

**FRY FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
March 18, 2015**

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, Board Chairman
James Barnett, Board Clerk
Gilbert Gil, Board Member
Bess Banister, Board Member
Robert McMurtrie, Board Member

Board Members Absent:

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 7:10 p.m.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT/SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

Chief Miller informed the board that as requested at last month's meeting, each board member has been assigned a district email account and will have the ability to access the email accounts through the web. Chief has sent a test email so please login to the system. It is not mandatory to use the District's email so if any board member chooses not to do so, please advise us so we send information to the correct email.

We're pleased to announce that at the awards banquet, the ladies in the office were awarded the Outstanding Achievement award, Jon Wayne was recognized as

our EMS Professional of the Year and Jared Haros was recognized as our Firefighter of the Year. This was the first year that we had a joint awards dinner with the City of Sierra Vista.

We awarded a roofing bid to Sun Valley Roofing, who was the low bid, to repair roof leaks on station 366, for the amount of \$4,250.00. They will apply one coat of primary to the entire roof and reseal all penetrations and apply two coats of elastomeric roof coating.

Struse Plumbing will also be performing some plumbing work in the kitchen at this station. We have a major plug-up between the kitchen and septic.

On February 25th Engine 361 sustained damage to left rear rim while responding on a call. The cost is estimated to be less than \$500.

We're working with Cochise County on one of our land parcels #104-05-053J, located on Thorneydale Lane. This property was a "quit claim deed" to Fry Fire District on December 20, 2010, and the board approved Resolution 2012-006 for said property. At this point, the State of Arizona has applied for a treasurer's deed to the property for back taxes, interest, fees, penalties and charges. A title search was performed by Pioneer Title and nothing came up December 30, 2010. Base taxes owed total \$2513.14, interest & fees \$2,862.83, so now the state wants us to pay them \$5,375.97 for the property. We heard back from the Treasurer's Office today, that we can only appeal 2 years from the date of notice, but they're going to check on current law. Chief Miller is leaning towards just abandoning the property and having the state take it over. If the board wants more action than that, please let us know and it will be added to next month's agenda for discussion, otherwise we'll look at appealing the taxes and if they don't accept our appeal we'll turn the property over to the state. The property is the actual roadway on Thorneydale Lane.

Chief Miller is currently working with the city manager on the possibility of the fire district providing ambulance billing services to the city.

We've completed our annual driver's license checks with nothing significant to report.

We had 687 responses for the month of February.

FINANCIAL REPORT

- A. Review, discussion and possible action on the monthly financial reports for February 2015.

Maria presented the Board with account balances as of February 28, 2015, 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 \$633,510.06 in available operating funds as of February 28.

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

VOTE: 5-0

Motion Carried

B. Review and discussion for the warrants issued for the month of January 2015.

Mr. Barnett asked what we were paying the AZ State Forestry and Mr. Nash asked if the large check to Walmart was for car seats. Maria explained that both of those expenditures are for grants obtained by the District.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Regular board minutes of February 18, 2015.

Ms. Banister made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of February 18, 2015, as written. Mr. Gil seconded the motion.

VOTE: 5-0

MOTION CARRIED

B. Special board minutes of February 23, 2015.

Mr. McMurtrie made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of February 23, 2015, as written. Mr. Barnett seconded the motion.

VOTE: 5-0

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS AGENDA

A. Arizona Fire District Association Report

Chief Miller reported on the following:

Governor's Budget:

- Cut the states forestry fire suppression funding from \$4,000,000 to \$1,000,000
- State fire school funded at \$174,000

- State Fire Marshal took a \$500,000 reduction
- AHCCCS down 5% from 74.74% to 68.59%

1,163 bills and resolutions posted to date; 29 bills passed and 19 signed by the Governor. They're hoping to get out of session by the end of the month.

HB 2406: Fire District Assistance tax override: Dead

HB 2366: Fire Suppression/Federal suppression Reimbursement: Dead

HB2162: Committee to study fire districts-Passed in House goes to Senate

HB 2441: Taxing district boundary changes: Passed House went to Senate where Senator Briggs is holding the bill. Appears to be dead with only a week or so left in the session.

HB2588: Over lapping CON's to provide for community Paramedicine (A bill that applies only to the Maricopa area for now; this is a watch bill for the future)-Passes goes to Senate.

SB1312: Fire District language revisions to mergers: Passed Senate goes to House.

SB1455: Special firefighter plate (anyone can get this plate, funding goes to fire school): Passed both the Senate and House and is sitting on the Governor's desk.

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 there are now four attorneys involved and that our attorney assigned by the insurance company stated that the process should begin moving fairly quickly and are hoping for possible arbitration by month's end. A lot of our paperwork had "nearest facility" marked as the reason, although Copper Queen was actually the nearest facility, so we have stressed to our personnel to make sure that they are indeed marking the correct reason.

ACTION ITEM

- A. Discussion and possible action to approve "Resolution 2015-001" allowing the Fry Fire District to submit application to the Arizona Highway Safety Plan for a reimbursable grant for an ambulance re-chassis.

Chief Miller explained to the board that a resolution by the board is required with the grant submission and we would like to apply for the grant to obtain funding to help us re-chassis one of our medic units.

Mr. McMurtrie made a motion that the board approves Resolution 2015-001 for grant submission. Ms. Banister seconded the motion.

VOTE: 5-0

Motion Carried

B. Discussion and possible action to approve “Resolution 2015-002” updating the Automatic Aid Agreement between the Fry Fire District and Palominas Fire District.

Chief Miller informed the board that we currently have an agreement with Palominas Fire District, but the new fire chief would like a new agreement in place. Donna Aversa has reviewed the agreement and made any necessary amendments to it. The board had some discussion with Chief Miller regarding what medic unit would be responding and whether or not there would be any conflict as there is SVFD personnel on our units as well. Medic 365, which has always been the station that primarily responds to Palominas, will continue to do so, and Sierra Vista Fire also has an automatic aid agreement with Palominas Fire so there is no issue with their personnel responding.

Mr. Barnett made a motion that the board approves the updated automatic aid agreement with Palominas Fire District. Mr. McMurtrie seconded the motion.

VOTE: 5-0

Motion Carried

REQUESTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. McMurtrie mentioned that he, along with other board members, received an email from the District’s union regarding a representative to come down and speak to the board about the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSRPS). Chief Miller stated that the union asked him about it and said no because he has given several updates to the board and keeps them apprised of what’s going on with the system, but if the board wishes to have the representative come down, he will set it up as a work session so that we can invite everyone to attend, but not make it mandatory. Chief Miller explained to the board that the legislators are not going to do anything at this time as the police unions are not completely on board, and make up the majority of the PSRPS membership. The presentation does not show what the future brings, but may give the board some information we haven’t previously discussed.

Mr. McMurtrie recalls that at last month's meeting, Chief Miller stated that he was in receipt of the ESCI study. Chief Miller explained that he recently finished reviewing the third draft and has not yet received a final report to give to the board. He stated that when it is finalized, he will forward it on to the board, strictly for board member review. We would like to have a meeting with the board prior to it being distributed to others.

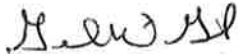
There were no additional questions/requests from the board for future agenda items.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Barnett made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:48 p.m. Motion seconded by Mr. McMurtrie.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

DATED THIS 20th DAY OF MARCH 2015.


James Barnett *Gilbert G.L*
Board Clerk, *Acting*
Fry Fire District Board