

VISTA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Board of Directors

AGENDA

Meeting Location

“Smart Space” Office Center
450 South Melrose Drive
Vista, CA 92081



Special Meeting

Friday, April 10 2026
11:30 A.M.

BUSINESS SESSION – AGENDA

Americans with Disabilities Act: If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Board Clerk 760-688-7588. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the district staff to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to the meeting.

Rules for Addressing Board of Directors: Members of the audience who wish to address the Board of Directors are requested to complete a form near the entrance of the meeting room and submit it to the Board Clerk. Any person may address the Board on any item of Board business or Board concern. The Board cannot act on any matter presented during Public Comment but can refer it to staff for review and discussion at a future meeting. As permitted by State Law, the Board may act on matters of an urgent nature, or which require immediate attention.

Agendas: Agenda packets are available for public inspection 72 hours prior to scheduled meetings posted on the District’s website www.vistafireprotectiondistrict.org or by contacting the Clerk of the Board at krannals@vistafpd.org

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

ORAL COMMUNICATION (PUBLIC COMMENT)

The Board invites District residents and others in attendance to address the Board on any matter of public concern related to the District’s business.

DISTRICT BUSINESS

1. Board Vacancy

To discuss and/or provide direction for the selection process to appoint (or elect) a successor for the board vacancy created by the resignation of Robert Fougner to Vista Fire Protection District Division B. [Staff Report 26-04](#)

ACTION REQUESTED: Select appointment process and set special meeting date for interviews and selection.

2. Workforce Development Update

Staff will provide an update on the status of the program, its timeline, the recruitment of a Superintendent, students, and the funding status of the program. [Staff Report 26-05](#)

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve a cost sharing commitment for the workforce development grant program with the City of Vista that funds intern stipends for the Vegetation Management and Fire/EMS Career Pathway Training Program.

CLOSED SESSION

1. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS

Pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54956.8

Property: 1962 E. Vista Way, Vista, CA

Agency Negotiator: District Administrative Manager and District Counsel

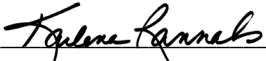
Negotiating Parties: Vista Fire Protection District and City of Vista

Under Negotiation: Price and terms.

ADJOURNMENT

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING

I, Karlena Rannals, Board Clerk for Vista Fire Protection District, certify that on April 9, 2026 a copy of the foregoing agenda was posted on the District's website and near the meeting place of the Board of Directors of Vista Fire Protection District, said time being at least 24 hours in advance of the Board of Directors meeting (Government Code Section 54954.2).



Karlena Rannals
Board Clerk

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: KARLENA RANNALS, ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER
SUBJECT: BOARD VACANCY – DIVISION B
DATE: April 9, 2026



RECOMMENDATION

A recommendation will not be provided by staff, as this discussion must be held at the board level.

BACKGROUND

Director Fougner recently submitted his resignation effective April 8, 2026 as a Director for Division B. In accordance with the California Government Code §1780, the remaining board members will need to undertake specific steps to address this vacancy.

Key Requirements per California Government Code §1780

1. The District must notify the county elections official of the vacancy no later than 15 days following either the date on which the district board is notified of the vacancy or the effective date of the vacancy, whichever is later.
2. Appointment or Special Election

The board has the discretion to appoint a qualified individual to fill the seat or to call a special election, depending on time constraints, budgetary considerations, and the urgency of filling the role.

If the Board of Directors chooses to appoint a qualified resident of the district for the vacancy, the following steps are necessary:

1. Appointment shall be made within a period of 60 days immediately subsequent to either the date on which the District Board is notified of the vacancy or the effective date of the vacancy, whichever is later. In this case June 7, 2026.
2. A notice of the vacancy shall be posted in three or more conspicuous places in the district at least 15 days before the appointment is made.
3. Establish criteria and guidelines for selecting a new board member, ensuring alignment with the district's needs and values.
4. Appointment must be made at a public meeting.
5. The district shall notify the county elections official of the appointment no later than 15 days after the appointment.

If the Board of Directors choose to call for a special election for the vacancy, the following steps are necessary:

1. The election called shall be held on the next established election date provided in Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 1000) of Division 1 of the Elections Code that is 130 or more days after the date the district board calls the election.

2. The person elected to fill the vacancy shall fill the balance of the unexpired term. The Board member, if elected, will serve until November 2028, at which time the individual may run for a full four-year term if they reside Division B.
3. The District will be required to pay for a special election for the estimated 2,929 registered voters. The estimate provided by the Registrar of Voters office for the County of San Diego is \$150,000 - \$275,000. The Registrar of Voters reports that the lower range is for an all-mail election, and the higher range is for the vote center model. All election materials will be translated into the federal mandated languages, (Spanish, Vietnamese, Chines and Filipino).

I have attached a **DRAFT** Notice of Vacancy for your consideration. Please review and provide the necessary information and/or changes so that the announcement can be posted no later than April 23, 2026.

NOTICE OF VACANCY

Vista Fire Protection District
Board of Directors

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to §1780 of the Government Code of the State of California that a vacancy exists on the governing board of the Vista Fire Protection District, as of April 8, 2026.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the vacancy in said office may be filled by the remaining District Board members by appointment.

Said remaining Board members may make an appointment to fill said vacancy at a public meeting no later than June 7, 2026, or call for a special election.

