

**FRY FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
April 27, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Huish called the Regular Meeting of the Fry Fire District Board to order at 6:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members in Attendance: Joseph Huish, Board Chairman
Eric Andersen, Board Clerk
Norman Sturm, Board Member

Board Members Absent: Robert McMurtrie, Board Member
Thomas Tucker, Board Member

Staff in Attendance: Mark Savage, Fire Chief
Diana Jones, Billing Supervisor
Ben Archer Clowes, JVG
Steven Rodriguez, JVG

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

Mr. Huish led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mr. Sturm gave the invocation.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Mr. Huish 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. Huish opened the call to the public at 6:01 p.m.

There were no comments from the public.

Call to the public closed at 6:01 p.m.

Employee Recognition

A. Firefighter Richard Yocupicio Oath and Badge presentation.

Chief Savage recognized Firefighter Richard Yocupicio for successful completion of his one-year probation. Chief Savage administered the loyalty oath and presented FF Yocupicio a new helmet shield and badge.

B. Engineer Brent Madden Badge presentation.

Engineer Brent Madden was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Regular Board Meeting on March 23, 2021.

Mr. Sturm made a motion to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes of March 23, 2021. Mr. Andersen seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0, Mr. Huish abstained.

Motion Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

A. Review, discussion and possible action on the monthly financial report for March 2021.

Ben Archer Clowes from James Vincent Group (JVG) gave a PowerPoint presentation reflecting the financial reports for March 2021. A discussion followed. The board reviewed the warrants for the month and there were no questions.

Mr. Andersen made a motion to accept the March 2021 financial reports. Mr. Sturm seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0.

Motion Carried.

COMMAND STAFF'S REPORT

Chief Savage provided board members with an update on the ongoing legislative actions and reviewed bills of relevance to fire districts. They are still working on the state budget. S1108 is a tax omnibus bill which includes an increase in fire district levy limits to counteract a reduction in the taxing rate for commercial properties. The Firefighter's cancer bill passed. We received a workers' compensation quote from Securis – the Arizona Fire District Insurance pool – which reflects our current costs but have not received anything back from 7710. There is also a bill that may include \$20M in appropriations from the state to cities for cancer costs but no mention of fire districts. Chief Savage will be following up with AFDA.

Members of the board were notified of the AFDA / AFCA Leadership Conference scheduled from July 6 through July 8, 2021 in Glendale.

Board members were provided a report on statistics showing a continuing decrease in demand for vaccinations since mid-March. Our last large POD is currently scheduled for May 15 but may shift to the County. Our vaccinators have administered almost 8000

vaccines to date with another 600 scheduled. The Board's recognition of the support provided by Cochise College was greatly appreciated by Nursing and Allied Health administration and staff.

Wildfire season is here and we have a six personnel on REMS / IMT teams deployed to the Flag Fire. The DOC Fire Crews are still out of service.

Our Ready, Set, GO! Chipper grant application through the International Association of Fire Chiefs was denied. There is no news on our applications for new extrication tools under the Governor's Office of Highway Safety program or communication funding from FEMA.

On the fuel reduction side, we are making progress using a private contractor to cut and thin and some of our personnel to run the TNC Chipper. Battalion Chief Mauzy has interviews scheduled next week for some additional part-time personnel, including two for wildland / fuel reduction. We are continuing to meet with Department of Forestry and Fire Management to develop an agreement to setup our own fuels crew with 2020 funding.

We hired a replacement for Heather Stanger. Angel Perry has been in a few days so far to start training. She helped with payroll today and will be here full-time starting next Monday and continue training with Heather over the next few weeks.

Mr. Ayers has his hands full lately with some significant repairs. He also picked up some additional work from Palominas Fire District; rebuilding a pump on one of their water tenders and servicing two of their brush trucks.

The next Southeast Arizona Communications (SEACOM) JPA meeting will be on May 3 in which we will continue working on the FY22 Budget and filling the Director vacancy. We are continuing to work on radio repairs for Fire 3 with Cochise County and Canyon State.

Chief Buonacorsi, the interim Palominas Fire Chief, and Chief Savage reviewed our existing Engine Boss IGA, and he is supportive. Chief Savage is optimistic that we will be able to help them fill some Type 6 wildland assignments as we start getting some engine orders. These agreements are likely to change next year when the state moves to an all-inclusive day rate.

Chief Savage continues to correspond with Mr. Evans, Whetstone Fire Board Chair, and Ms. Harvey, Huachuca City Town Manager. Whetstone anticipates hosting a Chief selection process mid-May. We offered to assist with assessors and / or role players as needed. On April 2, we hosted a successful Janssen POD at the community center in Huachuca City with support from Cochise County, Huachuca City town staff and Whetstone Fire personnel.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Sta. 365 Remodel Update.

Chief Savage provided Fire Board Members an update on the timeline for CORE to start construction.

No motion was taken on this item.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Review, discussion and possible action regarding Harassment / Sexual Harassment Policy.

Chief Savage provided Board Members with a revised copy of the Harassment / Sexual Harassment Policy. A discussion followed.

Mr. Sturm made a motion to accept the Harassment / Sexual Harassment Policy. Mr. Andersen seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0.
Motion Carried.

B. Review, discussion and possible action regarding PSPRS Retiree Subsidy Policy.

Chief Savage provided Board Members with a revised copy of the PSPRS Retiree Health Insurance Subsidy Policy. A discussion followed.

Mr. Andersen made a motion to accept the PSPRS Retiree Health Insurance Subsidy Policy. Mr. Sturm seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0.
Motion Carried.

C. Review, discussion and possible action regarding Water Tender bids.

Battalion Chief Seamans provided Board Members with four bids for a type 1 water tender. The committee's recommendation was to go with the lowest bid from Osco Tank & Truck Sales. The proposal met the specifications with a 4000-gallon water tender, fire rated pump and commercial chassis. A discussion followed.

Mr. Sturm made a motion to accept the proposal from Osco Tank & Truck Sales for the type 1 tender. Mr. Andersen seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0.
Motion Carried.

REQUESTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

There were no requests from the board members.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Andersen made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 6:42 p.m. Motion seconded by Mr. Sturm.

Meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

DATED THIS 29th DAY OF APRIL 2021.

Eric Andersen, Board Clerk
Fry Fire District Board