



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** RES 23-538, **Version:** 1

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**To:** Board of Supervisors

**From:** Monica Nino, County Administrator

**Report Title:** Contra Costa County Fire Management Resolution Which Supersedes Resolution No. 2022/264

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### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Adopt a Resolution which supersedes Resolution No. 2022/264 regarding compensation and benefits for unrepresented fire safety management classifications in the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The roll in of the existing five percent (5%) Standby Duty with Emergency Recall Differential into base pay will cost approximately \$177,000 in benefit costs per year. The Juneteenth Holiday is currently observed by the County and this action presents no additional cost. The cost of the remainder of the items may vary depending on employee usage.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Resolution is being modified in the following ways:

1. Section 1.10 is amended to add Juneteenth (June 19) to the list of paid holidays.
2. Section 1.17 is amended to change the length of service increments and Increase vacation accruals for employees on a 56-hour work schedule.
3. Section 1.18 is amended to increased sick leave accruals for employees on a 56-hour work schedule from 12 hours to 15 hours per month.
4. Section 14 is amended to change the vacation buy back benefit to apply to all employees regardless of hire date.
5. Section 21 is amended to eliminate the five percent (5%) Standby Duty with Emergency Recall Differential effective September 1, 2023. Employees will continue to perform this duty and instead be compensated through an increase to their base salary.

### **CONSEQUENCE OF NEGATIVE ACTION:**

Unrepresented Fire management employees will not be subject to appropriate leave, pay and benefits.

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

**ATTESTED:**

Monica Nino, County Administrator and Clerk of the  
Board of Supervisors

By:

**THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**  
**and for Special Districts, Agencies and Authorities Governed by the Board**

IN THE MATTER OF Compensation and Benefits for Contra Costa County Fire Protection District  
Unrepresented Fire Safety Management Employees

The Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors acting solely in its capacity as the governing board of the  
Contra Costa County Fire Protection District **RESOLVES THAT:**

Effective on September 1, 2023, and continuing, and until further Order of the Board, the Board adopts the  
attached program of compensation and benefits for Contra Costa County Fire Protection District Unrepresented  
Fire Safety Management employees in the classifications listed below. Except for Section 3 of Resolution No.  
2002/615, this Resolution supersedes all previous resolutions providing compensation and benefits for the  
employees in classifications listed below, including but not limited to Resolution No. 2022/264.

- Assistant Fire Chief-Exempt (RPB1)
- Assistant Fire Chief- Exempt 56 Hour (RPB3)
- Assistant Fire Chief-Group 1 (RPBA)
- Deputy Fire Chief-Exempt (RPB2)
- Fire Marshal (RJGA)
- Fire Chief-Contra Costa (RPA1)
- Supervising Fire Inspector (RJHC)

Unless expressly provided otherwise, this Resolution is subject to the provisions of appropriate Administrative  
and Personnel Bulletins, the 1937 County Employees Retirement Act, the County Salary Regulations, and the  
County Personnel Management Regulations.

Unrepresented safety management employees include employees in classified, exempt, and project  
classifications. This Resolution is organized in two parts to distinguish those general Fire District benefits  
provided to unrepresented fire safety management employees (Part I) and those benefits provided exclusively to  
the Fire Chief (Part II). Unless otherwise expressly provided, compensation and benefits under this Resolution  
are authorized only for permanent and project employees who work full time or part time, no less than twenty  
(20) hours per week.

The full text of this Resolution is attached.

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

**ATTESTED:**

Monica Nino, County Administrator and Clerk of the  
Board of Supervisors

By:

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**I. BENEFITS FOR UNREPRESENTED SAFETY MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES IN THE CONTRA COSTA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

**1. Leaves With and Without Pay**

1.10 Holidays: The District will observe the following holidays during the term covered by this Resolution:

New Year's Day	Labor Day
Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Veteran's Day
Washington's Birthday	Thanksgiving Day
Memorial Day	Day after Thanksgiving
Juneteenth (June 19)	Christmas Day
Independence Day	

Such other days as the Board of Supervisors may designate by Resolution as holidays.

Any holiday observed by the District that falls on a Saturday is observed on the preceding Friday and any holiday that falls on a Sunday is observed on the following Monday.

1.11 Definitions:

Regular Work Schedule: The regular work schedule is eight (8) hours per day, Monday through Friday, inclusive, for a total of forty (40) hours per week.

Flexible Work Schedule: A flexible work schedule is any schedule that is not a regular, alternate, 9/80, or 4/10 work schedule and where the employee is not scheduled to work more than 40 hours in a "workweek" as defined below.

Fifty-Six (56) Hour Work Schedules: For employees working in 56-hour assignments, the regular schedule consists of a six-day tour of duty that includes two (2) regularly scheduled 24-hour workdays and four (4) days off, commonly referred to as 48/96.

Workweek for Employees on Regular and Flexible Work Schedules: For employees on regular and flexible work schedules, the workweek begins at 12:01a.m. on Monday and ends at twelve midnight on Sunday.

1.12 Holidays Observed:

Employees on a Regular and Flexible Work Schedule: Employees on



regular and flexible work schedules are entitled to observe a holiday (day off work), without a reduction in pay, whenever a holiday is observed by the District.

Employees on a 56-Hour Work Schedule: In observance of holidays, employees on a fifty-six (56) hour work schedule accrue four (4) hours of personal holiday credit, up to a maximum of eighty (80) hours, as defined in section 1.16, below.

