along with firefighters who responded to the Los Angeles fires. Chief Crispin attended the helicopter drill, and thanked Commissioner Nakajo for attending, and Laura Cannon for her leadership. Chief Crispin's report is attached: <https://sf-fire.org/media/3657/download?inline>.

Commissioner Low inquired about the status of budget discussions. Chief Crispin responded that the Department continues to discuss the budget with the Mayor's office regarding the 15% budget reduction, and that negotiations are going well. Chief Crispin is hopeful that the Behested Payment legislation will help acquire apparatus. The new budget instructions indicate a larger deficit, so structural budget changes have been

requested. The Department continues looking for alternative sources for revenue and income. Commissioner Low inquired if the 15% budget reduction could be waived, and if Zoox cars could be used in the Department? Chief Crispen responded that he has made that request, and that he is looking into how electric vehicle technology can be applied to the Department.

Commissioner Nakajo thanked Chief Crispen for his report. He asked for clarification on the Behested Payment legislation. Chief Crispen responded that the legislation waives the City ordinance prohibiting donation requests from private entities for apparatus. Commissioner Nakajo commented that he was pleased with this exception, and hopes the same model can be used for Support Services. Commissioner Nakajo was grateful to receive the NERT award, but acknowledged that it really belongs to NERT volunteers as well. There were over 150 people at the NERT drill. Commissioner Nakajo enjoyed the helicopter drill.

Commissioner Low suggested consulting with the City Attorney's office if the Behested Payment legislation could be expanded.

Commissioner Morgan thanked Chief Crispen for his report. Commissioner Morgan commented that behested payments are similar to donations, and asked if they could be expanded to include firehouses. Chief Crispen responded that there is ESER Bond support for some of those upgrades, and that the Behested Payment legislation specifically addressed apparatus. The budget negotiations included an apparatus request in case the Behested Payment legislation does not produce funds. Commissioner Morgan missed the fire ops and helicopter drills, but he enjoyed the Lotta's Fountain event and 1906 Luncheon.

Vice President Collins commented that other jurisdictions have utilized behested payments to acquire equipment. The City has a history regarding real estate, facilities, and public/private partnerships. Vice President Collins was also interested in maximizing ESER bonds and cost-effective bids moving forward. Chief Crispen responded that the Department and DPW are discussing cost-effective ways to handle multiple projects.

President Fraser thanked Chief Crispen for his report. She acknowledged Commission Secretary Kathy Aguas-Aclan, during Administrative Professionals Week. President Fraser also acknowledged the recent loss of three firefighters. She enjoyed the Guardians of the City Luncheon honoring Chief Crispen, and looks forward to learning more about the new configuration of the street teams.

Commissioner Morgan congratulated Commissioner Nakajo for receiving the NERT award, and thanked Chief Brannan for giving him a ride to the Lotta's Fountain event.

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 provided an Operations update for March 2025, including Homeland Security; Outreach, Recruitment, and Development (ORD); Health, Safety and Wellness (HSW); Behavioral Health (BHU); the Office of Employee Health (OEH); Investigative Services Bureau (ISB); Support Services (SS); and Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response (ESER).

In honor of Administrative Professionals Week, Chief Brannan acknowledged civilian employees in Finance, Human Resources, the Assignment Office, Support Services, and BFP. Chief Brannan reported that the Assignments Office is searching for a lieutenant to assist Captain Balzarini. Chief Brown from Homeland Security, is working with federal entities on Superbowl planning. Planning for Fleet Week and the Sail Grand Prix has also begun. In ORD, Lieutenant Anderson and his team have been attending community events to educate the public and recruit. Command Staff visited the CCSF John Adams training facility. ORD presented the hiring process to the Los Medanos Fire Science Class. Chief Brannan attended an event celebrating the first anniversary of the Resource Center. There was a Narcan Workshop for SFUSD high school students at the Southeast Community Center. ORD held an electrode application workshop for the Galileo Health Academy EMT Program. The Mission High School EMS Program toured Station 35 and the SFFD Fireboat. ORD presented Department career pathways at the Japanese Community Youth Council (JCYC) Career Day. Chief Brannan is participating in the HSW nutrition study. The fuel pump study is ongoing, as it compares stations 2 and 5. The BHU has been supporting members as they are coping with the loss of firefighters from Station 3. The OEH will be conducting TB and hearing tests and continue work on health and wellness checks. There were 22 Return to Work screenings; five Promotional exams; and 18 End of Probation exams. OEH is also working on a nutritional program for the new academies, and an ergonomics and injury prevention program. Captain Carter from ISB conducted 44 pre-employment screenings and 26 background investigations, and attended a Firefighter Bill of Rights class. Clifford, Captain Carter's therapy dog, visited the Dispatch Center during Dispatcher Week. In Support Services, Chief Mullin completed 150 service orders, 20 plumbing service calls, and an upgrade of the Chief's residence. The Bureau of Equipment (BOE) provided three antique apparatus for the St. Patrick's Day Parade. The design team presented a current rendering of the Division of Training, including an art enrichment site. The Public Works Commission approved the selection of Swinerton. Chief Brannan attended the SFFD ESER design presentation at Battalion 10. Local residents and businesses were present. Chief Brannan's report is attached: <https://sf-fire.org/media/3654/download?inline>.

Commissioner Morgan asked Chief Brannan how long she would be participating in the nutrition study. Chief Brannan responded that she is done at the end of May.

Commissioner Nakajo thanked Chief Brannan for her report and her staff for all their work.

Vice President Collins thanked Chief Brannan for attending the design presentation.

President Fraser thanked Chief Brannan for her report. She inquired if there were plans for a permanent location for BHU. Chief Brannan responded that the Department is looking at other non-firehouse locations. President Fraser inquired about Quanticel tests. Chief Brannan responded that they are devices used to collect saliva. Battalion Chiefs are trained to administer the test.

There was no public comment.

5. VOTE ON WHETHER TO CONDUCT ITEM 6 IN CLOSED SESSION (San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.10(d)) [Action]

Commissioner Morgan moved to conduct item 6 in closed session, and Commissioner Low Seconded. President Fraser, Vice President Collins, Commissioner Nakajo voted in favor of the Motion. The Motion passed.

Commission convened in closed session at 6:15 p.m.

**6. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION
[Discussion and Possible Action]**

Conference with legal counsel to discuss existing litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a), (c), (d), and Administrative Code Section 67.10(d)(1) and recommendation to the Board of Supervisors for settlement approval or to take other action. Existing Litigation: *Larry Jacobs v. City and County of San Francisco* San Francisco Superior Court Case No. CGC-20-586245 File No. 190906

Also in closed session were Deputy City Attorney Sarah Fabian, Deputy City Attorney Amy Frenzen, and Commission Secretary Kathy Aguas-Aclan.

Commission reconvened in open session at 6:29 p.m.

7. REPORT ON ANY ACTION TAKEN ON ITEM 6 HELD IN CLOSED SESSION (California Government Code Section 54957.1(a) AND San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.12(B)) [Discussion and possible action]

There was no action to report.

8. VOTE TO ELECT WHETHER TO DISCLOSE ANY OR ALL DISCUSSION ON ITEM 8 HELD IN CLOSED SESSION (San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.12(a)) [Action]

Commissioner Low moved to not disclose all discussions on item 8 in closed session. Vice President Collins Seconded. President Fraser, Commissioner Nakajo, and Commissioner Morgan voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

9. ADJOURNMENT

President Fraser adjourned the meeting at 6:31 p.m.