

**AGENDA**  
**SAN RAFAEL FIRE COMMISSION**

**Wednesday, April 10, 2024 @ 4:00 P.M.**  
**Public Safety Center, Lobby Conference Room**  
**1375 5<sup>th</sup> Ave, San Rafael, CA 94901**

Watch on Zoom: <https://cityofsanrafael-org.zoom.us/j/83441506482>

Webinar ID: 834 4150 6482

Listen by phone: +1 669 900 9128

*Members of the Public May Speak on Agenda Items*

**1. Open Time for Public Expression**

The public is welcome to address the Fire Commission at this time on matters not on the agenda that are within its jurisdiction. Please be advised that pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2, the Fire Commission is not permitted to discuss or take action on any matter not on the agenda unless it determines that an emergency exists, or that there is a need to take immediate action which arose following posting of the agenda. Comments may be no longer than two minutes and should be respectful to the community.

**2. Approval of Minutes – March 13, 2024**

*Recommended Action: Amend and or approve as submitted.*

**3. Fire Foundation – Verbal Update from Commissioner Donna McCusker**

*Recommended Action: Accept Verbal Report and take appropriate action.*

**4. Current Media Coverage**

*Hotshot, March 22 Edition – SRFD*

*Fireproofing no help for some policyholder – Bay Area News Group*

*California insurers are dropping homes due to ‘density’ – San Francisco Chronicle*

*SF Weights Ban on Harmful Chemicals - San Francisco Chronicle*

**5. Chair and Commission Member Reports:**

-  Stan Burford– Chair
-  David Fonkalsrud- Vice Chair
-  Ken Johnson
-  Thomas Weathers
-  Donna McCusker
-  John Chung
-  Brian Waterbury

*Informational only. No action to be taken on these items.*

**6. Fire Chief Report**

*Informational only. No action to be taken.*

Any records relating to an agenda item, received by a majority or more of the board or commission less than 72 hours before the meeting, shall be available for inspection at San Rafael Fire Department’s Administrative Office, 1375 Fifth Avenue, San Rafael, CA. Sign Language interpreters and assistive listening devices may be requested by calling (415) 485-3066 (voice), emailing [Lindsay.lara@cityofsanrafael.org](mailto:Lindsay.lara@cityofsanrafael.org) or using the California Telecommunications Relay Service by dialing “711”, at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Copies of documents are available in accessible formats upon request. Public transportation is available through Golden Gate Transit, Line 22 or 23. Paratransit is available by calling Whistlestop. Wheels at (415) 454-0964. To allow individuals with environmental illness or multiple chemical sensitivity to attend the meeting/hearing, individuals are requested to refrain from wearing scented products.

**CITY OF SAN RAFAEL**

**FIRE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

March 13, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

In person meeting at 1375 Fifth Ave, San Rafael, CA 94901

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Chair Burford

Present:

Chair Stan Burford  
Commissioner Donna McCusker  
Commissioner Ken Johnson  
Commissioner Dave Fonkalsrud  
Captain Kleinschmidt  
Chief Sinnott  
Battalion Chief Bernard  
Thomas Wong

Members of the Public: Larry Luckham

1. Open Time for Public Expression

No public Comment

2. Approval of Minutes – February 14, 2024

Commissioner Fonkalsrud makes a motion to approve the draft minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Johnson.

The minutes are adopted unanimously.

3. SRFD 150th Anniversary – Historical Items & Preparations

Discussions about organizing an event celebrating the milestone anniversary.

Chief Sinnott confirms that the Fire Department has several historical items and vehicles available to display for this occasion.

Commissioners Chung and Johnson are creating a sub-committee to organize the event.

4. Fire Foundation – Verbal Update from Commissioner McCusker and Discussion Regarding the Fire Scholarship

Captain Kleinschmidt presents the scholarship program. The Program was created to support the Fire Department recruiting process, and to offer equals opportunity to all high school students in San Rafael.

Last year, the program helped support three students in their future college tuition in the Public Safety field with \$6,000.

Commissioner Donna McCusker asks to follow up with those students' careers.

#### 5. Current Media Coverage

*Helicopter drone is made to drop bombs – News Atlas*

Member of the public Larry Luckham presents the article.

Discussion about the use of drones.

#### 6. Chair and Commission Member Reports:

- Stan Burford– Chair: No report.
- David Fonkalsrud- Vice Chair: No report.
- Ken Johnson: No report.
- Donna McCusker: brought Photographs given by Retired Chief Pete Martin, from Marin County Fire. The vintage archives go back to the 1920's. It will be kept at the Fire Department.  
No report from the Foundation.

#### 7. Fire Chief Report

The Fire Foundation is looking for new members. It is Advertising in Hotshot News.

Three new recruits joined the Operation staff, they are currently going through training at the Academy of Fire since March 8<sup>th</sup>.

- Staff Update:

Two new cadets are starting their internship program at the end of March.

The Fire Captain promotional process has started.

The recruitment of four or five Fire Prevention Inspectors has started.

- Operations Division Incidents:

Three similar laundry room fires have happened within a week in the Canal District. Police are investigating. It is an important concern.

- The Explorer Program is getting a lot of interest in the young community.

- The Response Data shows an increase in the Call Volume.

Commissioner McCusker wishes the Response Data, as well as the Hot Shot News reached a larger public, as it is educational.

8. Questions from the public

- Commissioner Chung asks Commissioner Johnson to report about Homeowner Fire Insurance in Marin, since it became outstanding.

Meeting adjourned at 5:09 PM

DRAFT