

MONTECITO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Minutes for the Fire Station Location Standing Committee Meeting

Held at Montecito Fire Protection District, 595 San Ysidro Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93108 on February 26, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

Director van Duinwyk called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Present: Director Sylvia Easton, Director Peter van Duinwyk, Director Suzy Cawthon, Director Doug Qualls, Chief David Neels, and Chief Dan Stefano

- 1. Public comment: Any person may address the Committee at this time on any non-agenda matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Montecito Fire Protection District; 30 minutes total time is allotted for this discussion.**

There were no public comments at this meeting.

- 2. Introduce recently appointed Fire Station Location Standing Committee member.**

The committee welcomed recently appointed committee member Director Qualls.

- 3. Provide background of Fire Station Location Committee actions.**

Chief Neels provided background on the Fire Station Location Project and the service needs of both communities. Discussions began in 2019, with community input received in 2020. The project aims to address response challenges on the eastern end of the Montecito Fire Protection District and construct a new fire station with the Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Department.

- 4. Receive update on Fire Station location and rebuild plan.**

Carpinteria Summerland Fire has explored several potential locations in Summerland for the new fire station, including the Regency Innovation Place property.

- 5. Establish future meeting dates.**

The Committee scheduled the next meeting for Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at the Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District Headquarters.

The Committee adjourned to Closed Session at 10:45 a.m.

- 6. CLOSED SESSION:**

- a. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Initiation of litigation pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9 (d) (4):
(One potential case)**

The Committee reported out of closed session at 11:20 a.m. with no reportable action.

7. Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 11:20 a.m.