

FIRE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

DRAFT MINUTES

June 11, 2025, 9:00 – 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 link below:

https://sanfrancisco.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=180&clip_id=50193

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

1. ROLL CALL

Commission President	Marcy Fraser	Present
Vice President	Paula Collins	Present
Commissioner	Stephen Nakajo	Present
Commissioner	Armie Morgan	Excused
Commissioner	Allan Low	Present
Chief of Department	Dean Crispen	Present
Patrick Rabbitt	Deputy Chief – Operations	
Sayumi Brannan	Deputy Chief – Administration	
Simon Pang	Deputy Chief – EMS and Community Paramedicine	
Patrick D’Arcy	Airport	
Marc Kasper	Training	
Adrienne Sims	Chief of Staff	
Tony Molloy	ADC EMS	
April Sloan	ADC Community Paramedicine	
Assistant Chiefs		
Nicol Juratovac	Division II	
Michael I. Thompson	Division III	
Staff		
Mark Corso	CFO	
Christopher Bonn	Section Chief, EMS Operations	
Brandon Tom	NERT Coordinator	

RAMAYTUSH OHLONE LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

President Fraser read the land acknowledgment.

2. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no online comment.

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

Discussion and possible action to approve meeting minutes.

- Minutes from Regular Meeting on May 28, 2025.

Vice President Collins moved to approve the minutes from May 28, 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 May 28, 2025, including budget, academies, special events, communications, and outreach to other government agencies and the public.

Chief Crispin reported that the mayor's budget process is closed, and the Department is preparing for hearings before the Board of Supervisors' (BOS) Budget and Finance Committee on June 13. There were several outside fires at Lafayette Elementary School and Lincoln. The Fire Marshal's office is investigating and working with SFPD. There was a 4th Alarm fire at 5th Avenue and Balboa Street. Chief Crispin thanked AC Nicol Juratovac and all members for their outstanding work containing this fire. Chief Crispin congratulated Christopher Bonn on his promotion to the EMS Operations Section Chief position, and Inspector Milton Yuen for 41 years of service to the Department. The 136th Recruit Academy Class and 50 probationary members will begin on July 28. Chief Crispin attended the BAPS Charities Walk with Chief Brannan on June 1. He thanked BAPS Charities for their \$5000 donation to the Cancer Prevention Foundation. Chief Crispin addressed the Officers Academy organized by AC Baker. Chief Crispin met with Supervisor Walton who is an advocate for water assets. EMS Class number 28 begins September 10. Chief Crispin visited Station 12 and attended the May 30 celebration of life for the late Captain Julio Delucchi. Chief Crispin and Chief of Staff Adrienne Sims attended the San Francisco Fire Youth Academy graduation organized by the Black Firefighters Association (BFA). Chief Crispin thanked Antione Davis and John Smith of BFA for organizing this event. Chief Crispin attended the farewell ceremony for SFPD Chief Scott' addressed H3L2 Academy Class, and attended the 135th Recruit Academy Class Graduation. Members organized a task force at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on 1011 Turk Street to assist SFPD during First Amendment activities over the past weekend. Along with other City department heads, the Department held a tabletop earthquake drill and discussed emergency preparedness. Chief Crispin attended a PG&E drill at Treasure Island, coordinated by AC Michael I. Thompson. He thanked AC Thompson for organizing this event. Chief Crispin's report is attached <https://sf-fire.org/media/3691/download?inline>.

Vice President Collins inquired if NERT participated in discussing emergency preparedness. Chief Crispin responded that NERT was not present because it was an interdepartmental meeting. NERT is dispatched as necessary to shut off utilities and perform assessments.

