



Sonoma County Fire District Board of Directors
Special Board Agenda/Public Hearing
Tuesday August 29, 2023 2:00 PM
Location: Fire Station 1 - 8200 Old Redwood Hwy. Windsor

The Board meeting agenda and all supporting documents are available for public review at 8200 Old Redwood Highway, Windsor, CA, 24 hours in advance of a scheduled board meeting. Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Board after distribution of the agenda packet, and not otherwise exempt from disclosure, will be made available for public inspection at the District Office at 8200 Old Redwood Hwy, Windsor, during normal business hours and on the website at www.sonomacountyfd.org. Copies of supplemental materials distributed at the Board meeting will be available for public inspection at the meeting location.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, anyone needing special assistance to participate in this meeting should contact District Executive Assistant Kathy Washington at the District Office at 707-838-1170. Notification 48-hours before the meeting will enable the District to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

President Tognozzi

Vice President Treanor

Director Briare

Secretary/Treasurer So

Director Hamann

Director Klick

Director Weaver

OPEN TIME FOR PUBLIC EXPRESSION

(Three-minute time limit)

This is an opportunity for any member of the public to briefly address the District Board on any matter that does not appear on this agenda. Items that appear to warrant a lengthier presentation or Board consideration may be placed on the agenda for discussion at a future meeting.

AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS

An opportunity for the Board President to approve adjustments to the current agenda.

SONOMA COUNTY PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S REPORT

An opportunity for the President of the Sonoma County Professional Firefighters Association to address the Board on matters of the Association.

DIRECTOR REPORTS

An opportunity for Directors to report on their individual activities related to District business.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Heine will report on District administration and operations.



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Location: Fire Station 1 - 8200 Old Redwood Hwy. Windsor

ACTION ITEMS

Public Hearing: The Board will conduct a public hearing to consider adoption of a Resolution determining the tax rates to be imposed on properties within the District during Fiscal Year 2023/2024.

1. **RESOLUTION 2023-16 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SONOMA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT, COUNTY OF SONOMA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, DETERMINING THE TAX RATES TO BE IMPOSED ON ALL REAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE DISTRICT DURING FISCAL YEAR 2023/2024.**

The Board shall open the item for public hearing and take action upon close of the public comments. The Board will consider approving Resolution 2023-16, determining the tax rates to be imposed on all real property within the District FY 2023/2024.

2. **APPROVAL OF CONTRACT BETWEEN THE SONOMA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT AND THE COUNTY OF SONOMA FOR EMERGENCY GROUND AMBULANCE SERVICE IN EOA-1**

The Board will consider approving a contract to provide emergency ambulance service to the County of Sonoma in Exclusive Operating Area 1.

3. **APPROVAL OF OUT OF STATE TRAVEL FOR FIRE CHIEF**

The Board will consider approving out of state travel for Fire Chief Mark Heine to serve as the CalChiefs representative to the Western Fire Chiefs Association meeting September 17-24.

ADJOURNMENT



Sonoma County Fire District Board of Directors
Staff Report

Date: August 29, 2023

Topic: 2023-2024 Special Tax Rates

Recommendation:

1. Recommend that the Board directs staff to adjust the assessment on properties with a Calamity determination to the assessment equivalent to a vacant land assessment.
2. Recommend that the Board adopts Resolution # 2023-16 to set the tax rates to be imposed on all real property within the District during Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

Financial Impact:

If the Board approves the rates, the special tax assessments are expected to generate \$8,424,688.78 in revenue for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Background:

The District annually sets the tax rates for the District's special taxes. The special taxes are necessary for the proper operation of the District's business and for the provisions of fire protection services, fire prevention, emergency medical services and capital improvements.

The Board of Directors has been granting a vacant land assessment rate for parcels that are designated "Calamity" since the 2019-2020 assessment year. The historical count of Calamity parcels is as follows:

2019-2020 FY	18,230 Parcels
2020-2021 FY	25,119 Parcels
2021-2022 FY	1,206 Parcels
2022-2023 FY	894 Parcels
2023-2024 FY	567 Parcels

The inflation adjustment for the 2023-2024 fiscal year is 7.55%.

