

**FRY FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
November 15, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER

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

ATTENDANCE

Board Members in Attendance: Robert McMurtrie, Board Chairman
Thomas Tucker, Acting Board Clerk
Joseph Huish, Board Member (by phone)

Board Members Absent: James Barnett, Board Clerk
Gilbert Gil, Board Member

Command Staff in Attendance: Mark Savage, Fire Chief
Billy Seamans, Battalion Chief
Kaleb Mauzy, Acting Battalion Chief
Melissa Tomlinson, JVG
Steven Rodriguez, JVG
Linda Romero, Billing Supervisor/Adm Asst

Others in Attendance: Dennis Ferrel, FF
Mike Shamas, FF
Mike Kean, FF
Adam Short, Eng
John Clark, FF
Jeff Matura, Attorney (by phone for
executive session)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE/INVOCATION

Mr. McMurtrie led the Pledge of Allegiance and delivered the invocation.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Mr. McMurtrie reminded board members that they shall declare any conflict of interest. No board member declared a conflict at this time.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

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

There were no comments from the public.

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

COMMAND STAFF'S REPORT

Chief Savage reported that Linda pushed out the first electronic billing batch to the clearinghouse last week. We're excited about this progress and are looking forward to the quicker payment times we expect to see on our ambulance invoices.

Chief Savage reported that we are hosting CERT training in our classroom at Sta. 365. There are 20 students from across the county attending. Stop the Bleed will be covered for them this Saturday morning.

Chief Savage spoke with Chief DeWolf this week and emailed him our current IGA. He advised they are scheduled to meet on Monday to talk about what Palominas Fire District is working on. Chief Savage will continue to offer any support we can provide during this transition.

Chief Savage reported that he attended the Huachuca City board meeting and presented them with a couple of different options for emergency service support. The Town of Huachuca City opted to enter contract negotiations with the Whetstone Fire District for emergency services. We will continue to provide ambulance responses for patients requiring transport within our CON.

Chief Savage advised that the compensation/benefits study is still ongoing. Brenda Tranchina is comparing our pay/benefits to similar fire districts with budgets between \$4M and \$10M and includes the City of Douglas as well as Sierra Vista Fire and Medical Department. Mrs. Tranchina spoke with Linda this week regarding administrative job descriptions and duties.

We have eight SAFER applicants; interviews are scheduled for next Tuesday to develop a list for hire. We are hoping to hire one full time firefighter to fill a vacancy immediately and three more for the SAFER grant in January.

Acting BC Mauzy is coordinating four additional part-time firefighters we have hired as they work through our initial familiarization training.

We are finalizing the promotional process for the Battalion Chief test. Anticipated test dates are towards the end of January and we hope to post the announcement this week.

Strategic plan surveys have been posted and employees are encouraged to offer their input.

Chief Savage also received a notice from the City of Sierra Vista that they are requesting an amendment of their CON to include Ft. Huachuca.

Chief Savage gave BC Gordon's update in his absence. The crews continue to work on completing their 2017 training requirements.

Crews completed the LPG burn this month, a special thanks to AmeriGas, Mr. Mauzy and Acting BC Mauzy. AmeriGas donated 600 gallons of LPG (approx. \$1,500.00) and Mr. Mauzy donated his time and expertise.

The DEPAT was administered, everyone has passed so far and have only one person left for completion.

FFD personnel attended a Cancer Awareness/Prevention class at Sta. 203.

BC Seamans provided incident stats to the board.

He advised he has sent out the RFP for the Type III to multiple vendors. These bids are due December 15th with an opening date of December 17th. Special thanks to Acting BC Mauzy, Capt Popp, Eng Wayne, Eng York, FF Kean and mechanic Jimmy Ayers for their input on the specs.

BC Seamans also advised he is going to decrease the price on the engine we are trying to sell to \$22,500.00 and advertise it.

The region received an AFG grant for mobile radios and are hoping for an RAC grant that will assist in updating infrastructure.

Acting BC Mauzy reported that he attended the AZ Forestry end of season review. Changes are coming down that will require an Engine Boss on the truck on federal fires when initially called. Fry Fire is already prepared for this change.

Mike Starr has been named the Cochise County Training Coordinator, congrats to Mike.

