



Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District
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STAFF REPORT

TO: President Bernardi and Members of the Board

FROM: Christopher J. Diaz, District Counsel

SUBJECT: Approval of Interim Fire Chief Employment Agreement and Appointment of Interim Fire Chief

DATE: April 8, 2021

RECOMMENDATION

As the Board of Directors are aware, the Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District (the "District") will be without a Fire Chief as of April 7, 2021 due to the pending retirement of our outgoing Fire Chief Michael Whorton. In order to ensure the District has a Fire Chief to manage the District while the Board contemplates the recruitment process for a permanent Fire Chief, staff is recommending that the Board approve an employment agreement for an Interim Fire Chief and formally appoint Interim Fire Chief Eric Holly to the position.

BACKGROUND

On March 23, 2021, Fire Chief Michael Whorton formally announced his retirement from the District. In order to ensure continued operations of the District, staff is recommending that the Board approve an employment agreement for an Interim Fire Chief and formally appoint Interim Fire Chief Eric Holly to the position while the Board contemplates the recruitment process for a permanent Fire Chief.

DISCUSSION

As noted in the interim employment agreement, the following terms have been agreed to between the District and Mr. Holly:

- *Salary:* Fire Chief Step "A" at \$11,303.70 per month.
- *Term:* The term is for a limited duration of six months or until October 8, 2021.
- *Benefits:* The Interim Fire Chief will not receive medical or dental benefits, but will receive leave benefits as noted in the agreement, including vacation, holidays, and sick leave.
- *Hours of Work:* The Interim Fire Chief shall generally devote all of his working time to the District and be available from roughly 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- *At-Will Employment:* The Interim Fire Chief shall serve the District as an at-will employee.
- *Uniform Allowance/Other Reimbursable Expenses:* The Interim Fire Chief will be eligible for \$500 in a uniform allowance for the limited duration of the interim arrangement.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Interim Fire Chief employment agreement and appointment of an Interim Fire Chief will ensure the District continues to function in light of the retirement of the District's current Fire Chief. Staff is recommending approval of the employment agreement and appointment of Mr. Holly to the position.