

**FRY FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
October 26, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Huish called the Regular Meeting of the Fry Fire District Board to order at 6:01 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members in Attendance: Joseph Huish, Board Chairman
Eric Andersen, Board Clerk
Thomas Tucker, Board Member, (electronically)
Robert McMurtrie, Board Member, (electronically)

Board Members Absent: Norman Sturm, Board Member

Staff in Attendance: Mark Savage, Fire Chief
Diana Jones, Billing Supervisor
Steven Rodriguez, JVG, (electronically)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

Mr. Huish led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mr. Andersen 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 6:02 p.m.

There were no comments from the public.

Call to the public closed at 6:02 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Regular Board Meeting on September 28, 2021.

Mr. Andersen made a motion to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes of September 28, 2021. Mr. McMurtrie seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0.

Motion Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

- a. Review, discussion and possible action on the monthly financial report for September 2021.

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

Mr. Andersen made a motion to approve the September 2021 financial reports. Mr. Tucker seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0.

Motion Carried.

COMMAND STAFF'S REPORT

Chief Savage reported Battalion Chief Billy Seamans and Mr. Jim Ayers reviewed our new Type 1 Engine the first week of October. They found a few items that Spartan needs to fix; it should be here for acceptance testing next month.

We are scheduled for an Outreach Event with the Cochise County Health Department on November 13th to offer Moderna Booster shots at Buena High School. This event is by invitation only for our prior patients. We sent out invitations to approximately 1400 people today who we vaccinated between December and February and already have 170 appointments filled. We will push out additional invitations throughout the week with a maximum anticipated capacity of 1000.

There has been no news yet from OSHA or CMS regarding their final COVID-19 Rules. There are some ongoing discussions between the federal and state government regarding OSHA requirements and federal funds.

Our local winter wildfire season has started. The Board was forwarded an email from Fort Huachuca Fire Department regarding our employees' incredible performance on the Maverick fire a few weeks ago. We also helped Palominas Fire District with an 8 acre grass fire yesterday. We hired Daniel Sanchez to start fuel reduction work under our 2021 HVR grant. He is in orientation training this week and we are looking forward to the help he will be able to provide with our grants. All of our apparatus and personnel are back from California. We have a couple invoices outstanding and one more pending with payments from DFFM coming in an average of three to four weeks after invoices are submitted.

Our Tribal Gaming Grant and Assistance to Firefighters Grants were both denied. We still have a request pending with Senator Kelly's Office. An email indicated our request for funding with our pending cardiac monitor purchase was still included but we won't

know more until the budget appropriations are approved in December. Cardiac monitor testing is still moving forward.

Chief Savage continues to serve on the Southeast Arizona Communications JPA Board and with the committee working to update the IGA and Bylaws. Battalion Chief Billy Seamans and Battalion Chief Josh Meeker with Sierra Vista Fire and Medical presented a project to the Cochise County Board of Supervisors regarding an automated Fire Station Alerting proposal to automate dispatching at 911 centers across the county. The County is evaluating this as a potential use of American Rescue Plan funding and we are optimistic about the benefits this could provide to public safety across the county.

The PSPRS refinancing pre and post pricing documents were provided to the Board Members. Pricing came in at 3.74%. Closing is still scheduled for November 10th. Executed originals will follow as they are received.

Ms. Harvey, Huachuca City Town Manager, anticipates an RFP for emergency services for the town being released after their Council meeting on Thursday. She shared concerns about some of their citizens receiving bills from Whetstone Fire District for their initial response, in addition to our invoices which they received for our ambulance transport. Chief Savage met with JVG earlier today to discuss what possible proposals may look like.

Chief Savage met with Whetstone Fire Chief Robert Jarvis last week. He is getting his feet down and looking forward to the next few years there. Chief Savage will follow up with him about the potential for collaborative projects in the coming weeks.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Sta. 365 Remodel Update. Review, discussion and possible action regarding funding for built-in, lockable closets and desks for sleeping quarters.

Chief Savage provided an update on the progress CORE is making with the transition from Phase 1 to Phase 2. They encountered a few minor hurdles, one being a masonry wall they originally anticipated to be wood framed. The result is the utility room and bunker gear storage rooms may be a little smaller than planned with some additional room in the workout area. Personnel are now living in and working out of the classroom/admin side.

There are a few ongoing issues with the parking lot pitch as well as some repairs needed on the punch list, but overall things seem to be going incredibly well. Board members were invited to stop by and get a tour of the space completed so far.

We received the quote from King's Cabinets for the bunkroom millwork, which is substantially less than Sierra Woodworks LLC out of Tucson. Recommendation is to go with King's Cabinets for the bunkroom cabinetry and workspace. A discussion followed.

Mr. Andersen made a motion to accept the proposal from King's Cabinets for the built-in, lockable closets and desks for sleeping quarters. Mr. Tucker seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0.
Motion Carried.

b. CMS / OSHA Covid-19 Rules Update.

Chief Savage stated there is no news with the OSHA or the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) final rules. We are developing an OSHA COVID-19 Plan in line with the Emergency Temporary Standard that was effective in June and continuing to evaluate other agencies' policies regarding vaccinations. We anticipate a COVID-19 vaccine mandate for health care workers from CMS as soon as next month. Medicare and Medicaid payments account for well-over half of our ambulance revenues, in excess of \$800k per year.

No action was taken on this item.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Review, discussion and possible action regarding Fire Chief's Annual Performance Review.

Chief Savage requested to go into executive session to discuss his Annual Performance Review.

Mr. Andersen made a motion to go into executive session. Mr. Tucker seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0.
Motion Carried.

Executive Session entered at 6:31 p.m.

Regular Session resumed at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Andersen made a motion to provide Chief Savage with his Annual Performance Review as documented on the evaluation form for review period of July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021. Mr. Tucker seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0.
Motion Carried.

REQUESTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. McMurtrie requested to review the Paramedic Pay Policy and potentially review the Holiday Leave Policy at next month's meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Andersen made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:35 p.m. Motion seconded by Mr. McMurtrie.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

DATED THIS 27th DAY OF OCTOBER 2021.

Eric Andersen, Board Clerk
Fry Fire District Board