- 1.13 Holidays – Flexible Work Schedules: When a holiday falls on the regularly scheduled day off of any employee who is on a flexible work schedule, the employee is entitled to take the day off, without a reduction in pay, in recognition of the holiday. These employees are entitled to request another day off within the same work week in recognition of their regularly scheduled day off. The requested day off must be within the same work week as the holiday and it must be pre-approved by the employee's supervisor. If the day off is not approved by the supervisor, it is lost. If the approved day off is a nine (9) hour workday, the employee must use one (1) hour of non-sick-leave accruals. If the approved day off is a ten (10) hour workday, the employee must use two (2) hours of non-sick-leave accruals. If the employee does not have any non-sick-leave accrual balances, leave without pay (AWOP) will be authorized.
- 1.14 Holidays – Part-Time Employees: Permanent, part-time employees are entitled to observe a holiday (day off work) in the same ratio as the number of hours in the part-time employee's schedule bears to forty (40) hours.
- 1.15 No Overtime Pay, Holiday Pay, or Comp Time: Employees are not entitled to receive overtime pay, holiday pay, overtime compensatory time, or holiday compensatory time. Employees who are unable or not permitted to observe a holiday (take the day off), are authorized to receive overtime pay ONLY IF the employee is on the Overtime Exempt Exclusion List (see Section 9.10). This section does not apply to Special Circumstance Overtime Compensation provided in Section 9.12.
- 1.16 Personal Holiday Credit:

Employees on a Regular and Flexible Work Schedule: Employees on a regular and flexible work schedule are entitled to accrue two (2) hours of personal holiday credit each month. This time is prorated for part-time employees. No employee may accrue more than forty (40) hours of personal holiday credit. On separation from District service, employees are paid for any unused personal holiday credits at the employee's then current rate of pay, up to a maximum of forty (40) hours.

Employees on a 56-Hour Work Schedule: Employees on a fifty-six (56) hour work schedule are entitled to accrue four (4) hours of personal holiday credit per month, up to a maximum accrual of eighty (80) hours. No employee may accrue more than eighty (80) hours of personal holiday credit. On separation from District service, employees are paid any unused personal holiday credits at the employee's then current rate of pay, up to a maximum of eighty (80) hours. When moving between 40-hour and 56-hour work schedules, accrual rates and balances will be converted.

1.17 Vacation: Employees are entitled to accrue paid vacation credit not to exceed the maximum cumulative hours as follows:

Employees on 40-Hour Work Schedules:

<u>Length of Service</u>	<u>Monthly Accrual Hours</u>	<u>Maximum Cumulative Hours</u>
Under 11 years	10	240
11 years	10-2/3	256
12 years	11-1/3	272
13 years	12	288
14 years	12-2/3	304
15 through 19 years	13-1/3	320
20 through 24 years	16-2/3	400
25 through 29 years	20	480
30 years and up	23-1/3	560

Employees on 56-Hour Work Schedules:

<u>Length of Service Completed</u>	<u>Monthly Accrual Hours</u>	<u>Maximum Cumulative Hours</u>
Less than 5 years	14	336
5 through 10 years	16	384
11 through 14 years	18	432
15 through 19 years	21	504
20 through 24 years	26	624
25 through 29 years	30	720
30 years and up	33	792

Each employee is eligible to accrue increased vacation hours on the first day of the month following the employee's Service Award Date.

An employee's Service Award Date is the first day of his/her temporary, provisional, or permanent appointment to a position in the County. If an employee is first appointed to a temporary or provisional position and then later appointed to a permanent position, the Service Award Date for that employee is the date of the first day of the temporary or provisional appointment.

When moving between 40-hour and 56-hour schedules/assignments, accrual rates and balances will be converted.

- 1.18 Sick Leave: Employees are entitled to accrue paid sick leave credit in accordance with the provisions of the County Salary Regulations and District Personnel Bulletin No. 21 (Sick Leave Policy) adopted on August 10, 1995, as periodically amended. Sick leave for employees on forty (40) hour work schedules shall be accrued at the rate of eight (8) hours for each completed month of service and sick leave for employees on fifty- six (56) hour work schedules shall be accrued at the rate of fifteen (15) hours for each completed month of service. When moving between 40-hour and 56-hour schedules/assignments, accrual rates and balances will be converted.
- 1.19 Part-Time Employees: Part-time employees are entitled to accrue paid vacation and sick leave credit on a pro-rata basis.
- 1.20 Family Care Leave: The provisions of Section 1006.3 of the Contra Costa County Personnel Management Regulations and Resolution No. 94/416, as amended, relating to Leaves of Absence and Family Care Medical Leave apply to all employees covered by this Resolution.
- 1.21 Leave Without Pay - Use of Accruals: The provisions of Section 1006.6 of the Contra Costa County Personnel Management Regulations, as amended, relating to use of accruals while on leave without pay, apply to all employees covered by this Resolution.
- 1.22 Elective Leave Limit for Assistant Fire Chiefs: Only one Assistant Fire Chief-Exempt 56-Hour will be permitted to take time off on vacation, administrative leave, or personal holiday leave at one time provided, however, the Fire Chief, at their sole discretion, may approve more than one Assistant Fire Chief-Exempt 56-Hour off at one time.

## **2. Health, Dental and Related Benefits**

**2.A. Health Plans**

2.10 Health Plan Coverages: Group health benefits through the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) are provided for all permanent full-time employees.

The CalPERS health care program, as regulated by the Public Employees' Medical and Hospital Care Act (PEMHCA), regulations issued pursuant to PEMHCA and the administration of PEMHCA by CalPERS, controls on all health plan issues, including but not limited to eligibility, benefit levels, benefit plans, minimum premium subsidies, and costs.

2.11 Contra Costa Health Plan (CCHP): Because CCHP has met the minimum standards required under PEMHCA and is approved as an alternative CalPERS plan option, employees and COBRA counterparts may elect to enroll in CCHP under the CalPERS plan rules and regulations.