There are 30,824 taxable parcels in the District for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

The proposed tax assessments for each parcel have been made available on the District's website at www.sonomacountyfd.org for the Board of Director's and the public's review.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SONOMA COUNTY
FIRE DISTRICT, COUNTY OF SONOMA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA,
DETERMINING THE TAX RATES TO BE IMPOSED ON ALL REAL PROPERTY
WITHIN THE DISTRICT DURING FISCAL YEAR 2023/2024**

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 3540 R of the County of Sonoma, authorizing the Board of Directors of the Windsor Fire Protection District to levy a special tax each year on each parcel of real property within the boundaries of the District, was approved by the voters of the Windsor Fire Protection District in an election held on June 3, 1986; and

WHEREAS, the special tax approved in Ordinance No. 3540 R may be levied at a maximum rate of \$45.00 per unit of benefit on each parcel within the boundaries of the District, applied to the maximum number of units of benefit permitted by Ordinance No. 3540 R; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 2006-1 of the Windsor Fire Protection District, authorizing the District to levy an additional special tax, was approved by the voters of the Windsor Fire Protection District in an election held on November 7, 2006; and

WHEREAS, the special tax approved in Ordinance No. 2006-1 may be levied at a maximum rate, subject to adjustment for inflation, of \$0.04 to \$0.09 per square foot, depending on the parcel use, and/or a flat rate charge of \$36.00 for each mobile-home space or each vacant parcel; and

WHEREAS, on April 4, 2019, the Windsor Fire Protection District, the Rincon Valley Fire Protection District, the Bennett Valley Fire Protection District, and the Mountain Volunteer Fire Department were reorganized by approval of the Sonoma County Local Area Formation Commission into the Sonoma County Fire District, including extension of the special taxes approved in Ordinance No. 3540 R and Ordinance No. 2006-1 to all parcels of real property within the boundaries of the Sonoma County Fire District; and

WHEREAS, on June 15, 2020, the Sonoma County Fire District was reorganized again to include the consolidation of the Russian River Fire Protection District by approval of the Sonoma County Local Area Formation Commission, including extension of the special taxes approved in Ordinance No. 3540 R and Ordinance No. 2006-1 to all parcels of real property within the boundaries of the reorganized Sonoma County Fire District; and

WHEREAS, on May 12, 2021, the Sonoma County Fire District was reorganized again to include the consolidation of the Forestville Fire Protection District by approval of the Sonoma County Local Area Formation Commission, including extension of the special taxes approved in Ordinance No. 3540 R and Ordinance No. 2006-1 to all parcels of real property within the boundaries of the reorganized Sonoma County Fire District; and

WHEREAS, on May 11, 2022, the Sonoma County Fire District was reorganized again to include the consolidation of the Bodega Bay Fire Protection District by approval of the Sonoma County Local Area Formation Commission, including extension of the special taxes approved in Ordinance No. 3540 R and Ordinance No. 2006-1 to all parcels of real property within the boundaries of the reorganized Sonoma County Fire District; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 2006-1 permits the special tax to be adjusted annually for inflation by an amount equal to the annual adjustment factor determined pursuant to Section 7902 of the California Government Code which was 7.55 % for FY2022-2023, thus establishing new limits for Ordinance 2006-1 as shown in the following table:

2023-24 Rates

Use Code Description	Rate Per APN	Rate Per Space	Charge Base	Cap/Max Limit
Mobile Home Space	N/A	\$64.84	FLAT	N/A
Vacant Land	\$64.84	N/A	FLAT	N/A
Single Family Residential	\$0.0720	N/A	SQFT	\$540
Multi-Family Residential	\$0.0720	N/A	SQFT	\$27,015
Hotel/Motel/Lodging	\$0.0900	N/A	SQFT	\$27,015
Commercial/Light Industrial	\$0.0900	N/A	SQFT	\$5,403
Warehouse	\$0.1081	N/A	SQFT	\$5,403
Heavy Industrial	\$0.1621	N/A	SQFT	\$5,403

WHEREAS, provisions of Ordinance No. 3540 R and Ordinance No. 2006-1 require the Board of Directors of the District hold a public hearing each year to set the amount of each special tax, prior to imposition of the special tax; and is required to establish annually a public hearing date to consider and determine the amount of the special tax to be levied; and

WHEREAS, a duly noticed public hearing on this matter was held by the Board of Directors of the District on August 29, 2023; and

WHEREAS, after due consideration, it is the opinion of the Board of Directors of the District that said taxes are necessary for the proper operation of the District’s business and for the provisions of fire protection services, fire prevention , emergency medical services and capital improvements; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Sonoma County Fire District hereby adopts the rates of special taxes for Fiscal Year 2023/2024 and directs the administrative staff to notify the Sonoma County Tax Collector of the rates as adopted and request the same be collected as provided in Ordinance No. 3540 R and Ordinance No. 2006-1.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION was introduced at a special meeting of the District Board of Directors on August 29, 2023, by Director _____, who moved its adoption, seconded by Directors _____, and ordered adopted by the following vote:

President Tognozzi ____, Vice President Treanor ____, Director Briare ____,

Director Hamann ____, Director Klick ____, Director So ____, Director Weaver _____

WHEREUPON the Board President declared the foregoing Resolution adopted; and

SO ORDERED.

