

**SOUTHERN INYO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SPECIAL FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, October 8, 2026 – 6PM**

MINUTES

I. Call to order

II. Public Comment: 3 minutes per participant

III. Old Business

A. Tecopa Weird Tales Festival

a. Volunteer check in.

a.i. Need parking, booth staffing, signage.

a.i.1. Mike will find signs in conex.

a.i.2. Need to finalize a list of volunteer roles for parking, crowd management, and staffing the SIFPB booth. Eliza will make list of volunteer jobs for day of the event.

b. Premiere update.

b.i. b.i. Suggested donation set at \$20.00.

b.i.1. To comply with grant stipulations, attendees will reserve free tickets online and be prompted to make a PayPal donation in a separate step.

b.i.2. Colette will write up a proposal for how to do the ticket taking.

b.ii. b.ii. SIFPD payment mechanism for WeirdTecopaFest.com; discuss implementation and timeline.

b.ii.1. Cynthia has an idea about ticket taking using paparazzi.

b.iii. b.iii. Submit premiere budget.

b.iii.1. \$680 budget approved.

b.iv. b.iv. Premiere sponsorship program.

b.iv.1. A localized sponsorship program was introduced, featuring 11x17 customizable frames for community members to print and display.

b.iv.2. Up to 100 of the frames will be printed for distribution.

b.v. b.v. Paparazzi extravaganza.

c. Site plan update.

c.i. County campground staff have agreed to move and set up the stage, alleviating Friday setup constraints.

c.ii. Decide porta potty and dumpster(s) numbers for event.

c.ii.1. The committee canceled the movable toilet trailer and finalized an order for four regular port-a-potties, one ADA port-a-potty, and two hand-washing stations for \$1,230.

c.ii.2. Two six-yard dumpsters will be rented from Joe's for \$730 and delivered Friday morning.

d. Update event budget.

d.i. The merchandise allocation is now \$2,700.

d.ii. Jerry will find out whether grant funds can be split with SIFPD to cover a permanent asset like the stage.

e. Temple of Weird update - call to artists and supplies collection (Constance).

e.i. Installation will begin Friday at 4:00 PM and continue overnight in the community center.

e.ii. Decor includes painted styrofoam designed to resemble a crumbling temple doorway.

e.iii. Signage will consist of hand-painted, garage-sale-style wooden signs with cryptic wayfinding messages.

f. Event schedule

- f.i. Next day showing of film.
 - f.ii. Wonderhussy meet and greet.
 - f.iii. Weird Tales tent w/Articia Bell.
 - f.iv. Music
 - f.iv.1. Musical acts will be prioritized on the schedule because of instrument and hookup requirements, with storytellers filling the gaps using a simple two-mic setup.
- g. Event features/fundraising
 - g.i. Food
 - g.i.1. Popcorn stand.
 - g.i.1.a. A commercially licensed popcorn machine is pending, with an alternative option to serve pre-bagged popcorn to bypass permit issues.
 - g.ii. Silent auction and raffle.
 - g.iii. Merch
 - g.iii.1. Determine stickers and other merch needing to be ordered.
 - g.iii.1.a. Merchandise will consist of single-color t-shirts (two-thirds black, one-third off-white, With the same ratio between men's and women's cuts as has been ordered in the past) and black zip-up hoodies with white ink. Stickers will also be ordered.
 - g.iii.2. Tshirts for staff.
 - g.iii.2.a. Volunteers will receive a standard event t-shirt from the main merchandise order rather than a custom volunteer batch.
 - g.iv. Vendors
 - g.v. Field trips.
- h. Website and communications review.
 - h.i. Roughly 50 flyers will be printed for distribution at local libraries, coffee shops, and schools.
 - h.ii. A social media push will occur weekly with fresh content highlighting vendors or attractions.
 - h.iii. QR codes linking directly to the donation page will be attached to the fire boots.
- i. Determine WiFi plan for event for staff, vendors, public, etc.
 - i.i. Two Starlinks will be powered on exclusively for vendors and point-of-sale systems. Wi-Fi will not be provided to general attendees. Eliza's Starlink will be used for vendor alley, Mike's for vendors on front of building.
- j. Advertising, soliciting donations.
 - j.i. Volunteers will be recruited via community postings (e.g., Happyville).

IV. Good of the Order

V. Public Comment: 3 minutes per participant

VI. Adjournment & Schedule next Committee Meeting Thursday October 22 at 6pm.