2.12 Health Plan Monthly Premium Subsidy: The District's subsidies to the CalPERS monthly health plan premiums are as provided below. The employee must pay any Health Plan premium costs that are greater than the District's subsidies identified below.

a. Health Plan Premium Subsidy:

1. District Premium Subsidy through November 30, 2015. Beginning on January 1, 2010, and through November 30, 2015, the amount of the District premium subsidy that is paid for employees and eligible family members is a set dollar amount and is not a percentage of the premium charged by the plan. The District will pay the CalPERS statutory minimum employer monthly health plan premium subsidy or the following monthly health plan premium subsidy, whichever is greater:

Employee/Retiree/Survivor Only	\$478.69
Employee/Retiree/Survivor & One Dependent	\$957.38
Employee/Retiree/Survivor & Two or more Dependents	\$1228.67

2. District Premium Subsidy through November 30, 2016. For the plan year that begins on January 1, 2016, the District will contribute up to an amount equivalent to eighty percent (80%) of the 2016 CalPERS Kaiser premium at each level (employee only, employee + 1, employee + 2 or more) towards the covered employee's CalPERS or CalPERS Alternative Plan (CCHP) premium.

3. District Premium Subsidy On and After December 1, 2016. For the plan year that begins on January 1, 2017, the District will pay a monthly premium subsidy for each health plan that is equal to the actual dollar

monthly premium subsidy that is paid by the District for that plan as of November 30, 2016. In addition, if there is an increase in the monthly premium charged by a health plan for 2017, the District and the employee will each pay fifty percent (50%) of that increase. For each plan year thereafter, and for each plan, the District and the employee will each pay fifty percent (50%) of the monthly premium increase above the 2016 plan premiums.

b. In the event that the District premium subsidy amounts are greater than one hundred percent (100%) of the applicable premium of any health or dental plan, for any plan year, the District's subsidy will not exceed one hundred percent (100%) of the applicable plan premium.

2.13 Retirement Coverage: Government Code section 22892 applies to all employees covered by this Resolution.

2.14 Premium Payments: Employee participation in any health plan is contingent upon the employee authorizing payroll deduction by the District of the employee's share of the premium cost. If an employee's compensation in any month (including during a leave of absence) is not sufficient to pay the employee share of the premium, the employee must pay the difference to the Auditor-Controller. The responsibility for this payment rests solely with the employee.

**2.B. Dental and Life Insurance Plans**

2.15 Dental Program: Every permanent employee may participate in any available County Group Dental Plan. The District may change dental plan providers at any time during the term of this resolution.

2.16 Dental Plan Premium Subsidy: The dental plan premium subsidies set forth below are provided only for permanent full-time employees and permanent part-time employees regularly scheduled to work at least twenty (20) hours per week. The employee will pay any dental plan costs that are greater than the District's premium subsidies set forth below.

a. Beginning on January 1, 2010, and for each calendar year thereafter, the amount of the District premium subsidy that is paid for employees and eligible family members is a set dollar amount and is not a percentage of the premium charged by the dental plan. The District will pay the following monthly dental plan premium subsidies:

Delta Dental with CCHP A or B:  
Single: \$41.17  
Family: \$93.00

Delta Dental with any CalPERS health plan

Single: \$34.02

Family: \$76.77

Delta Dental without a health plan

Single: \$43.35

Family: \$97.81

DeltaCare (PMI) with CCHP A or B

Single: \$25.41

Family: \$54.91

DeltaCare (PMI) with any CalPERS health plan

Single: \$21.31

Family: \$46.05

DeltaCare (PMI) without a health plan

Single: \$27.31

Family: \$59.03

- b. If the District contracts with another dental plan, the District will determine the monthly dollar premium subsidy that it will pay to that dental plan for employees and their eligible family members.
- c. In the event that the District premium subsidy amounts are greater than one hundred percent (100%) of the applicable premium of any dental plan, for any plan year, the District's contribution will not exceed one hundred percent (100%) of the applicable plan premium.

2.17 Retirement Coverage:

a. Upon Retirement:

- 1. Upon retirement and for the term of this resolution, employees and their eligible family members may remain in their District dental plan, but without District-paid life insurance coverage, if immediately before their proposed retirement the employees and dependents are either active subscribers to one of the District contracted dental plans, or if while on authorized leave of absence without pay, they have retained continuous coverage during the leave period. The District will pay the dental plan monthly premium subsidies set forth in Section 2.16, subsection a., for eligible retirees and their eligible family members.
- 2. For employees hired on or after January 1, 2009 and their eligible

family members, no monthly premium subsidy will be paid by the District for any dental plan after they separate from District employment. Upon completion of fifteen (15) years of service as an employee of the District, an employee who retires under the Contra Costa County Employees' Retirement Association ("CCCERA") may retain continuous coverage of any District dental plan, provided that (i) he or she begins to receive a monthly retirement allowance from CCCERA within 120 days of separation from District employment and (ii) he or she pays the full premium cost under the chosen dental plan without any District premium subsidy. For purposes of retiree dental eligibility, one year of service is defined as one thousand (1,000) hours worked within one District anniversary year.

3. For purposes of this section 2.17 only, "eligible family members" does not include Survivors of employees or retirees.

