FRY FIRE DISTRICT MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING August 20, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Brofer called the Regular Meeting of the Fry Fire District Board to order at 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members in Attendance:

Duane Brofer, Board Chairman

Art Nash, Board Clerk

James Barnett, Board Member Bess Banister, Board Member

Board Members Absent:

Gilbert Gil, Board Member

Others in Attendance:

William Miller, Fire Chief

Linda Romero, Account Technician

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE

Mr. Nash led the pledge of allegiance and Mr. Brofer gave the invocation.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. Brofer opened the call to the public at 7:01 p.m.

There was no one to appear before the board at this time.

Call to the public closed at 7:01 p.m.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT/SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

Chief Miller reported that two of our new employees have been selected by the City of Sierra Vista Fire Department as lateral transfer firefighters. We were hoping that someone from our organization would accept the positions over there before they opened firefighter positions to the public. We're hoping that the transfers will allow us to better implement a unified pay schedule between both departments later this year, and into next year, with board approval. Note: The city just completed a salary survey and found that the city fire and police members

were paid on the average 18% - 20% less than other cities, towns and fire districts comparable in size.

We have partnered up with the National Association for Hispanic Elderly to provide part-time work for low income seniors at no cost the Fry Fire District. The program is provided in part with the Senior Community Service Employment Program and Cochise County Work Force Development. We currently have two people participating.

Emergency Service Consulting International was here during the last week of July conducting the feasibility study on the possibility of a consolidation between Fry Fire and Sierra Vista Fire. The study should be completed within three months.

We had a truck on a wildland assignment in Northern California on the El Portal/Black Hole Fire that left on July 29th and returned on August 4th. We have also sent a truck up to Washington State for a fire assignment on August 13th. On another note, we had to return the truck to Phoenix for another hydraulic leak.

We had some roofing work done this month on Station 365 due to water seeping in through the parapet wall. We also had a bay door damaged at this station.

We made an adjustment to our water main in the bay of Station 361, converting an old 2" supply to a residential 5/8" line. Doing so will save the district approximately \$1,000.00 annually.

We completed a complete radio reprogramming on all of our handhelds and mobile radios, this was done by our volunteers Ev Witting and Bob Hollister. The amount of hours they spent researching and programming easily exceeded 60 hours.

Chief Miller informed the board that he has been contacted by Verizon about leasing space on our tower at Fry Fire Station 366 and he will be looking at a possible contract to do so that would provide the district an annual revenue of \$15,000.00.

The county elections department has received four candidate petitions for the three open positions on the Fry Fire District Board; the candidates are Mr. Duane Brofer, Mr. James Barnett, Mr. Gilbert Gil, and Mr. Robert McMurtrie.

Chief Miller reported that he was re-elected as the Chairperson for the Cochise County EMS council last month.

Chief advised for future planning our awards banquet is scheduled for February 21, 2015. It will be held in conjunction with the City of Sierra Vista Fire

Department and the guest speaker will be retired Fire Chief Alan Brunacini from Phoenix Fire Department.

We had 736 responses for the month of July.

FINANCIAL REPORT

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

Chief Miller explained to the board that prior to Maria going out on leave, her computer hard drive crashed leaving her using a backup CPU. In doing so, she is unable to remote into that computer and as such was unable to retrieve the reports to provide account balances. He asked that the board allow the financial report for July 2014 be presented at the next board meeting.

The board agreed that they would review the July 2014 financial reports at next month's board meeting

B. Review and discussion for the warrants issued for the month of July 2014

Ms. Banister inquired as to whom the vendor International Code Council is and Chief Miller explained that it is the organization in which our Fire Marshall utilizes to keep up with fire code regulations and changes.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Regular board minutes of July 16, 2014.

Mr. Barnett made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of July 16, 2014, as written. Ms. Banister seconded the motion.

VOTE: 4-0 MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS AGENDA

A. Arizona Fire District Association Report

Chief Miller reported on the following:

Bryan Jeffries, who is the new PFFA President, addressed the board and said their two priorities for this coming year in legislature are fire district levy relief and PSPRS pension reform.

There was a lot of talk about HB2050 and how it will affect fire districts that are currently on ASRS and PSPRS. The new bill will make it mandatory that any employee who works over 20 hours MUST participate in a system in which the agency is already a participating employer. We only participate in PSPRS so we will not have to put the ladies in the office on ASRS. The draw back for us in the future is if we decide to hire Reserve Firefighters and they work over 20 hours a week, they will need to participate in PSPRS.

Next month we'll be looking at what our top legislative priorities will be for the coming year. As you all know the primary elections will shape what our legislators will look like for the next two years.

HB1387 Arizona Attorney General Opinion (handout given to board members)

Due to the retirement of Simon Davis, Mary Dalton from Sun City West is the new President of AFDA. This leaves the Vice President position open, which will be filled at the next meeting.

The Tucson conference lost just under \$15,000.00; however, the good news is that the conference in Laughlin had a gain of \$30,000.00. AFDA is looking at possibly either moving the Tucson conference or holding just one conference a year.

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 stated that he did not feel a need to enter into executive session as he had already provided the board with confidential information from our attorney to include a current summary and anticipated fees.

ACTION ITEM

A. Review, discuss and possible action to amend the Fry Fire District HR Policy "Sick Leave" on the use of "Terminal Leave" for retirement purposes.

Chief Miller presented the board with the current policy and a possible amendment so as to make the policy more definitive. He also suggested adding a clause to give direction in the unlikely case that an employee passes away prior to receiving all of their terminal leave benefit. There was lengthy discussion regarding change possibilities.

Mr. Barnett made a motion for the board to amend the Fry Fire District HR Policy "Sick Leave" on the use of "Terminal Leave" for retirement purposes to the percentage chart as presented by Chief Miller with a clause included addressing the passing of an employee prior to receipt of said benefit. Ms. Banister seconded the motion.

VOTE: 4-0 MOTION CARRIED

B. Review, discuss and possible action to amend the Fry Fire District Board Policies: Policy 101 "Delegations of Authority from the District Board to the Fire Chief", Policy 102 "District Board Fire Chief Relations, Policy 103 "Fire District Board Reorganization", Policy 104 "Conflict of Interest", and Policy 105 "Activities and Conduct of Individual District Board Members".

Policy 101 amendments were reviewed and discussed at length by the board members and fire chief. Mr. Nash made a motion to amend Policy 101to the presented changes as discussed and agreed upon by the fire chief and board members. Mr. Barnett seconded the motion.

VOTE: 4-0 MOTION CARRIED

Policy 102 had no amendments and will remain as currently written.

Policy 103 amendments were reviewed and discussed at length by the board members and fire chief. Mr. Nash made a motion to amend Policy 103 to the presented changes as discussed and agreed upon by the fire chief and board members. Ms. Banister seconded the motion.

VOTE: 4-0 MOTION CARRIED

Policy 104 had no amendments and will remain as currently written.

Policy 105 amendments were reviewed and discussed at length by the board members and fire chief. Mr. Nash made a motion to amend Policy 105 to the presented changes as discussed and agreed upon by the fire chief and board members. Ms. Banister seconded the motion.

VOTE: 4-0 MOTION CARRIED

REQUESTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests from the board for future agenda items.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Barnett made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:35 p.m. Motion seconded by Mr. Nash.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

DATED THIS 21st DAY OF AUGUST 2014.

Art Nash

Board Clerk

Fry Fire District Board

