

**FRY FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
December 17, 2014**

CALL TO ORDER

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

ATTENDANCE

Board Members in Attendance:	Art Nash, Acting Board Chairman James Barnett, Acting Board Clerk Gilbert Gil, Board Member
Board Members Absent:	Bess Banister, Board Member Robert McMurtrie, Board Member
Others in Attendance:	William Miller, Fire Chief Maria Gordon, Administrative Manager

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE

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

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. Nash 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 to the board that the rainwater harvesting project for stations 365 and 366 has started. Each tank will hold 5,000 gallons of rainwater. We'll have three tanks at 365 and two at 366. As a reminder to the board, this was a grant that was provided by the Cochise Water Project in the amount of \$40,016.13.

The bay door here at 365 has been replaced with a steel door and will hopefully be operational by the end of the month.

We have provided copies of our PSPRS (public safety pension retirement system) annual report, via email, to each board member. Our contribution rate will increase from 31.45% to 39.90% for next year as reported last month. Although the increase is not good news, we are still under the state average. This increase will have an impact of approximately \$247,800 to our budget next year.

This morning, in Phoenix, Chief Miller had the opportunity to meet with Representative Gowan, who will become the Speaker of the House on January 5th about fixes to PSPRS and requesting support for home rule tax relief. He also met with our local Representative Stevens this afternoon on the same subjects. We have both their support in bringing forth a bill for consideration this year.

Our annual awards banquet will be held February 21st at the Windermere. This year we're hosting the event with the City of Sierra Vista FD and our guest speaker will be retired Fire Chief Alan Brunacini from Phoenix FD. Please let Maria know if you're planning on attending.

We are also pleased to announce that Firefighter Dennis Ferrel was selected as the VFW Firefighter of the Year and also the Elk's Firefighter of the Year for the greater Sierra Vista area. Congratulations Dennis!

We had 722 responses for the month of November.

FINANCIAL REPORT

A. Review, discussion and possible action on the monthly financial reports for November 2014

Maria presented the Board with account balances as of November 30, 2014, 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 has \$961,940.50 in available operating funds as of November 30.

Mr. Barnett made a motion that the board agree with balances and accept the financial report as presented. Mr. Gil seconded the motion.

VOTE: 3-0
Motion Carried

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

Maria reminded the board that leave buyback was in November.

There were no questions regarding the month's warrants.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Regular board minutes of November 19, 2014.

Mr. Barnett made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of November 19, 2014, as written. Mr. Gil seconded the motion.

VOTE: 3-0

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS AGENDA

A. Arizona Fire District Association Report

Chief Miller reported the following as being priorities:

- PSPRS pension reform
- Working on a legislative bill to all local voters to approve tax cap overrides, although we not going to use the term "override" but something like "tax-cap freedom initiative" or "tax-rate cap relief initiative".
- Title-48 technical corrections are in Title36 tax subsidy prohibition, and conflicts with SB1387. An example is using fire district taxes to subsidize the ambulance service.
- Wildland prompt payment. It takes the state up to a year to reimburse us for wildland responses and we are trying to get payments in a timelier manner.
- Continue to help fund State Fire School.

AFDA will also be watching several other issues and bills.

B. Badge ceremony

Chief Miller presented our newly promoted engineer, Matt Brown, and newly hired firefighter, Kirby Overstreet to the board. Both employees had a family member come to the front to pin on their badges. Congratulations Engineer Brown and Firefighter Overstreet!

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 there is nothing new to report.

ACTION ITEM

A. Nomination and election of Board Chairperson.

Chief Miller handed a ballot to each board member and explained that Mr. McMurtrie filled one out prior to leaving for TDY and we were unable to get a hold of Mrs. Banister for her vote prior to the meeting.

After collecting the votes, we had a tie.

Mr. Barnett made a motion that the board tables both positions until next meeting when a majority can be established. Mr. Gil seconded the motion.

VOTE: 3-0

Motion Carried

B. Nomination and election of Board Clerk

See above (action item A) for motion.

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 7:30 p.m. Motion seconded by Mr. Gil.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

DATED THIS 19th DAY OF DECEMBER 2014.



James Barnett
Acting Board Clerk
Fry Fire District Board