- 2.18 Life Insurance Benefit Under Health and Dental Plans: For employees who are enrolled in a District sponsored health or dental plan as either the primary insured or a dependent, term life insurance in the amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) will be provided by the District.
- 2.19 Supplemental Life Insurance: In addition to the life insurance benefits provided by this resolution, employees may subscribe voluntarily and at their own expense for supplemental life insurance. Employees may subscribe for an amount not to exceed five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000), of which one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) is a guaranteed issue, provided the election is made within the required enrollment periods.
- 2.20 Premium Payments: Employee participation in any dental or life insurance plan is contingent upon the employee authorizing payroll deduction by the District of the employee's share of the premium cost. The District's subsidy to the dental and life insurance premium is payable monthly. If an employee's compensation in any month (including during a leave of absence) is not sufficient to pay the employee share of the premium, the employee must pay the difference to the Auditor-Controller. The responsibility for this payment rests solely with the employee.
- 2.21 Family Member Eligibility Criteria: The following persons may be enrolled as the eligible Family Members of a dental plan Subscriber:
1. Eligible Dependents:
    - a. Employee's legal spouse

- b. Employee's qualified domestic partner
  - c. Employee's unmarried child who is:
    - (1) under age 19; or
    - (2) Age 19 or above, but under age 24; and who
      - i. Resides with the employee for more than 50% of the year, excluding time living at school; and,
      - ii. Receives at least 50% of support from employee; and
      - iii. Is enrolled and attends school on a full-time basis, as defined by the school.
  - d. Employee's disabled child who is over age 19, unmarried, and incapable of sustaining employment due to a physical or mental disability that existed prior to the child's attainment of age 19.
2. "Employee's child" includes natural child, step-child, adopted child, child of a qualified domestic partner, and a child specified in a Qualified Medical Child Support Order (QMCSO) or similar court order.

**2.C. General Provisions**

2.22 Extended Coverage:

- a. An employee on approved leave without pay for more than thirty (30) days may continue his/her health/dental/life insurance coverage provided that the employee pays his/her share of the monthly premium during said leave.
- b. An employee who separates from District employment is covered by his/her District health and/or dental plan through the last day of the month in which he/she separates. Employees who separate from District employment may continue Group health and/or dental plan coverage to the extent provided by the COBRA laws and regulations.

2.23 Rate Information: The County-Benefits Service Unit will make dental plan rate information and, to the extent possible, CalPERS health plan rate information available to employees and departments, upon request. In addition, the County Benefits Service Unit will publish and distribute to employees and departments information about rate changes as they occur during the year.

2.24 Dual Coverage:

- a. Each employee and retiree may be covered only by a single District



health (or dental) plan, including a CalPERS plan. For example, a District employee may be covered under a single District health and/or dental plan as either the primary insured or the dependent of another District employee or retiree, but not as both the primary insured and the dependent of another District employee or retiree.

b. All dependents may be covered by the health and/or dental plan of only one spouse or one domestic partner. For example, when both husband and wife are District employees, all of their eligible children may be covered as dependents of either the husband or the wife, but not both.

c. For purposes of Section 2.24, only, "District" includes the County of Contra Costa, the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District, and all other special districts governed by the Board of Supervisors.

- 2.25 Catastrophic Leave Program: All employees are included in the District's Program and may designate a portion of their accrued vacation, administrative leave or personal holiday credit to be deducted from existing balances and credited to a specific eligible employee. To utilize this program, all recipient requests must be submitted to the Fire Chief for review and recommendation to the County Administrator. The County Administrator will make final decision as to approval or denial of the request to use accruals in the Catastrophic Leave Bank.
- 2.26 Health Care Spending Account: After six (6) months of permanent employment, employees may elect to participate in a Health Care Spending Account (HCSA) Program designated to qualify for tax savings under Section 125 of the Internal Revenue Code, but such savings are not guaranteed. The HCSA Program allows employees to set aside a pre-determined amount of money from their pay, before taxes, for health care expenses not reimbursed by any other health benefit plan. HCSA dollars can be expended on any eligible medical expenses allowed by Internal Revenue Code Section 125. Any unused balance is forfeited and cannot be recovered by the employee.
- 2.27 PERS Long-Term Care: The District will deduct and remit monthly premiums to the PERS Long-Term Care Administrator for employees who are eligible and voluntarily elect to purchase long-term care at their personal expense through the PERS Long-Term Care Program.
- 2.28 Dependent Care Assistance Program: The District will continue to offer the option of enrolling in a Dependent Care Assistance Program (DCAP) designed to qualify for tax savings under Section 129 of the Internal Revenue Code, but tax savings are not guaranteed. The program allows employees to set aside up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) of annual

salary (before taxes) per calendar year to pay for eligible dependent care (child and elder care) expenses. Any unused balance is forfeited and cannot be recovered by the employee.

- 2.29 Premium Conversion Plan: The District will continue to offer a Premium Conversion Plan (PCP) designed to qualify for tax savings under Section 125 of the Internal Revenue Code, but tax savings are not guaranteed. The program allows employees to use pre-tax dollars to pay health and dental premiums.
- 2.30 Prevailing Section: To the extent that any provision of this Section (Section 2. Health, Dental and Related Benefits) is inconsistent with any provision of any other District or County enactment or policy, including Administrative Bulletins, County Salary Regulations, and County Personnel Management Regulations, or any other resolution or order of the Board of Supervisors, acting in any of its various capacities including as the Governing Board of the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District, the provisions of this Section (Section 2. Health, Dental and Related Benefits) will prevail.
- 2.31 Voluntary Vision Plan: Beginning no earlier than the 2018 plan year, active permanent full-time and active permanent part-time employees will be offered the opportunity to enroll in a voluntary vision plan. Employees will pay the full premium costs of the plan. The District will contract with a provider for a voluntary vision plan with no co-pays. The vision plan is not available to temporary or permanent intermittent employees.

### **3. Transportation Expense**

- 3.10 Mileage Reimbursement: The District will pay a mileage allowance for the use of personal vehicles on District business at the rate allowed by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as a tax deductible expense, adjusted to reflect changes in this rate on the date it becomes effective or the first of the month following announcement of the changed rate by the IRS, whichever is later.
- 3.11 Commuter Benefit Program: The District will offer employees the option of enrolling in an employee-funded qualified transportation (commuter) benefit program designed to qualify for tax savings under section 132 (f) of the Internal Revenue Code, but such savings are not guaranteed. The Commuter Benefit Program will allow employees to set aside pre-tax dollars for qualified transportation expenses to the extent and amount allowed by the Internal Revenue Service.

