

**FRY FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
May 25, 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
Thomas Tucker, Board Member

Board Members Absent: Robert McMurtrie, 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. Engineer Brent Madden Badge presentation.

Item postponed until next month due to REMS deployment for Sycamore Fire.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Regular Board Meeting on April 27, 2021.

Mr. Sturm made a motion to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes of April 27, 2021. Mr. Andersen seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0.

Motion Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

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

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

Mr. Tucker made a motion to accept the April 2021 financial reports. Mr. Sturm seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0.

Motion Carried.

COMMAND STAFF'S REPORT

Chief Savage reported wildland fire season has started; we sent a REMS unit to the Sycamore Fire this morning. We supported Palominas Fire District with a brush fire on Saturday, and we have had a couple structure fires in the District over the past few weeks. Chief Savage shared his appreciation for the help we received from Palominas Fire District, Whetstone Fire District, Ft. Huachuca Fire Department and the Sierra Vista Fire and Medical Department.

The legislature is wrapping up this week, they are still working to finalize the state budget. An increase in fire district levy limits over the next two years has continued to remain on the table.

As shared previously, the firefighter's cancer bill passed. A Workers' Compensation quote from Securis, the Arizona Fire District Insurance pool, was provide to Board Members and will be discussed further under New Business. Despite numerous requests to date, we have not received quotes from 7710 / Benchmark. Additional capitalization funding support from the state legislature for the Securis pool was not included as of this morning.

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

Our last POD was May 8, at Buena High School. To date, our vaccinators administered almost 8500 vaccines across the county. Dr. Holmes with SVUSD was thankful for our support.

We have worked through the issues with Department of Forestry and Fire Management and DOC and should have crews back in Ramsey Canyon working tomorrow morning. The Ft. Grant crew would have started today but were dispatched to the Sycamore Fire as well.

There is no update on our applications for new extrication tools under the Governor's Office of Highway Safety program or communication funding from FEMA. Although it's a long-shot, we also submitted a request through Senator Kelly's office under the American Recovery Act for funding to replace four cardiac monitors.

On the fuel reduction side, we are making progress using a private contractor to cut and some of our personnel to run the TNC Chipper. We are working with the Department of Forestry and Fire Management to finalize our detailed plan and budget for part-time fuel reduction personnel for the 2020 grant. Looking forward, our 2021 application will reflect three full-time staff at 40 hours a week.

Heather Stanger left mid-month and Angel Perry is covering the position. Payroll this morning went smoothly and Ms. Perry has received positive feedback.

The next Southeast Arizona Communications (SEACOM) Operations Committee meeting will be tomorrow to start initial interviews for the next director. The JPA Board will meet next month for the second round of interviews. We are continuing to work on radio repairs for Fire 3 with Cochise County and Canyon State.

Whetstone Fire District postponed their fire chief selection process to late June. Mr. Evans states they are interested in sharing some of our personnel and exploring other options where we can collaborate.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Sta. 365 Remodel Update.

Chief Savage provided Fire Board Members an update on the renovation of Fire Sta. 365. Communication with Core is excellent and the project is progressing well so far.

No action was taken on this item.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Review, discussion and possible action regarding Resolution 2021-03 regarding an agreement with the Securis Insurance Pool, Inc.

Chief Savage provided Board Members with information regarding the agreement with Securis and differences between them and our current Workers' Compensation. A

discussion followed.

Mr. Sturm made a motion to accept the Resolution 2021-03 regarding an agreement with the Securis Insurance Pool, Inc. Mr. Andersen seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0.

Motion Carried.

B. Review, discussion and possible action regarding PSPRS Payment Policy.

Chief Savage provided Board Members with a copy of the updated PSPRS Payment Policy. The updated version reflects the potential for payment towards our unfunded liability. A discussion followed.

Mr. Tucker made a motion to accept the updated PSPRS Payment Policy. Mr. Sturm seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0.

Motion Carried.

C. Review, discussion and possible action regarding tentative FY2022 Annual Budget and Pay Scale.

Ben Archer Clowes from JVG provided a PowerPoint presentation on the tentative FY2022 Annual Budget and five-year projections. A discussion followed.

Mr. Andersen made a motion to accept the tentative FY2022 Annual Budget and Pay Scale. Mr. Sturm seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0.

Motion Carried.

REQUESTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

There were no requests from the board members.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Sturm made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:10 p.m. Motion seconded by Mr. Andersen.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

DATED THIS 26th DAY OF MAY 2021.

Eric Andersen, Board Clerk
Fry Fire District Board