Commissioner Low inquired about the cause of the fire on 5th Avenue which affected many homes. Chief Crispin responded that the cause of the fire is under investigation. It was a three-story, type 5 wood frame building. There was a one-story structure in the rear

where the fire began. Five homes were affected, causing much damage. The one-story structure collapsed which cut off the fire's progress. Commissioner Low inquired about any lessons learned from the First Amendment activities in Los Angeles the past weekend. Chief Crispen responded that he has met with Command Staff, and will work with SFPD to protect people. He addressed the dangers of fire in autonomous vehicles like Waymo during First Amendment activities. Their lithium-ion batteries are incredibly hot, and susceptible to explosions when on fire. An incident commander would usually extinguish an autonomous vehicle fire if next to a building, or let it burn out if not near a structure.

Commissioner Nakajo thanked Chief Crispen for his report and inquired about the location of the 4th Alarm Fire. Chief Crispen responded that the primary address was 579 5th Avenue, cross street, Balboa. Commissioner Nakajo thanked AC Juratovac and Department members for responding to that incident. He also congratulated Chief Bonn on his new position.

President Fraser thanked Chief Crispen for his report. She appreciated hearing about the outside fires this year. She noticed the increase in vehicle rollover accidents this month, and looks forward to hearing more about that increase. President Fraser expressed appreciation for NERT, and was glad SFPD Chief Scott was acknowledged. President Fraser thanked AC Juratovac for her work at the 4th Alarm Fire.

There was no public comment.

REPORT FROM OPERATIONS, DEPUTY CHIEF PATRICK RABBITT

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

Chief Rabbitt provided an Operations update for May 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).

Chief Rabbitt reported that during First Amendment activities, members staffed the City's EOC, and were aware of civil unrest procedures. The Department coordinated and shared information among departments, external City agencies, and stakeholders such as Waymo. Waymo was advised to remove their vehicles from crowded areas which resulted in less damage to their fleet and other City property. Department task forces, comprised of a battalion chief; engine; mini pumper engine; rescue captain; ambulance; and tactical EMS ambulance, handle on scene tactical operations. They will be ready for the First Amendment activities the weekend of June 14. Chief Rabbitt reported that from May 31 2023 to May 31 2025, dispatches increased to 5449 calls for service. In May, building alarm activations decreased by 70, thanks in part to the work of the BFP. Assistant Fire Marshal (AFM) Mary Tse has been working with building managers to improve fire alarm systems. There were 428 outside fires, 31 working fires, and one greater alarm in May. This 2nd Alarm Fire was in a residential high-rise building at 331 1st Street. Chief

Rabbitt reported there was a 4th Alarm Fire on June 6, at 579 5th Avenue. The fire quickly traveled vertically through the fire building walls to the attic above, and to the buildings left and right of the fire building. Fortunately, all civilian occupants were evacuated, and one member had a minor injury. Fire Marshal Law is working with Director Corso to hire entry level inspectors. Per the Mayor's initiative to increase permit approvals, the Permit Center at 49 South Van Ness has extended operation hours. Fire Marshal Law is also working with the Mayor's office to permit and regulate pods in commercial structures. The MOU with Brycer regarding sprinkler system certifications will be finalized by next month. OpenGov demonstrated their software to BFP. City approval is still pending. Chief Rabbitt thanked Inspector Young for his 40+ years of service. Inspector Young, the last civilian inspector in BFP is retiring. There were 542 incidents at the airport in May. Six members are in Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting (ARFF) driver training, while 16 members completed advanced ARFF firefighter training. Chief D'Arcy is planning a full-scale exercise at SFO. In May, the Department logged over 9000 hours of CJAC training, capturing \$40,000 to be used for education, training, and equipment. The Department plans to purchase 10 Fire Sticks, a tool used for gross fire ground decontamination. The Rapid Intervention Crew (RIC), is part of a firefighter self-survival course and RIC training. Per Department policy, the fourth arriving engine at a structure fire is assigned as RIC. RICs are also assigned to incidents where members are subject to immediately dangerous to life and health (IDLH) environments. Chief Rabbitt thanked Chief Kasper and the Division Chiefs for organizing this training. To keep the marine fleet robust, Battalion Chiefs Styles and Leal have organized boat trainings to help relieve boat operators. The 135th Recruit Academy Class graduated on June 6. The Fire Reserves logged 150 hours of drills and almost 80 hours of volunteer work. Chief Rabbit thanked the Reserves for assisting at the 4th Alarm Fire on 5th Avenue, and still attending the 135th Recruit Academy Class Graduation. Over 400 people completed NERT training. NERT hopes to attract more youth to their program. Chief Rabbitt's report is attached: <https://sf-fire.org/media/3686/download?inline>.