### **4. Retirement Benefits**

- 4.10 Contribution. Employees are responsible for the payment of one hundred percent (100%) of the employees' basic retirement benefit contribution determined annually by the Board of Retirement of the Contra Costa County Employees' Retirement Association, without the District paying any part of the employees' share. Employees are also responsible for payment of the employees' contribution for the retirement cost-of-living program as determined annually by the Board of Retirement, without the District paying any part of the employees' contribution.
- 4.11 Safety Employees Retirement- Tier A- Employees Who Became Safety Members of CCCERA Before January 1, 2013. The retirement formula of "3 percent at 50" applies to all employees who became Safety members of the Contra Costa County Employees Retirement Association (CCCERA) on or before December 31, 2012. The cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) to the retirement allowances of these employees will not exceed three percent (3%) per year. The final compensation of these employees will be based on a twelve (12) consecutive month salary average. This retirement benefit will be known as Safety Tier A.
- a. Until December 1, 2017, each employee will pay nine percent (9%) of his/her retirement base to pay part of the employer's contribution for the cost of Safety Tier A retirement benefits.
  - b. For the period of December 1, 2017, through and including June 30, 2018, each employee in Tier A will pay six percent (6%) of his/her retirement base to pay part of the employer's contribution for the cost of Safety Tier A retirement benefits.
  - c. For the period of July 1, 2018, through and including June 30, 2019, each employee will pay three percent (3%) of his/her retirement base to pay part of the employer's contribution for the cost of Safety Tier A retirement benefits.
  - d. Effective on July 1, 2019, each employee's payment of three percent (3%) of his/her retirement base to pay part of the employer's contribution for the cost of Safety Tier A retirement benefits will cease.
  - e. "Retirement base" means base salary and other payments, such as salary differential and flat rate pay allowances, used to compute retirement deductions.
- 4.12 Employees with More Than 30 Years of Continuous Service as Safety Members- Tier A. Beginning on January 1, 2008 and pursuant to Government Code section 31664.1, current and future employees in

classifications that are governed by this Resolution and designated by the Contra Costa County Employees' Retirement Association as safety members with credit for more than thirty (30) years of continuous service as safety members, will not make payments from their retirement base to pay part of the employer's contribution towards the cost of Safety Tier A.

4.13 Safety Employees Retirement- Safety PEPRA Tier- Employees Who Become Safety Members of CCCERA on or after January 1, 2013.

a. For employees who become Safety members of the Contra Costa County Employees Retirement Association (CCCERA) on or after January 1, 2013, retirement benefits are governed by the California Public Employees Pension Reform Act of 2013 (PEPRA) (Chapters 296 and 297, Statutes of 2012) and PEPRA Safety Option Plan Two (2.7% @ 57) applies. To the extent that this resolution conflicts with any provision of PEPRA, PEPRA governs.

b. For employees who, under PEPRA, become Safety New members of CCCERA on or after January 1, 2016, the cost of living adjustment to the retirement allowance will not exceed two percent (2%) per year, and the cost of living adjustment will be banked.

c. Sections 4.11 and 4.12, above, apply to employees who, under PEPRA, become reciprocal Safety Members of CCCERA in Tier A, as determined by CCCERA.

**5. 414H2 Participation**

The District will continue to implement Section 414(h) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code which allows the Auditor-Controller to reduce the gross monthly pay of employees by an amount equal to the employee's total contribution to the County Retirement System before Federal and State income taxes are withheld, and forward that amount to the Retirement System. This program of deferred retirement contribution is universal and non-voluntary.

**6. Training**

6.10 Career Development Training Reimbursement: All full-time employees are eligible for career development training reimbursement not to exceed seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750) per fiscal year. The reimbursement of training expenses includes books and is governed by any Administrative Bulletins on Travel or Training.

6.11 Management Development Policy: Employees are authorized to attend professional training programs, seminars, and workshops, during normal work hours at the discretion of their Fire Chief, for the purpose of developing knowledge, skills, and abilities, in the areas of supervision,

management, and County/District policies and procedures. Up to thirty (30) hours of such training time is recommended annually.

a. The District is encouraged to provide for professional development training exceeding thirty (30) hours annually for people newly promoted to positions of direct supervision.

b. Priority is given to professional training programs offered through the County Training Institute. Other related and appropriate training/education resources approved by the District are also allowable.

c. To encourage personal and professional growth, the District provides reimbursement for certain expenses incurred by employees for job-related training (required training and career development training/education). Provision for eligibility and reimbursement identified in Administrative Bulletin 112.9.

d. The Fire Chief is responsible for authorization of individual professional development reimbursement requests. Reimbursement is through the regular demand process with demands being accompanied by proof of payment (copy of invoice or canceled check).

**7. Bilingual Pay Differential:**

A monthly salary differential will be paid to incumbents of positions requiring bilingual proficiency as designated by the Fire Chief and the Contra Costa County Director of Human Resources. The differential will be prorated for employees working less than full time and/or on an unpaid leave of absence during any given month. The differential is one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per month.

The designation of positions for which bilingual proficiency is required is the sole prerogative of the District/County, and such designations may be amended or deleted at any time.

**8. Higher Pay for Work in a Higher Classification:**

The County Salary Regulations notwithstanding, when an employee is required to work in a higher paid classification, the employee will receive the higher compensation for such work, pursuant to the County Salary Regulations, plus any differentials and incentives the employee would have received in his/her regular position. Unless the Board has by Resolution otherwise specified, the higher pay entitlement will begin on the 41st consecutive hour in the assignment.

