

**FRY FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
May 24, 2022**

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
Robert McMurtrie, Board Member (electronically)
Norman Sturm, Board Member

Board Members Absent: Thomas Tucker, Board Member

Staff in Attendance: Mark Savage, Fire Chief
Diana Jones, Billing Supervisor
Ben Archer Clowes, JVG (electronically)
Steven Rodriguez, JVG
Kaleb Mauzy, Battalion Chief
Jared Haros, Engineer
Spencer Packer, CEP/Firefighter
Joseph Rivera, EMT/Firefighter

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 6:02 p.m.

There were no comments from the public.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

a. Approval of Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting on April 26, 2022.

Mr. Sturm made a motion to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes of April 26, 2022. Mr. Andersen seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0.

Motion Carried.

b. Approval of Minutes for the Executive Session Board Meeting on April 26, 2022.

Mr. Sturm made a motion to approve the Executive Session Board Meeting minutes of April 26, 2022. Mr. Andersen seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0.

Motion Carried.

c. Review of monthly response data provided in packet (no action required).

Chief Savage provide Board Members data on the monthly calls.

No action taken on this item.

FINANCIAL REPORT

a. Review, discussion and possible action on the monthly financial report for April 2022.

Steven Rodriguez from James Vincent Group (JVG) gave a PowerPoint presentation reflecting the financial reports for April 2022. A discussion followed. FY2022 performance continues to run smoothly with some minor variances noted. The board reviewed the warrants for the month and there were no questions.

Mr. Sturm made a motion to accept the April 2022 financial reports. Mr. Andersen seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0.

Motion Carried.

COMMAND STAFF'S REPORT

Chief Savage stated we received the patent from the Bureau of Land Management for the reversionary interest they held on Station 366. The new patent, combined with the original patent we were granted in the 1980's, means that we now own the property outright. This removes the hurdle we ran into previously with cellular tower leases at the station.

CORE is continuing to make progress with the remodel at Station 365. Personnel have moved out of the classroom and offices and back into the station. Admin is moving back into the office space and moved out of the Hereford offices this morning. A few more changes are pending including: the temporary cabinets in the classroom will be relocated to the Huachuca City Station and the laminate flooring will be replaced with epoxy to

match the station. The Fire Station Alerting project is continuing to move forward with Cochise County IT working on ordering switches to install in the dispatch centers. Station hardware and networks will likely follow shortly.

Our wildfire season is continuing as anticipated with local fires occurring, especially in the San Rafael Valley west of Ft. Huachuca. We currently have a Type 6 Engine assigned to the Elgin fire. Last month our IMT spent 3 weeks at the Crooks fire in Prescott and made it back safely.

Yesterday we interviewed a few candidates for part-time positions. Casey Anders, one of our former part-time firefighters will be completing training over the next few weeks and filling one of the remaining two vacancies with the Town of Huachuca City. Chief Savage attended the City Council meeting for the Town of Huachuca City this month. Their feedback has been incredibly positive.

Chief Savage introduced Joseph Rivera and Spencer Packer, two new hires in attendance tonight as part of their task book requirements.

Apparatus and Equipment – We identified an issue with the new Type 1 Engine; the PTO that runs both the generator and the compressed air foam (CAFS) compressor is shifting hard when engaging. The truck remains in service while Spartan’s engineers work on a solution. Mr. Ayers is continuing to work to diagnose issues with the transmission on E365 to get it back into service. The Command, Support, and Rescue trucks are all coming along. The shell for the BC truck was installed last week and a new rescue box should be installed this week on the backup rescue truck.

Battalion Chief Seamans, Engineer Kean, and Mr. Ayers completed the preconstruction visit for our new 4000-gallon water tender earlier this month; construction is ongoing with delivery expected sometime this fall due to chassis delivery delays. Demers is also experiencing delays with their chassis deliveries from Ford which has put our ambulance delivery behind schedule. Build time is still approximately 150 days from chassis delivery, with delivery now anticipated by Christmas.

Grants – The Tucson Fuels crew is continuing to make headway on our projects in Ramsey Canyon. They were chipping this week on a parcel that separated another treated parcel and an area the USFS recently treated, tying the areas together. These crews are able to work despite ongoing fire season. Their only limitation is during Red Flag conditions.

We are still waiting on formal approval from HRSA for the \$105,000.00 in federal appropriations to support the purchase of cardiac monitors. Our application is under review. We also submitted a grant application to ADEM for border security-related radios in an amount of \$74,000.00.

SEACOM is continuing to work to fill vacancies and also submitted a significant border security grant for radio maintenance and upgrades. Initial feedback is positive and it appears that the grant request will likely be funded through ADEM.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Review, discussion and possible action regarding the proposed FY2023 annual budget and pay scale.

Ben Archer Clowes gave a Power Point presentation on the proposed FY2023 budget for public posting, and the five-year projections. Mr. Sturm asked about the increase to Securis compared to the state pool. Ben Archer Clowes stated Securis is the Fire District pool, we did not qualify for the high-risk state pool. Increases are difficult to predict but we are in a good place with Securis. A discussion followed.

Mr. Sturm made a motion to adopt the proposed FY2023 annual budget and pay scale. Mr. Andersen seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0.

Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Review, discussion and possible action regarding Securis Worker's Compensation pool.

Chief Savage was told by a Securis representative the rate increase is being applied to all fire districts and is tied to claims related to cancer and COVID. We are continuing to take an aggressive approach towards protecting the health and safety of our personnel including, including during out of District deployments. Chief Savage asked Securis about a discount based on our proactive health and safety efforts and was told they are not offering any experience-related discounts.

We currently follow the CDC and NFPA guidelines for personnel safety, as recommended by Securis. A discussion followed. Mr. Huish requested a personnel survey regarding the COVID-19 boosters for out of District deployments. Jared Haros will poll personnel.

Item tabled until next month's Fire Board Meeting.

- b. Fire Station #365 Construction update and tour.

No action taken on this item. Board members received a tour of the ongoing station remodel.

REQUESTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

There were no requests from the Board Members.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Sturm made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:04 p.m. Motion seconded by Mr. Andersen.

Meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

DATED THIS 25TH DAY OF MAY 2022.

Eric Andersen, Board Clerk
Fry Fire District Board