

**FRY FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
July 26, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Sturm 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 (electronically)
Thomas Tucker, Board Member (electronically)
Norman Sturm, Board Member

Board Members Absent: Eric Andersen, Board Clerk
Robert McMurtrie, Board Member

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

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

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Mr. Sturm 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. Sturm 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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Regular Board Meeting on June 28, 2022.

Mr. Huish made a motion to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes of June 28, 2022. Mr. Tucker seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0.

Motion Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

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

Steven Rodriguez from James Vincent Group (JVG) gave a PowerPoint presentation reflecting the financial reports for June 2022 and year-to-date. A discussion followed. The board reviewed the warrants for the month and there were no questions.

Mr. Huish made a motion to accept the June 2022 financial reports. Mr. Tucker seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0.

Motion Carried.

COMMAND STAFF'S REPORT

Chief Savage reported we are off and running with the FY23 budget. He thanked the Board Members for their work to keep our employees' pay and benefits competitive and shared that all our members shared their appreciation.

Chief Savage previously shared a few internet links regarding Prop 310 with Board Members. The AFDA Board of Directors will be holding a special meeting on August 4 to discuss strategies to support the Proposition. There will be a question about the Fire District Assistance Fund on the November ballot. The 1/10th of 1% sales tax has the potential to generate up to \$150 million for Arizona's 144 fire districts. The provision has a 20-year sunset as well as limits in place to ensure that the funding is spread across rural fire districts.

The City of Sierra Vista annexation effort mentioned last month appears to be likely to result in approximately \$60,000.00 in annual property tax revenue losses. There will be a public hearing in the Sierra Vista City Council Chambers on July 28th.

Our type 3 engine has been in California for the past 2 weeks and is expected to extend for another week, they have been working across the state and may wind up plugged into the Oak fire.

Huachuca City is continuing to run smoothly. We completed the first quarter of service under our contract with the Town and appear to be doing well cost-wise. Mr. Ayers completed a pump test and annual inspection on their reserve engine (Spartan) and put it in service in their station this morning.

Our promotional process for Captains and Engineers went well. Chief Savage stated he is proud to share that we promoted Jared Haros, Michael Kean, and Jon Sayler to the rank of Captain. We also promoted Austin Nash and James Wallace to the rank of Engineer. Badges will be presented at next month's meeting after their Class A uniforms are updated.

This month Firefighter / Paramedic Eric Bailey resigned to take a full-time teaching job with Cochise College; he plans to stay on with us as a part-time EMT. We are also proud to share that Engineer Brent Madden accepted a position with the Golder Ranch Fire District. We recently hired Ron Orona as a Firefighter / Paramedic and have another few applicants in the testing process.

We are still wrestling with a few issues with E365, but the transmission leak has been fixed. Mr. Ayers is continuing to work to diagnose the issues with the transmission on E3651 to get it back into service. Our backup rescue truck had a new box installed and made it back from Tucson today; it will be back in service within the next few weeks.

Construction on our new water tender is continuing with delivery still expected sometime this fall. Demers is still waiting for our 4x4 chassis from Ford for the new ambulance we ordered almost a year ago, which means that delivery is likely to continue to be delayed.

We conducted an extended site visit with representatives from the Fort Huachuca Sentinel Landscape, the US Forest Service, and Department of Forestry and Fire Management this morning.

We are waiting for feedback and a shipping date for the cardiac monitors partially supported by a HRSA grant.

There is no news to share on the application through ADEM for additional multi-band radios.

SEACOM is still wrestling with some staffing shortages. We experienced a 911 outage in the 378-prefix area but were able to plug in a landline at one of our stations to receive 911 calls temporarily until the link was repaired.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Station 365 Remodel Update.

Chief Savage stated CORE is continuing to make progress with the punch list issues we have identified. The exterior paint should be completed this week. U.S. Digital is also almost done installing the Fire Station Alerting hardware. The overall improvement is remarkable. King's Fine Cabinetry is still working on the lockers and desks for the bunkrooms with an anticipated delivery and install date within the next few months. Chief Seamans has been asked to plan an open house once everything is finished and operational.

No action taken on this item.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Review, discussion and possible action regarding FY22 budget performance and year-end fund balances.

Steven Rodriguez gave a Power Point Presentation overview of FY22 year end including the general fund balance, capital funding summary, year-end recommendations, and a year over year comparison for the past 3 years. A discussion followed.

Mr. Tucker made a motion to accept the recommendations for distribution of the FY22 year-end general fund balances. Mr. Huish seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0.

Motion Carried.

- b. Review, discussion and possible action regarding the purchase of new Ford 4x2 Ambulance.

Chief Savage requested approval to purchase a 4x2 chassis from Demers a little earlier than planned due to availability. The ambulance should be built and delivered in less than 6 months as the chassis is already on site. A discussion followed.

Mr. Tucker made a motion to approve the purchase of a new Ford 4x2 Ambulance from Demers. Mr. Huish seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0.

Motion Carried.

- c. Review, discussion and possible action regarding Ambulance Write-offs to Bad Debt.

Chief Savage stated we have approximately \$600,000.00 of uncollectable ambulance revenue that has been in collections for at least one year without activity. A discussion followed. Steven Rodriguez stated the accounts go back several years since we have not had a write-off policy in place.

Mr. Tucker made a motion to approve writing off the uncollectable ambulance revenue to bad debt for FY22. Mr. Huish seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0.

Motion Carried.

REQUESTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

There were no requests from the Board Members.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Tucker made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 6:39 p.m. Motion seconded by Mr. Huish.

Meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

DATED THIS 27TH DAY OF JULY 2022.

Eric Andersen, Board Clerk
Fry Fire District Board