**9. Other Terms and Conditions of Employment:**

- 9.10 Overtime Exempt Exclusion: Employees in unrepresented classifications are overtime exempt and are not eligible for overtime pay, holiday pay, overtime compensatory time, or holiday compensatory time. Instead, these employees are awarded Annual Management Administrative Leave in recognition of the extra burden their job responsibilities may sometimes place on their work schedules. However, unrepresented employees may be made eligible for overtime pay if their names are placed on the Overtime Exempt Exclusion List by the County Administrator's Office. Employees on the Overtime Exempt Exclusion List are authorized to receive overtime pay only. These employees are NOT eligible for holiday pay, overtime compensatory time, or holiday compensatory time. Employees on the Overtime Exempt Exclusion List are also NOT eligible for Annual Management Administrative Leave for the quarter they are on the Overtime Exempt Exclusion List. The policies and procedures for the Overtime Exempt Exclusion List are set forth in the County Administrator's memo of November 6, 2002. This section does not apply to Special Circumstance Overtime Compensation provided in Section 9.12.
- 9.11 Overtime: Employees on the Overtime Exempt Exclusion List will be compensated at one and one-half (1.5) times their base rate of pay (excluding differentials) for authorized work exceeding eight (8) hours in a day or forty (40) hours in a week.
- 9.12 Special Circumstance Overtime Compensation. Straight-time pay for special circumstance overtime will be paid at 1.0 times the employee's base rate of pay (including differentials) for hours worked that exceed normal work hours only when an employee is assigned during any of the following special circumstances:
- a. Any incident lasting more than 12 hours within the Operational Area. In such circumstance, the employee will be paid for all hours worked during the incident exceeding their normal work hours that occur before the twelfth hour of the incident; or
  - b. Mutual aid responses outside of the Operational Area where the California Fire Assistance Agreement or other reimbursement mechanism normally applies. Trainee assignments that are self-initiated and are not reimbursable to the District shall not be compensated under this section; or
  - c. At the Fire Chief's discretion, a Deputy Fire Chief or forty (40) hour Assistant Fire Chief may backfill an absent fifty-six (56) hour Assistant Fire Chief. When this occurs, the backfill shall be compensated at a forty (40) hour straight time rate of pay; or

- d. At the Fire Chief's discretion for anticipated weather events, high fire danger, increased overhead support for planned events, city or county Emergency Operations Center (EOC) staffing, or for District Operations Center (DOC) staffing.

The decision to provide or not provide straight-time compensation for overtime work in these special circumstances is fully vested in the Fire Chief, whose decision shall be final.

- 9.13 Length of Service Credits: Length of service credit will date from the beginning of the last period of continuous County/District employment, including temporary, provisional and permanent status and absences on an approved leave of absence; except that when an employee separates from a permanent position in good standing and is subsequently re-employed in a permanent County/District position within two (2) years from date of separation, the period of separation will be bridged. Under these circumstances, the service credits will include all credits accumulated at time of separation but will not include the period of separation. The service credits of an employee are determined from employee status records maintained by the Human Resources Department.
- 9.14 Mirror Classifications: As determined by the Director of Human Resources, employees in unrepresented job classifications that mirror management, represented or unrepresented job classifications may receive the salary and fringe benefits that are received by employees in the comparable mirror classifications.
- 9.15 Deep Classes: No provision of this Resolution regarding terms and conditions of employment supersedes any provision in any Deep Class Resolution.
- 9.16 Administrative Provisions: The County Administrator may establish guidelines, bulletins or directives as necessary to further define or implement the provisions of this resolution.

**10. Management Longevity Pay**

- 10.10 Ten Years of Service: Employees who have completed ten (10) years of service for the District are eligible to receive a two and one-half percent (2.5%) longevity differential effective on the first day of the month following the month in which the employee qualifies for the ten (10) year service award.
- 10.11 Fifteen Years of Service: Employees who have completed fifteen (15)

years of service for the District are eligible to receive an additional two and one-half percent (2.5%) longevity differential effective on the first day of the month following the month in which the employee qualifies for the fifteen (15) year service award. For employees who completed fifteen (15) years of service on or before January 1, 2008, this longevity differential will be paid prospectively only from January 1, 2008.

10.12 Twenty Years of Service: Effective July 1, 2022, employees who have completed twenty (20) years of service for the District are eligible to receive a two and one-half percent (2.5%) longevity differential effective on the first day of the month following the month in which the employee qualifies for the twenty (20) year service award. For employees who completed twenty (20) years of service before July 1, 2022 this longevity differential will be paid prospectively only from July 1, 2022.

**11. Deferred Compensation**

A. Deferred Compensation Incentive. The District will contribute eighty-five dollars (\$85) per month to each employee who participates in the County’s Deferred Compensation Plan. To be eligible for this incentive, the employee must contribute to the deferred compensation plan as indicated below:

<u>Employees with Current Monthly Salary of:</u>	<u>Qualifying Base Contribution Amount</u>	<u>Monthly Contribution Required to Maintain Incentive Program Eligibility</u>
\$2,500 and below	\$250	\$50
\$2,501 - 3,334	\$500	\$50
\$3,335 - 4,167	\$750	\$50
\$4,168 - 5,000	\$1,000	\$50
\$5,001 - 5,834	\$1,500	\$100
\$5,835 - 6,667	\$2,000	\$100
\$6,668 and above	\$2,500	\$100

Employees who discontinue contributions or who contribute less than the required amount per month for a period of one (1) month or more will no longer be eligible for the eighty five dollar (\$85) District supplement. To reestablish eligibility, employees must again make a Base Contribution Amount as set forth above based on current monthly salary. Employees with a break in deferred compensation contributions either because of an approved medical leave or an approved financial hardship withdrawal will not be required to reestablish eligibility. Further, employees who lose eligibility due to displacement by layoff, but maintain contributions at the required level



and are later employed in an eligible position, will not be required to reestablish eligibility.