Commissioner Low inquired if the amount of cliff rescues was typical for this time of year. Chief Rabbit responded that due to better weather, more people are on walking paths. The Three Words app has mapped out the area, and is very helpful with finding people who have lost their way. Commissioner Low inquired if the Presidio can encourage people to stay on paths. Chief Rabbitt responded that when people need aid, the Department utilizes helicopter, boat, and rope rescue techniques.

Commissioner Nakajo thanked Chief Rabbitt for his report. He noticed the increased frequency of cliff and water rescues, and thanked members for their work. Commissioner Nakajo acknowledged the 135th Recruit Academy Class graduates.

Vice President Collins thanked Chief Rabbitt for his report, and the Fire Reserves for attending the graduation after assisting at the 4th Alarm Fire. As a former board member of the Presidio Trust, Vice President Collins inquired if additional signage or fines would encourage people to stay on walking paths. Chief Rabbit responded that he will communicate this concern to the Presidio Trust's public safety director.

President Fraser thanked Chief Rabbitt for his report. She appreciated hearing about increased call volume and electric vehicles. President Fraser commented that the three coroner cases at the airport seemed high. Chief Rabbitt responded that the monthly average is one case and that he did not know the cause for each case. President Fraser was pleased to hear about the Fire Stick tool. Chief Rabbitt thanked Battalion Chief Alba for his work on purchasing Fire Sticks. President Fraser inquired if training podcasts were for Department use only. Chief Rabbitt responded that Chief Kasper has been developing an internal Department podcast. It would be shared with members, including the Fire Commissioners. President Fraser was pleased Chief Rabbitt acknowledged the Fire Reserves. Chief Rabbitt commented that since vehicle accidents have increased, Chief Kasper is working on auto extrication training.

There was no public comment.

REPORT FROM EMS AND COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE, DEPUTY CHIEF SIMON PANG

Report on the EMS and Community Paramedicine Divisions.

Chief Pang reported the Department had 8,540 ambulance dispatches, with a majority of calls resulting in Code 2 transports. Rescue captains remained busy running over 1,000 calls. Ambulance Patient Offload Times (APOT) continue to decline, but crews are still working to meet the statewide benchmark of 30 minutes. Increased awareness and responsiveness helped improve APOT. 38% of the 232 people receiving Narcan were unhoused. Chief Pang discussed cardioversion, an advanced intervention similar to defibrillation which uses foam pads on a patient's chest. Cardioversion provides a more efficient electricity transfer than defibrillation. It was used four times in May. There was a field amputation drill at Treasure Island, designed and organized by EMS Fellow, Dr. Gurley and Rescue Captains Covitz and Yee. Members also practiced confined space and rope rescues. During EMS Week, Local 798 and other groups such as United Fire Service of Women (USFW), the Department of Emergency Communications, the Asian Firefighter Association (AFA), San Francisco Fire Credit Union, the Black Firefighters Association (BFA), Command Staff, and the EMS Offices Association donated meals to Station 49 to honor EMTs and Paramedics. Assistant Deputy Chief Tony Molloy received the Raymond Lim Excellence in EMS Award. The EMS Mural was unveiled at SFFD HQ in May. Section Chief Kevin Chocker retired after nearly 30 years of service. Chief Pang welcomed Christopher Bonn who will replace Chief Chocker. Many members volunteer at the Lifeline Program to help non-English speaking seniors document their medical information. Other community outreach included a community health fair at Fillmore and Turk and an ambulance tour for ZSFGH CEO, Dr. Susan Erlich. Chief Pang reported a notable EMS call using cardioversion for a 59-year-old patient. In Community Paramedicine, Rescue Captain Chelsea Meyers received the Mary Magoscy Excellence in EMS and Disaster Leadership award. Three members were recognized as community paramedics of the year: Rescue Captain Brandon Chatham, Paramedic Jason Freeland, and EMT Paul Hobbs. Chief April Sloan; Paramedic Scott Patterson; EMT Samantha Sabatelli; Rescue Captain Edward Bird; and Paramedic Logan Rasmussen were recognized at the SFPD Crisis

