

# Rancho Adobe Fire Protection District

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**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
JANUARY 21, 2026 — 7:00 P.M.  
COTATI FIRE STATION - #1 EAST COTATI AVE.  
COTATI, CALIFORNIA**

**I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Bob Moretti, called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The agenda for this meeting was posted on January 15, 2025.

Directors Present: Mark Hemmendinger, Bob Moretti, Michael Gadoua, Bret Herman, Ray Peterson, Pete Albini

Directors Absent: Brian Proteau

Minutes Conducted by: Jennifer Bechtold

**II. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

A. Citizen Business/Public Comments on Items not appearing on Agenda

There was no public comment.

B. Correspondence and/or Presentations

Community letters were included in board packets thanking the district for their support with the toy drive and assistance with a home insurance renewal.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Regular Board Meeting of December 17, 2025

Motion moved by Mr. Hemmendinger to approve the minutes of December 17, 2025 and seconded by Mr. Herman.

Motion Carried: Aye   6   No   0   Abstain   0   Absent   1  

**IV. CONSENT CALENDAR**

A. Ratification of Checks Issued

Motion moved by Mr. Hemmendinger to approve the consent calendar and seconded by Mr. Herman.

Motion Carried: Aye   5   No   0   Abstain   1   (Mr. Albini) Absent   1

V. **ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS**

A. **Firefighter's Union Report**

Firefighter Kyle Fairbanks said the Union is looking forward to a discussion about retirement benefits.

B. **Firefighters' Association Report**

Crab feed will be held on February 7. The Association purchased a new ice machine for the District.

C. **Chief's Report**

Chief Veliquette reported the following information:

- 1.) District Activities: Toy drive, development review meetings with City of Cotati, fire prevention shared services program development, active attacker training drill at SSU, individual consolidation projects and committees.
- 2.) Calls for Service: 289 calls for service in December, including 26 to SSU. Total calls for service in 2025: 2939. Total SSU calls for service in 2025: 376.
- 3.) Operational Update: Officer development for Captains and three engineers in their training program.

D. **Director Reports**

There were no reports.

E. **Committee Reports**

a. **Finance/Budget**

Mr. Hemmendinger commented the budget is on target, with overtime slightly high due to strike teams.

b. **Ad Hoc Consolidation**

Chief Veliquette said current action plan includes staff continuing to work on incident accident plan, cross-training plan developed, shared personnel and labor-management meetings regularly. Next steps include LAFCO adoption of application on March 3. Protest period to follow.

Mr. Hemmendinger clarified the upcoming LAFCO process.

VI. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Discussion and Review of FY 2024/2025 Financial Audit**

John Blomberg presented the FY 24/25 audit report. He noted the largest difference from prior year is the addition of Measure H revenues.

Motion moved by Mr. Herman to approve the FY 2024/2025 Financial Audit and seconded by Mr. Albini.

Motion Carried: Aye   6   No   0   Abstain   0   Absent   1  

B. **Discussion on Resolution R-6 50-Year Lease for the Cotati Fire Station**

Chief Veliquette reviewed the basic provisions of the lease extension, noting this lease would run through 2079.

*New Business Continued:*

Motion moved by Mr. Herman to approve Resolution R-6 50-Year Lease for the Cotati Fire Station and seconded by Mr. Albini.

Motion Carried: Aye   6   No   0   Abstain   0   Absent   1  

Roll Call:

Mr. Proteau – absent

Mr. Albini – aye

Mr. Peterson – aye

Mr. Gadoua – aye

Mr. Moretti – aye

Mr. Hemmendinger – aye

Mr. Herman – aye

C. Consideration of Employment Agreement between the District and the Fire Chief for December 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026

There was no discussion.

Motion moved by Mr. Peterson to approve the Fire Chief's Employment Agreement and seconded by Mr. Hemmendinger.

Motion Carried: Aye   6   No   0   Abstain   0   Absent   1  

**VII. DIRECTION ON FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**\*Redcom amended agreement for dispatch services**

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, the Regular Board meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Motion moved by Mr. Herman and seconded by Mr. Albini.

Motion Carried: Aye   6   No   0   Abstain   0   Absent   1  

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Jennifer Bechtold, Board Clerk

Date Approved by Board: February 18, 2026