B. Eligibility for Loan Program. All employees are eligible to apply for loans from the Contra Costa County Deferred Compensation Plan loan program established by the Board of Supervisors on June 26, 2012, by Resolution No. 2012/298.

**12. Annual Management Administrative Leave**

a. On January 1st of each year, full-time employees on a forty (40) hour schedule will be credited with ninety-four (94) hours of paid Management Administrative Leave and full-time employees on a fifty-six hour schedule will be credited with one hundred and thirty-two (132) hours of paid Management Administrative Leave. This time is non-accruable and all balances will be zeroed out on December 31 of each year.

b. Permanent part-time employees are eligible for Management Administrative Leave on a prorated basis, based upon their position hours. Permanent-intermittent employees are not eligible for Management Administrative Leave.

c. Employees appointed (hired or promoted) to unrepresented management positions are eligible for Management Administrative Leave on the first day of the month following their appointment date and will receive Management Administrative Leave on a prorated basis for that first year.

d. Employees on the Overtime Exempt Exclusion List are authorized to receive overtime pay; therefore, their Management Administrative Leave will be reduced by twenty-five percent (25%) each time the employee is on the List. The twenty-five percent (25%) reduction will be deducted from the employee's current leave balance, but if there is no balance, it will be deducted from future awarded Annual Management Administrative Leave.

**13. Management Life Insurance**

Employees are covered at District expense by term life insurance in the amount of fifty seven thousand dollars (\$57,000) in addition to the insurance provided under Section 2.18.

**14. Vacation Buy Back**

Employees may elect payment of up to one-third (1/3) of their annual vacation accrual, subject to the following conditions: (1) the choice can be made only once every thirteen (13) months and there must be at least 12 full months

between each election; (2) payment is based on an hourly rate determined by dividing the employee's monthly salary by 173.33 (242.66 for employees working a 56-hour schedule); and (3) the maximum number of vacation hours that may be paid in any one sale is one-third (1/3) of the annual accrual.

Where a lump-sum payment is made to employees as a retroactive general salary adjustment for a portion of a calendar year that is subsequent to the exercise by an employee of the vacation buy-back provision herein, that employee's vacation buy-back will be adjusted to reflect the percentage difference in base pay rates upon which the lump-sum payment was computed, provided that the period covered by the lump-sum payment includes the effective date of the vacation buy-back.

**15. Professional Development Reimbursement**

With the exceptions of the Fire Chief, Assistant Chief(s), and Deputy Fire Chief, employees are eligible for reimbursement of up to six hundred twenty-five dollars (\$625) for calendar year 2008 and for each two (2) year period thereafter, for memberships in professional organizations, subscriptions to professional publications, attendance fees at job-related professional development activities, and purchase of job-related computer hardware and software (excludes automation connectivity, support, or subscription fees) from a standardized County-approved list or with Fire Chief approval, provided each employee complies with the provisions of the County's Computer Use and Security Policy adopted by the Board of Supervisors and manuals. In order to receive reimbursement, the employee must have been in an eligible classification when the expense was incurred.

Individual professional development reimbursement requests must be approved by the Fire Chief. Reimbursement will occur through the regular demand process with demands being accompanied by proof of payment (copy of invoice or canceled check).

**16. Sick Leave Incentive Plan**

Employees may be eligible for a payoff of a part of unused sick leave accruals at separation. This program is an incentive for employees to safeguard sick leave accruals as protection against wage loss due to time lost for injury or illness. Payoff must be approved by the Director of Human Resources, and is subject to the following conditions:

- a. The employee must have resigned in good standing.
- b. Payout is not available if the employee is eligible to retire.

c. The balance of sick leave at resignation must be at least seventy percent (70%) of accruals earned in the preceding continuous period of employment, excluding any sick leave use covered by the Family and Medical Leave Act, the California Family Rights Act, or the California Pregnancy Disability Act.

d. Payout is by the following schedule:

<u>Years of Payment Continuous Service</u>	<u>Payment of Unused Sick Leave Payable</u>
3 – 5 years	30%
5 – 7 years	40%
7 plus years	50%

e. No payoff will be made pursuant to this section unless the Contra Costa County Employees' Retirement Association has certified that an employee requesting a sick leave payoff has terminated membership in, and has withdrawn his or her contributions from, the Retirement Association.

f. It is the intent of the Board of Supervisors that payments pursuant to this section preclude County retirement benefits resulting from employment by this County/District governed by the Board.

**17. Video Display Terminal (VDT) Users Eye Examination**

Employees are eligible to receive an annual eye examination on District time and at District expense provided that the employee regularly uses a video display terminal at least an average of two (2) hours per day as certified by the Fire District.

Employees certified for examination under this program must make their request through the Benefits Service Unit of the County Human Resources Department. Should prescription VDT eyeglasses be prescribed for the employee following the examination, the District agrees to provide, at no cost, basic VDT eyewear consisting of a fifty dollar (\$50) frame and single, bifocal or trifocal lenses. Employees may, through individual arrangement between the employee and the employee's doctor and solely at the employee's expense, include blended lenses and other care, services or materials not covered by the Plan.

**18. Long-Term Disability Insurance**

The County will continue in force the Long-Term Disability Insurance program with a replacement limit of eighty-five (85%) of total monthly base earnings reduced by any deductible benefits.

**19. Uniform Allowance**

Effective October 1, 2015, the monthly uniform allowance for all employees in classes for which a uniform is required shall be fifty-four dollars and fifty cents (\$54.50) per month.

**20. Fire Management Educational Allowance Program**

Employees in the specified Fire District management classifications who possess the certificates or educational degrees set forth below and/or meet the continuing educational requirements set forth below, are eligible for professional development educational allowances under the conditions set forth below. This program is intended to encourage the professional development of eligible Fire District Management personnel.

