

We have received \$73,896.36 from the State Land Department for the Aspen and ANF wild land fire responses from July 2013. The funds generated will go back into the general fund. The state still owes us \$369.24 from a fire in April.

The Fry Fire District website is the feature website for the Arizona Fire District Association. Only a few of the 165 districts are chosen each year and we were chosen for this month.

On December 16, 2013, Medic 365 responded to an EMS assignment on S Sarah Ln. During the call, our ambulance damaged part of the fascia board on the home causing damage to both the fascia and the drip edging. Chief Miller spoke with the owner on December 30 about using a licensed contractor to make repairs to his home, but he wanted to do the work himself because he built it. The District agreed that he could complete the work himself and submit a bill not to exceed \$60.00 in labor costs, or \$30.00 an hour, plus the cost of the materials. We received the bill last week for \$160.40 and will be reimbursing him for the damage.

As a reminder, at last month's meeting the board gave Chief Miller the approval to select a consulting firm, along with the City of Sierra Vista, to look into the possibility of a consolidation plan for both organizations. This process will take a little longer than expected as the city is looking into funding the project. We are hoping to select a firm within the next couple of months.

Chief Miller reminded Mr. Brofer that he, Mr. Barnett and Mr. Gil are up for re-election this year.

Our annual awards banquet will be held on March 4 (Tuesday) at Pizzeria Mimosa, so please mark your calendars. They will be shutting the restaurant down that day for the District. Please let Maria or Linda know whether or not you will be able to attend and if you have any special dietary needs.

Run summary report was included in each board members box. We had 648 responses for the month of December and finished the year with 8409 calls with an average of 23 calls per day.

FINANCIAL REPORT

A. Review, discussion and possible action on the monthly financial report

Maria presented the Board with account balances as of December 31, 2013, along with a copy of the report from the Cochise County Treasurer's Office and the bank reconciliation from the District's Cyma Accounting Software. The District is currently out of credit line for the Maintenance and Operating budget and has \$826,548.72 in available operating funds.

Mr. Nash made a motion that the board accept the monthly financial report and agree to the balances as presented. Ms. Banister seconded the motion.

VOTE: 3-0

MOTION CARRIED

B. Review and discussion for the warrants issued for the month of December 2013

Mr. Nash asked whom the vendor PSPRS is and why we cut more than one check a month to them. Maria stated that it is the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System, which is the retirement fund for our suppression personnel, and we pay them every pay period. Chief Miller and Maria discussed with the board the current employer responsibility and how it continues to increase as we have 18 retirees and 40 full-timers so the amount funded is on the low end at just over 50 percent.

There were no further questions regarding the month's warrants.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Regular board minutes of December 18, 2013.

Ms. Banister made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of December 18, 2013. Mr. Nash seconded the motion.

VOTE: 3-0

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS AGENDA

A. Presentation of badges to new Reserve Firefighters

Chief Miller expressed his pleasure in presenting five new Reserve Firefighters to the District Board. Maria had each new employee read aloud the loyalty oath and then Chief Miller had each one come to the front of the classroom individually with a family member to pin their badge on them. The five new employees are Aaron Estacio, Brent Madden, Brice Madden, Robert Tracey and Landon Threet.

B. Arizona Fire District Association Report

Chief Miller reported on the following:

The Second Regular Session of the 51st Arizona Legislature began on Monday, January 13, 2014. Fifty-two (52) bills have been pre-filed as of Monday (17 in the House and 28 in the Senate).

AFDA has secured Senator Adam Driggs (R-28), the Majority Whip, as the primary sponsor for the \$3.25 tax rate cap relief measure.

- All Members should be aware the Arizona Legislature is implementing a new Request to Speak (RTS) system, which will affect all AFDA members who are registered users and remotely login to support / oppose legislation. The new RTS will have many improved features, which should make it more efficient and user friendly. The current RTS registration will not transfer to the new system; therefore, before you can use the new RTS system going forward, you will have to go to the Arizona Capitol and re-register as a user.