Intervention Team award ceremony for their work at mental health incidents. The 6th Street Triage Center is transitioning to a community-based organization. In May, members worked at the center between 5-8pm and helped people connect to the appropriate care. Neighborhood street teams continued patrolling the 6th street corridor. EMS-6 street overdose and street crisis response teams experienced a 57% decrease in utilization. The Street Crisis Response Team (SCRT) ran 1,433 calls in May. Chief Pang's report is attached: <https://sf-fire.org/media/3685/download?inline>.

Commissioner Nakajo thanked Chief Pang for his report. He appreciated hearing about the EMS awards. Commissioner Nakajo inquired about the SCRT's 1,433 calls and how rescue captains handle APOT. Chief Pang responded that the 1,433 calls were on par, and that rescue captains communicate with a hospital to understand the nature of a delay in order to declare an APOT alert. If patients are willing and members feel it's medically safe, transport to another hospital is possible, which also alleviates delays.

President Fraser thanked Chief Pang for his report, and congratulated Chief Molloy on his award. She inquired about statewide standards for APOT. Chief Pang responded that the state is developing an assessment tool for every agency in order to measure transfer of care consistently. President Fraser appreciated learning about notable calls and congratulated all recipients of the EMS awards.

There was no public comment.

5. RESOLUTION 2025-02 [Discussion and possible action]

Director of Finance, Mark Corso, to present resolution recommending that the Board of Supervisors authorize the San Francisco Fire Department (SFFD) to retroactively approve the amendment of a revenue agreement between the City, acting by and through the Fire Department, and the Presidio Trust for providing fire and emergency services to portions of the Presidio under the Trust's jurisdiction for an additional term of ten years.

Director Corso requested Commission approval for an extension of the Department's agreement with the Presidio Trust. The original agreement was for 10 years, but due to COVID and changeover at the Presidio Trust, it was not completely exercised in 2020 as scheduled. The Department has adhered to all terms and conditions of the original agreement. The Department is reimbursed yearly, and the proposed budget for next year is \$5.9 million. Director Corso recommended approval.

Commissioner Low inquired why the agreement was not exercised in 2020. Director Corso responded that COVID and bandwidth were issues. Commissioner inquired if further extension options should be discussed. Director Corso responded that there are additional options to extend from 2030 to 2035 and will discuss this with the Presidio Trust in the future. Commissioner Low inquired if there were cost escalators or if it was a flat amount. Director Corso responded that there is a 3.5% cost escalator which covers staffing.

Vice President Collins inquired if the Presidio Trust has budget for the \$5.9 million reimbursement. Director Corso responded yes. The Presidio Trust is a self-supporting entity that does not rely on Federal funding for this reimbursement.

Vice President Collins moved to approve the resolution, and Commissioner Low Seconded. President Fraser and Commissioner Nakajo voted in favor of the Motion. The Motion passed.

There was no public comment.

6. RESOLUTION 2025-03 [Discussion and possible action]

Director of Finance, Mark Corso, to present resolution recommending that the Board of Supervisors authorize the San Francisco Fire Department (SFFD) to accept a Federal Fiscal Year 2024 Emergency Operations Center (EOC) grant program award valued at \$637,200 administered through the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) for the Department's new training facility project.

Director Corso requested Commission approval for a FEMA fiscal year 24 Emergency Operations Center grant program handled by Cal OES. This grant supports the development and construction of Emergency Operations Centers. The overall grant is \$37,000, with \$212,400 in general fund match. The agreement goes through April 2027.