ATTEST:

Kathy Washington, Secretary of the Board



Sonoma County Fire District Board of Directors
Staff Report

Date: August 29, 2023

Topic: Approval of out of state travel for the Fire Chief

Recommendation:

Approve out of state travel for Chief Heine to attend the Western Fire Chiefs Association President's Forum meeting in Anchorage, Alaska, in his capacity as CalChiefs President-Elect.

Financial Impact:

Airport parking:	160.00
Rental Car:	791.59
Hotel:	447.27
Total:	\$1,398.86

*Flight funds provided by CalChiefs.

Background:

Policy 1200.3 requires approval by the Board of Directors for the Fire Chief's travel outside of the State of California.

The Western Fire Chiefs President's Forum is an annual conference bringing together the Executive leadership of each western state's fire chiefs associations.

Attachments:

1. Agenda for Western Fire Chiefs Association President's Forum.

Monday, September 18

Breakfast on your own

9:00 am **WFOA Board Meeting**
Endeavor Room, Hotel Captain Cook

12:00 pm **Lunch**
Fore Deck, Hotel Captain Cook

1:00 pm **Welcome & Introductions**
*Mark Niemeyer WFOA President and Fire Chief Boise Fire Department
& Doug Schrage, WFOA International Director and Fire Chief Anchorage Fire
Department*

1:15 pm **History of Alaska**
Doug Schrage, WFOA International Director & Anchorage Fire Chief

1:30 pm **Presentation of WFOA Strategic Direction & Financials**
*Jeff Johnson, WFOA Executive Director
& Dave Van Ballegooijen, WFOA Chief Operating Officer*

1:45 pm **How to Help Finance Your Fire Department with F.I.R.E.**
Moderated by Jeff Buchanan, WFOA Senior Operations Advisor

3:45 pm **Technology Break**

4:00 pm **Surviving Stormy Waters - A Discussion on Resilience, Courage, and a
Navigation Beacon Always Pointed to the North Star of the Mission**
Mark Niemeyer WFOA President and Fire Chief Boise Fire Department

6:00 pm **Dinner**
*Forty Ninth State Brewing
717 W 3rd Ave, Anchorage, AK 99501*

Tuesday, September 19

Breakfast	7:30 am
<i>Fore Deck, Hotel Captain Cook</i>	
IAFC Update	8:30 am
<i>Chief John Butler, IAFC President and Fire Chief Fairfax County Fire Department</i>	
Wildfire Commission Panel Discussion	8:45 am
<i>Mariana Ruiz-Temple, Oregon State Fire Marshal; Michael Morgan, Director Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control; Mike Zupko, Executive Director Wildland Fire Leadership Council & Bob Roper, WFCAs Senior Policy Advisor</i>	
Technology Break	9:45 am
Regional Approach to Mass Casualty, Victim Tracking, & Reunification	10:00 am
<i>Andrea Glass, Assistant Chief Tempe Fire Rescue Medical Department & Joe Meier, Deputy Chief Phoenix Fire Department</i>	
The Advantage of Analytics: How Darkhouse Emergency Has Advanced Regionalization in Pierce County, Washington	11:00 am
<i>Daniel Haight, President Darkhorse Analytics & Dustin Morrow, Fire Chief Central Pierce Fire Department</i>	
Lunch on your own	12:00 pm
Travel to Alyeska Resort, Girdwood	1:30 pm
<i>Afternoon Options & Dinner</i>	

Wednesday, September 20

Breakfast	7:30 am
<i>Fore Deck, Hotel Captain Cook</i>	
Firstnet Built with AT&T	8:30 am
<i>Ryan Burchnell, Director Strategy & Development AT&T - FirstNet & Public Safety</i>	
Leadership Development: Learning From the Present, Preparing for the Future	8:45 am
<i>Bob Horton, WFCAs Deputy Director & Kate Kapalo, WFCAs Senior Research Scientist</i>	
Technology Break	9:45 am
Diffusion of Innovation: Sharing Best Practices in State Legislation	10:00 am
<i>Moderated by Charlie Butterfield, Chair of WFCAs Legislative Committee & Deputy Chief Meridian Fire Department</i>	
President's Award	11:45 am
<i>Mark Niemeyer, WFCAs President and Fire Chief Boise Fire Department</i>	
Forum Concludes	12:00 pm