



PAJARO VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
562 CASSERLY RD, WATSONVILLE, CA (831)722-6188

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
of the**

PAJARO VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

On

Thursday, September 25, 2025

Pajaro Valley Fire Station

562 Casserly Rd, Watsonville, CA 95076

1.0 Call to Order -

1.1 Call Meeting to Order - Roll Call – Chair David Martone calls regular meeting to order 05:00

Present:

**Board: Chair David Martone; Vice Chair Ashley Moules; Director Jake Dellamonica;
Director Robert Erbe; Director John Sampson**

Excused Absence:

Staff: BC Mike Urbani, UC Jed Wilson, DC James Allen

2.0 Agenda Amendments

2.1 Additions to Agenda - NONE

2.0 Public Comments

- Alex Miller, Aptos Resident
 - Concern of Santa Cruz County and the Battery Permit storage process. Does not believe that the proposed 420 ft setback is adequate depending on building size. Provide examples of a similar battery fire that happened earlier this month in Parkfield. This is considered a successful example of adequate storage of battery containers along with the evacuation procedures of the nearby community which has a low population. The proportion of the storage should match the size of the building. Advocates for predictable proportion safety buffers.
- Becky Steinbruner, Aptos Resident
 - The SCC Board of Supervisors is reviewing the proposal by Justin Cummings for battery energy. The district should not have its ordinance influenced from the California Energy Commission, The PVFD should adopt or form an AD HOC committee to create a more restrictive battery energy code specific to local jurisdiction. Becky has provided examples for the board & staff.

3.0 Consent Agenda

Matters listed under the Consent Agenda will be acted upon by one motion affirming the action recommended. There will be no separate discussion on items unless members of the Board or Staff request the removal of an item for separate action.

3.1 Minutes – Approval of the minutes from the Regular Board meeting on August 20, 2025

3.2 Claims Disbursement – Expenditure report, Vendor & Deposit summary, Year to Date Financial Report and American Express Statement

Motion: Dir. Jake Dellamonica

Second: Dir. Robert Erbe

All in favor: All



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3.2

Aye – Chairperson David Martone; Vice Chair Ashley Moules; Dir. John Sampson; Dir. Robert Erbe; Dir. Jake Dellamonica.

Nay – N/A

Absences – N/A

Abstain - N/A

4.0 Presentations

4.1 Pajaro Valley Chief's Report & Run Report for August

BC Urbani provides a report on two recent fires in PVFPD's Response area and an update on the Aug. 30th plane crash with two injuries near the Watsonville airport with cooperating agency Watsonville Fire

New FAE anticipated for October 2025

PVFPD won a special ribbon for Patch display at the Santa Cruz County Fair
Engine 4510 was displayed at the SCC Fair as well

4.2 Watsonville Run Report

No Discussion

5.0 Committee Reports

5.1 Strategic Planning Committee – *No Discussion*

5.2 Finance Committee – *No Discussion*

5.3 Audit Committee – *No Discussion*

5.4 LAFCO Ad HOC Committee – Chair Martone & Director Dellamonica

- The committee has met with LAFCO & Mr. Serrano. The dissolution is continuing on the anticipated schedule. Dir. Dellamonica had multiple meetings with SCI, Prop 18. A decision is not ready to be made at this time per Chair Martone. The committee requires further time for decision.

Public Comment

- o Becky – LAFCO agreed to waive \$8,000 fee. Clarification on the reasoning or necessity for the fee.

6.0 Continuing Business

6.1 Pajaro Valley FPD & Watsonville City FD Contract Update

The Board receives an update from staff on the status of the Pajaro Valley FPD and Watsonville City FD Contract.

Recommended Action: Discuss and give any directions to staff if needed.

UC Jed Wilson – The contract was discussed with Chief Schaefer, they are looking at the contract which was received, and further review is pending. There is no specific timeline for when a discussion will be had with the committee.

Dir. Jake Dellamonica – Extension of the timeline only further drags out issues in another FISCAL quarter. He asks staff to push forward a meeting to expedite the process of contract discussions. Chief Wilson agrees.