Commissioner Low moved to approve the resolution, and Vice President Collins Seconded. President Fraser and Commissioner Nakajo voted in favor of the Motion. The Motion passed.

7. UPDATE ON THE NEIGHBORHOOD EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (NERT) [Discussion]

Gary Pegueros, NERT Advisory Board Chair, and Captain Brandon Tom, NERT Program Coordinator, to provide an update of NERT.

Captain Brandon Tom began as NERT coordinator in 2021, and has been expanding the NERT Program since that time. He introduced the NERT Advisory Board: President Gary Pegueros; Secretary Maxine Fasulis; Lisa Dunmeyer; and Rebecca Liebersbach. Mr. Pegueros spoke about NERT's mission, to do the most good for the most people. Established in 1989 as a result of the Loma Prieta Earthquake, NERT teaches volunteers to prepare their families and immediate neighbors for emergencies by gathering emergency supplies and making a family reunification plan. By 1993, NERT became a registered FEMA compliant program. Ms. Dunmeyer described NERT's free training program. Basic NERT training is six classes which teach low risk disaster skills. A 90-minute workshop teaches personal preparedness. Listos, an eight-hour training in Spanish is also offered. During the 2017 heat wave, NERT volunteers staffed cooling stations. During COVID NERT volunteers helped distribute COVID flyers, and worked at COVID testing sites. NERT's work during the pandemic resulted in 7,600 volunteer hours and over \$120,000 of cost share reimbursements from FEMA. Ms. Fasulis reported that NERT engages the community through tabling events throughout San Francisco. Companies or groups can also request a NERT tabling event. NERT holds 2 city-wide drills in April and October to coincide with the anniversaries of the 1906 Earthquake and

Loma Prieta Earthquake, respectively. Volunteers can practice their skills. NERT holds monthly NERT Day at the Division of Training (DOT) to learn skills not covered in other trainings such as stop the bleed and incident command system training. There are 51 NERT coordinators throughout different neighborhoods in San Francisco. Coordinators meet with NERT volunteers in their neighborhood and help recruit more volunteers. Captain Tom discussed expanding the NERT Program to meet the City's needs. NERT has trained around 40,000 volunteers, but given the current population, NERT needs 50,000 volunteers. Captain Tom is offering two to three classes per month, and has been doing outreach to the Department and community. He hopes to revive programs such as the Medical Reserve Corp and Disaster Corp to attract more to NERT. Captain Tom has been working with the Department of Emergency Management (DEM) and the Department of Public Health (DPH) to give NERT more visibility.

Vice President Collins thanked NERT for their service. She inquired if NERT is collaborating with local non-profit organizations. Captain Tom responded they have held a training at the Mission District YMCA, and plans to hold more trainings in different City districts. He commented that social media outreach can help reach more people. NERT has accounts on Facebook, X, and Instagram. Vice President Collins will help spread the word about NERT.

Commissioner Low commented that outreach to communities like Chinatown would be beneficial. Captain Tom responded that he is working on recruiting bilingual instructors.

Commissioner Nakajo thanked Captain Tom for his group's report, and inquired how many people have signed up for training. Captain Tom responded that there are 30-50 people at each training session. Most people on the waiting list have received training. Commissioner Nakajo inquired if NERT staff are volunteers or Department members, and if there was limitation on member participation. Captain Tom responded that all NERT instructors are Department members or retired Department members. He was not aware of any limitation. Commissioner Nakajo commented that classes in Chinese and Spanish are very important, and suggested creating relationships with retired members. He is inquired if there are NERT counterparts in the Bay Area. Captain Tom responded that NERT is part of the Bay Area Cert Coalition (BACC).

President Fraser thanked Captain Tom for his group's report. She was in favor of reviving the Medical Reserve Corp, and outreach through social media. President Fraser was concerned about the need for more volunteers. She will promote NERT in her own neighborhood.

There was no public comment.

8. ADJOURNMENT

President Fraser adjourned the meeting at 11:11 a.m.