Only the following classifications are eligible to participate in this educational allowance program:

- Fire Chief- Contra Costa (RPA1)
- Assistant Fire Chief–Exempt (RPB1)
- Deputy Fire Chief- Exempt (RPB2)
- Fire Marshal (RJGA)
- Supervising Fire Inspector (RJHC)

Only the following job-related certificates and degrees are eligible for this program:

- a. A Certificate of Achievement in Fire Technology, Business Administration, Management and Supervision, or a related field from an accredited college.
- b. An Associated of Arts or Science Degree from an accredited college with a major in Fire Technology, Business Administration, Management and Supervision, or a related field.
- c. A Chief Officer Certificate issued by the Office of the State Fire Marshal.
- d. A Baccalaureate Degree from an accredited college or university with a major in Business, Public Administration, or a related field.

All allowances will be designated as either temporary or permanent and will be awarded in increments of two and one-half percent (2.5%) times the employee's base rate of pay. The combined temporary and permanent educational allowances awarded to any employee may not exceed seven and one-half percent (7.5%) times the employee's base rate of pay.

The following conditions must be satisfied in order to earn the designated allowance:

### **Temporary Allowance**

A temporary allowance of two and one-half percent (2.5%) times the employee's base rate of pay may be awarded for annually completing at least forty (40) hours of pre-approved education or training or at least three (3) pre-approved college semester units (or equivalent quarter units), or a pre-approved combination thereof, in pursuit of any one of the certificates or degrees set forth in options (a) through (d) above or as pre-approved by the Fire Chief.

A temporary allowance is effective for a period of only twelve (12) months, commencing on the first day of the month after proof of completion of course work is received and approved by the Fire Chief or designee. Temporary allowances automatically terminate at the end of month twelve (12).

A temporary allowance of two and one-half percent (2.5%) times the employee's base rate of payment may be awarded to the Fire Chief for annually completing the above conditions, except that verification of eligibility must be approved by the County Administrator or designee.

### **Permanent Allowances**

A permanent allowance of two and one-half percent (2.5%) times the employee's base rate of pay may be awarded for possession of one (1) of the certificates or degrees set forth in options (a) through (d) above. Only one (1) two and one-half percent (2.5%) permanent allowance is available within this category.

In the alternative, a permanent allowance of five percent (5%) may be awarded for possession of those certificates or degrees in the following combinations only: (1) options (b) and (c) or (2) options (a) and (d). An employee receiving the five percent (5%) permanent allowance may not also receive the two and one-half percent (2.5%) permanent allowance.

This program is subject to appropriate administrative guidelines and controls promulgated by the Fire Chief and approved by the Director of Human Resources to ensure that the standards set forth herein are met. Verification of an employee's eligibility must be by the Fire Chief or designee.

A permanent allowance of two and one-half percent (2.5%) times the employee's base rate of pay or the alternative five percent (5%) times the employee's base rate of pay may be awarded to the Fire Chief subject to the

same conditions described above for a permanent allowance, except that the Fire Chief's eligibility must be approved by the County Administrator or designee.

Payment of any of the allowances set forth herein begins on the first day of the month following the month in which: a) the Fire Chief verifies the employee's eligibility for that allowance, or b) the County Administrator or designee verifies the Fire Chief's eligibility for that allowance.

**21. Fire Services Standby Duty with Emergency Recall Differential**

All classifications covered by this Management Resolution, with the exception of the Fire Chief-Contra Costa (RPA1), are required to do standby duty with emergency recall for a minimum total of ten (10) days each month. A salary differential in the amount of five percent (5%) of monthly base salary shall be in effect for personnel assigned to standby duty with emergency recall.

Effective September 1, 2023, the five percent (5%) differential for standby duty with emergency recall is eliminated. Employees will continue to perform standby duty with emergency recall, and instead be compensated through an increase to their base salary, and no additional differentials or special pays will be provided.

**22. Executive Professional Development Reimbursement**

In lieu of the benefits provided in Section 15, the Fire Chief, Assistant Chief(s), and Deputy Fire Chief are eligible for reimbursement of up to nine hundred twenty-five dollars (\$925) for calendar year 2008 and for each two (2) year period thereafter, for memberships in professional organizations, subscriptions to professional organizations, subscriptions to professional publications, attendance fees at job-related professional development activities, and purchase of job-related computer hardware and software (excludes automation connectivity, support, or subscription fees) from a standardized County-approved list or with Fire Chief approval, provided each employee complies with the provisions of the County's Computer Use and Security Policy adopted by the Board of Supervisors and manuals. In order to receive reimbursement, the employee must have been in an eligible classification when the expense was incurred.

Individual professional development reimbursement requests must be approved by the Fire Chief. Reimbursement will occur through the regular demand process with demands being accompanied by proof of payment (copy of invoice or cancelled check). Certifications regarding compliance with County's Computer Use and Security Policy may be required.

## **II. BENEFITS FOR FIRE CHIEF**

As the Chief Officer of the Fire District and an Appointed Department Head, the Fire Chief receives the benefits provided under Part I, except as modified below:

### **23. Automobile**

The District will provide the Fire Chief with an appropriate vehicle. The Fire Chief is not eligible for an Automobile Allowance.

### **24. Executive Life Insurance**

In lieu of the insurance provided in Part I, Section 13, the Fire Chief is covered, at District expense, by term life insurance in the amount of sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000), additional to the insurance provided under Section 2.18.

### **25. Fire Management Educational Reimbursement**

The Fire Chief is entitled to be reimbursed by the District for all Fire Management educational expenses (tuition, fees, books, and the like) incurred by the Fire Chief during his tenure as Fire Chief.

### **26. No Fire Services Standby Duty with Emergency Recall Differential**

The Fire Chief is not eligible for the Fire Services Standby duty with Emergency Recall Differential set forth in Part I, Section 21 of this Resolution.

*[end]*