Our crew is back from California safely, we had the turbo go out in the Type III, but it has been repaired.

Cochise County Hazmat teams are up and running now.

FINANCIAL REPORT

- A. Review, discussion and possible action on the monthly financial reports for October 2017.

Melissa with JVG gave a power point presentation that included all of the financial statistics. A packet of the presentation was also provided to the board. She also notified the board that we would like to make changes to how disbursements are handled with bill.com and make Chief Savage the payer, the board would still sign checks over \$10,000.00. All board members will have the same access and can log in at any time they wish. We are hoping this change will speed up the payment process.

Mr. Huish made a motion to accept the financial reports, Mr. Tucker seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0

Motion Carried

- B. Review and discussion on the warrants issued for the month of October 2017.

There were no questions regarding the warrants issued for the month of October 2017.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

- A. Special board meeting minutes of November 1, 2017

Since only one board member was present for the last board meeting, Mr. Tucker made a motion to accept the special board meeting minutes of November 1, 2017. Mr. Huish seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0

Motion Carried

BUSINESS AGENDA

- A. AFDA Report

Chief Savage reported that the Medicare Ambulance Add-On Payments expire January 1st. Representatives Devin Nunes (R-CA) and Terri Sewell (D-AL) introduced the Comprehensive Operations, Sustainability, and Transport Act of 2017 (H.R. 3729), which will reauthorize these add-on payments for five years

and create a cost reporting mechanism to assess how Medicare's Ambulance Fee Schedule could be improved to better align reimbursements with the cost of care. Volunteer Fire Assistance Grants are open until November 22nd for wildland fire cooperators. The VFA Grant Program is authorized by the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1990, and provides financial assistance to train, organize and equip fire departments in rural areas and communities to prevent and suppress fires. A rural community is defined as having a population of 10,000 or less. Information is available from the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management.

The 34th Annual Arizona Fallen Firefighter Memorial will be held January 7, 2018, at 9am at Wesley Bolin Plaza in Phoenix.

The 53rd Arizona Legislature, 2nd Regular Session commences on January 8, 2018.

The last day to file to run for Federal or State Office in the 2018 General Election is May 30, 2018.

The next AFDA Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 7, 2017 at 10am at the Glendale Regional Public Safety Training Campus.

OLD BUSINESS

A. SBA Tower Lease Contract

Chief Savage reported that the Sprint engineering analyses are back, they have suggested stronger guide cables and a foundation upgrade which we will support if Sprint covers the costs. A non-compete clause with Sprint was also suggested but nothing has been received from SBA.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Discussion and possible action on salary/benefits study

Brenda Tranchina is looking at wages in comparable sized departments. There is no action to be taken at this time.

B. Discussion and possible action on contract with William T. Miller

C. Discussion and possible action on PSPRS benefits

Chief Savage explained that Mr. Miller was notified of this agenda item and he received an emailed request from Mr. Miller that the discussion be held in executive session. He received a subsequent request from Mr. Miller that advised he wouldn't be in attendance and asked that a statement be read on his behalf.

Chief Savage suggested discussing contract question and PSPRS benefits item with Mr. Matura in executive session.

Mr. Tucker made a motion to enter into executive session. Mr. Huish seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0
Motion Carried

Executive Session entered at 7:29pm

Regular Session resumed at 8:12pm.

Mr. Tucker made a motion to terminate Mr. Miller's contract at the end of his terminal leave. Mr. Huish seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0
Motion Carried

No action was taken on Item C.

REQUEST FROM BOARD MEMBERS

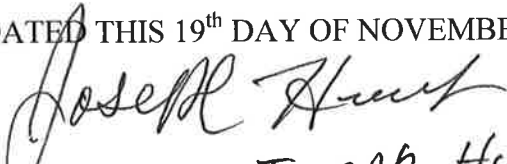
There were no requests from the board at this time.

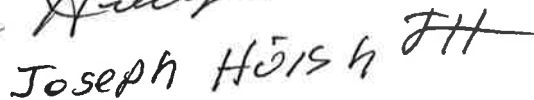
ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Tucker made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:15 p.m. Motion seconded by Mr. Huish.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

DATED THIS 19th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2017.


Thomas Tucker
(Acting) Board Clerk
Fry Fire District Board


Joseph Huish JH