This office, to which an appointment may be made and for which such vacancy exists, will expire on the commencement of the term of the person elected to said office at the next General Election to be held in November 2026.

The successful appointee is requested to submit nomination papers with the County of San Diego Registrar of Voters for election to the Vista Fire Protection District Board of Directors before the filling deadline for the next general election.

If you are interested in serving as a board member, please submit your resume and a letter of interest that includes that you meet the following qualifications:

1. Age 18, or over;
2. Reside within the boundaries of the fire protection district; and
3. A registered voter of the fire protection district.

All interested applicants must submit the requested materials to Karlena Rannals, Board Clerk @ info@vistafpd.org by (DATE TBD) 5pm. *The Board of Directors has scheduled a special meeting for (DATE TBD), (TIME TBD), at which time all applicants will be interviewed.*

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact any board member, the Board Clerk or at 760-688-7588.

Dated: April 10, 2026

BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE VISTA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



Karlena Rannals, Board Clerk

NOTICE OF VACANCY – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

VISTA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The VISTA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT has a vacancy on the Board of Directors. Persons interested in applying to fill the vacancy should know the following:

1. Applicants must be over the age of 18;
2. Applicants must reside within the Division B boundaries of the Vista Fire Protection District
3. Applicants must be a registered voter in the Division.

The appointee will be requested to run in the general elections in November 2026 to retain the appointed seat, and preference will be given to those willing to run.

Regular Board of Director meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month beginning at 1:00 p.m. at the District's Administrative office.

If you are interested in serving as a board member, please submit your resume and a letter of interest that includes that you meet the following qualifications:

1. Age 18, or over
2. Reside within the boundaries of the fire protection district; and
3. A registered voter of the fire protection district.

All interested applicants must submit the requested materials to Karlana Rannals, Board Clerk at info@vistafpd.org by (DATE TBD) (TIME TBD). *The Board of Directors has scheduled a special meeting for (DATE TBD), (TIME TBD), at which time all applicants will be interviewed.*

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact any board member, the Board Clerk or at 760-688-7588.

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: GERARD WASHINGTON, FIRE CHIEF
BRET DAVIDSON, DEPUTY CHIEF
SUBJECT: BUDGET AUTHORIZATION – WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
DATE: APRIL 10, 2026



RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend that the Board of Directors take the following actions:

1. Approve Vista Fire Protection District participation in the City of Vista Workforce Development Program.
2. Approve cost-sharing in a workforce development grant program in partnership with the City of Vista, committing \$200,000 over eight months (May – December 2026) to fund 75% of participant stipends for a vegetation management and Fire/EMS career pathway training program serving workers within the Vista Fire Protection District service area.
3. Authorize staff to negotiate and execute a funding reimbursement agreement with the City of Vista, with all documentation required for auditing purposes.

BACKGROUND

The City of Vista submitted a grant application to the San Diego Workforce Partnership (SDWP) for funding to establish a Vegetation Management Crew Training Program in partnership with Vista Unified School District and the Vista Fire Protection District. The program is designed to provide job training for financially disadvantaged and underrepresented senior students, preparing them for careers in fire service and emergency medical services while directly addressing regional fuel hazards.

The City's original proposal requested a three-year grant totaling \$708,065, comprising \$500,000 in grant funding and \$208,065 in City in-kind contribution. That proposal would have trained 45 participants over three years at 15 annually. SDWP reduced the award to a single program year, resulting in an approved grant of \$208,480.

The approved budget includes startup costs for curriculum development, recruitment, and data tracking; an instructional delivery coach; and direct participant costs covering compensation, benefits, training materials, certifications, PPE, and transportation.

The program will enroll 15 participants. Participants will receive 200 hours of paid training at \$17.75 per hour and will work toward multiple industry-recognized credentials, including State Wildland

Firefighter I, Emergency Medical Technician, and a suite of National Wildfire Coordinating Group certifications (S-130, S-212, S-211, S-190, S-131, RT-130, S-219). Upon completion, graduates are eligible to transition into the City's existing Basic Life Support ambulance program and receive support toward Fire Academy and Paramedic School enrollment.

DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP REQUEST

The City of Vista requests that the Vista Fire Protection District serve as a funding partner in this program by committing \$200,000 to support eight months of operations (May – December 2026). The District’s contribution would fund 75% of participant stipend costs, reflecting the direct benefit to the District from vegetation management work performed within its service area.

This partnership is consistent with the District’s mission to reduce wildland fire risk and support workforce pipeline development in the region. A formal funding reimbursement agreement would be executed between the two agencies, with all documentation necessary to satisfy applicable audit requirements.

SUMMARY

This partnership represents a cost-effective investment in both regional fire safety and long-term workforce development. Fuel reduction work performed by program participants will directly benefit the District's service area, while graduates will enter a career pipeline that addresses the region's documented fire and EMS staffing shortages.

The City of Vista brings demonstrated grant management capacity, certified instructional staff, and an established EMT employment pathway through its ambulance program, positioning this initiative for successful execution.

FISCAL IMPACT

Fiscal Year	Estimated Amount
FY 2025–26	\$30,000
FY 2026–27	\$170,000
Total (Not to Exceed)	\$200,000

A formal funding reimbursement agreement will be executed between the Vista Fire Protection District and the City of Vista, incorporating all documentation required for auditing purposes.