- The draft language developed to address the Legislative Study Committee on Countywide Fire Districts' recommendations was distributed on December 30 to the AFDA members. AFDA has received feedback on the proposed measure from several board members. Work has begun to address a number of the items with the bill sponsor (Senator Crandell). The bill language remains subject to change as stakeholders weigh in. The reform items within the proposed measure are:

1. Require mandatory training in fire district governance, administration and financial management for all fire district board members;
2. Prohibit nepotism among district board members and their employees;
3. Require a county board of supervisors to appoint a replacement fire district board member, if the fire district board has not replaced the fire district board member itself within 90 days;
4. Require all fire districts to have at least a five-member board.

- The AFDA Primary Legislative Agenda established at the December 5, 2013 board meeting:

1. \$3.25 tax rate cap relief
2. Ambulance Certificate of Necessity process improvements (legislation currently being drafted by House staff – will be forwarded upon receipt).
3. Increasing the State Forester's Fire Suppression Fund from \$4M to \$15M / requiring payment to local government cooperators and using Federal dollars to reimburse the fund (AFDA Executive Director met with the Governor's Office on this matter with positive feedback).

Legislative Watch Items

4. Proposal for city annexation of county roadways (Position: OPPOSE).
5. Proposal for prohibiting fire district annexation within a city's municipal

planning area (Position: OPPOSE).

6. Proposal to address fire district formation and annexation by ATRA (Position: TBD)

We will see the Proposition 13 supporters with another petition drive for 2014.

AFDA Summer Conference and Annual Business meeting is scheduled for June 27 and 28, 2014 at Loews Ventana Canyon.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Executive session. Discussion of pending or contemplated litigation with the Copper Queen Hospital regarding patient transports. No action will be taken during the executive session.

Chief Miller informed the board that we received an order vacating the emergency hearing requested by Copper Queen's attorneys. The attorneys representing us from our insurance company are seeking a motion to dismiss the claim. There was no need to enter executive session and this information was shared during regular session.

ACTION ITEMS

- A. Review, discuss and possible action to award roofing repairs to Fry Fire Station #2 to include the maintenance shop building. Requested three bids; Sun Valley Roofing \$31,350 not including tax or plywood repairs; Westover Roofing LLC \$74,900 including tax but not including plywood repairs; no other bids received.

Chief Miller gave copies of the bids to the board members and asked that we award the bid to Sun Valley Roofing, as they were the lower bid. We have repaired the roof several times and need a new roof at this point to avoid any major issues.

Mr. Nash made a motion that the board award the bid for a new roof to Sun Valley Roofing and allow for plywood repairs for an amount not to exceed \$40,000. Ms. Banister seconded the motion.

VOTE: 3-0

MOTION CARRIED

- B. Review, discuss and possible action to accept the audit report as presented by Mark Heidenreich with Heidenreich & Heidenreich, CPAs, PLLC

Chief Miller Skyped Mr. Heidenreich in to present the board with the annual audit and answer any questions they may have. Mr. Heidenreich met the board in person when he attended a board meeting during the audit process in October. Mr. Heidenreich informed the board that he did not come across any issues in the course of his audit and the one suggestion made was for staff to review outstanding warrants on a more regular basis and clear out any that need to be voided. He also discussed the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System and that the District is not as funded as some of the other districts he audits, but in discussion, those districts do not have as many retirees to fund as we do.

Mr. Nash made a motion that the board accepts the audit and management letter as presented by Heidenreich & Heidenreich, CPAs, PLLC. Ms. Banister seconded the motion.

VOTE: 3-0
MOTION CARRIED

REQUESTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Nash asked if there were staff training sessions that the board members are able to attend. He stated that he enjoyed the demonstration provided by Chief Savage on the cardiac monitors and would like to possibly attend some in the future. Chief Miller stated that Chiefs Gordon and Ryan conduct most of the trainings and we could get a list if the board would like.


There were no comments/requests from board members for future agenda items.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Banister made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:15 p.m. Motion seconded by Mr. Nash.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

DATED THIS 17th DAY OF JANUARY 2014.


Art Nash
Board Clerk
Fry Fire District Board