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7.0 New Business

7.1 Resolution 2025-10 Final Budget Fiscal Year 2025/2026

Board to review the final budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026

- *Staff Report Presented to the Board*
- *Board clarifying questions for staff*
- *PUBLIC HEARING – Board Chair opens public hearing for public comment*
- *Board Chair closes public hearing*
- *Board Discussion and deliberation*
- *Board vote on resolution*

7 Total Fire staff in budget

*Food Training & Lodging budget has been increased to meet newer demands
Special District expenses are increasing to improve the boardroom.*

Contingencies are funded to \$100,000

*Added funds for PPE, Clothing, Small Tools & Replacement for equipment of PVFD Vehicles
Building & Improvements funds increased by \$200,000*

The funds for septic repair are in the operating budget

Dir. Dellamonica asks if insurance will cover the septic repair, BC Urbani states that this is still pending verification.

*BC Urbani presents the FY 25-26 Proposed Budget spreadsheet with a breakdown of expenditures.
Costs are based on the initial purchase price for vehicle budget.*

Predicted \$479,000 Remaining in the Mobile Equipment Budget.

Dir. Dellamonica – Explains the additional interest funding to the board.

BC Urbani encourages the use of Interest and maintaining a healthy balance in keeping a healthy profit across FYs.

BC Urbani provides an update on the website and the recent additions to promote engagement with the community. Schedule and meeting agendas are provided through the website.

Public Question

Becky Steinbruner: Where are the Prop 21 funds found? Answer - Professional services, \$50,000

Recommended Action: Adopt by motion Resolution 2025-10 Final Budget Fiscal Year 2025/2026.

Motion: Dir. John Sampson

Second: Vice Chair Ashley Moules

All in favor: All



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7.1

Aye – Chairperson David Martone; Vice Chair Ashley Moules; Dir. John Sampson; Dir. Robert Erbe; Dir. Jake Dellamonica.

Nay – N/A

Absences – N/A

Abstain – N/A

7.2

Resolution 2025-11 Prop 4 Appropriation Limits

Board to review Prop 4 Appropriation limits Resolutions 2025-11.

Recommended Action: Adopt by motion Resolution 2025-11 Prop 4 Appropriation Limits.

\$8,354,112 is the cap for funds that can be spent by PVFD.

Motion: Dir. Jake Dellamonica

Second: Dir. Robert Erbe

All in favor: All

Aye – Chairperson David Martone; Vice Chair Ashley Moules; Dir. John Sampson; Dir. Robert Erbe; Dir. Jake Dellamonica.

Nay – N/A

Absences – N/A

Abstain – N/A

7.3

Review and discuss application for California Special District Association

Board to receive report from Director Martone about membership with the California Special Districts Association and discuss potential future membership.

Recommended Action: Discussion only

Chair Martone has attended multiple meetings of this association, he recommends that the board has future membership if funding allows. Currently the funding is not there for participation.

Dir. Jake Dellamonica asks if grant money is available

Chair Martone will ask but is unsure if grant money is available.

A new chapter has been created in Santa Cruz, Monterey Counties with Special Districts

Dir. Dellamonica: Is it beneficial to the district?

Chair Martone: It is useful, but it would require funds that are not currently available.

Proposed bringing to the agenda for the next scheduled meeting, Dellamonica seconds that it is beneficial for the district.

Public Comment

Becky Steinbruner: Soquel Creek Water district puts on free Board training and encourages the board to look into the participation in said trainings. Discussion is often brought up regarding reports for Special Districts.



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8.0 Correspondence

None

9.0 Agenda items for the next meeting

- Cleanup on the Slough
- Opening of Murphy Crossing & Green Valley Road
 - o Chair Martone: Recommends reaching out to get a cleanup with the engine utilized as a safety barricade

Public Comment

Becky Steinbruner: Asks if the board would consider adding restrictive policies to the Fire Code for Battery Energy Codes to the agenda for the next meeting.

10.0 Adjournment

Motion: Dir. Jake Dellamonica

Second: Dir. Robert Erbe

All in favor: All

Time: 5:42

Aye – Chairperson David Martone; Vice Chair Ashley Moules; Dir. John Sampson; Dir. Robert Erbe; Dir. Jake Dellamonica.

Nay – N/A

Absences – N/A

Abstain - N/A

This is to certify that for foregoing is a true copy of the discussions during the Pajaro Valley Fire Protection District Regular Board of Directors meeting, held on September 25th, 2025

Attest:

October 21, 2025

A blue ink signature of Mike Urbani, consisting of a stylized, horizontal line with a small loop at the end.

**Mike Urbani
Board Secretary**

A blue ink signature of Dave Martone, featuring a large, stylized 'D' followed by a horizontal line and a small flourish.

**Dave Martone
Board Chair**