

**FRY FIRE DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
March 18, 2020**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Huish called the Regular Meeting of the Fry Fire District Board to order at 7:00 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

Board Members in Attendance:      Joseph Huish, Board Chairman  
Eric Andersen, Board Clerk  
Thomas Tucker, Board Member (by phone)

Board Members Absent:              Robert McMurtrie, Board Member  
Norman Sturm, Board Member

Staff in Attendance:                 Mark Savage, Fire Chief  
Diana Jones, Billing Supervisor  
Melissa Tomlinson, JVG (by phone)  
Steven Rodriguez, JVG (by phone)

**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 7:01 p.m.

There were no comments from the public.

Call to the public closed at 7:01 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Regular Board Meeting on February 19, 2020.

Mr. Andersen made a motion to accept the Regular Board Meeting minutes of February 19, 2020. Mr. Tucker seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0.

Motion Carried.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

A. Review, discussion and possible action on the monthly financial report for February 2020.

Steven Rodriguez from James Vincent Group (JVG) gave a PowerPoint presentation reflecting the financial reports for February 2020. A discussion followed. The board reviewed the warrants for the month with no questions.

Mr. Andersen made a motion to accept the February 2020 financial reports. Mr. Tucker seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0.

Motion Carried.

## **COMMAND STAFF'S REPORT**

Chief Savage reported we recently finished advertising for additional Part-Time EMS personnel. Written and physical testing and interviews will be scheduled over the next few weeks. The program is continuing to help us improve daily staffing and overall Fire District coverage, especially at Station 361. February's staffing saw us continue to see a reduction in minimum staffing days.

Chief Savage provided Board Members copies of AFDA bills in process and discussed one that will have a significant impact on the Fire District. If S1160 passes the House and becomes law, it will provide presumptive cancer protection for current members with additional coverage provided for 15 years post-separation. Our worker's compensation costs could increase as much as 300%. We are looking at all options for a new worker's compensation carrier.

Regarding the Coronavirus/COVID-19, we are continuing to work closely with the Cochise County Health Department and Office of Emergency Management. Chief Savage is concerned about the long-term impact on the community and how we can help minimize the impact, while maintaining our ability to effectively provide emergency services to our citizens. There are ongoing discussions internally and with the City of Sierra Vista Fire and Medical Service about maintaining operational resilience. As emergency responders, we are committed to caring for our community and we will continue to provide critical services. Engineer Haros has been asked to work on getting more of our paramedics trained and certified to provide vaccinations.

Chief Savage stated we were reimbursed for the new TNT battery-powered extrication tools and they will soon be mounted on E365. We also received checks from the Department of Forestry and Fire Management and the Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response grants.

The Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) benefits for non-PSPRS personnel are now active.

The Southeast Arizona Communications Center (SEACOM) director, Allen Smith, is continuing to perform well. The SEACOM budget is in good shape, largely due to savings on personnel costs. At the last Joint Powers Authority Board meeting Sheriff Dannels was elected as the Chair, Mr. Potucek as Vice-Chair, and the county-wide fire dispatch project was approved.

The Cochise County IT is still working to finish moving our servers to their complex and we have ordered a few new workstations to replace older systems and upgrade to Windows 10.

There is no progress to report with public safety access to the radio tower in Huachuca City. Eric Duthie advised that they are down to two candidates for the Huachuca City Town Manager position.

There has been no feedback from the Palominas Fire District regarding the field testing of the Fire 3 upgrades on the Thorneydale receiver site.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

A. Review, discussion and possible action on Sta. 365 remodel for qualifications.

Chief Savage provided an initial drawing of a potential floorplan from Core Construction. Pricing estimates for various options are underway. A discussion followed.

There was no action taken on this agenda item.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Review, discussion and possible action on FY21 Annual Budget.

Steven Rodriguez from James Vincent Group (JVG) provided PowerPoint presentation overview of the FY2021 budget draft and a budget timeline.

There was no action taken on this agenda item.

B. Review, discussion and possible action regarding Sierra Collections.

Chief Savage requested to go into Executive Session and call our attorney.

Executive Session entered at 7:48 p.m.

Regular Session resumed at 8:00 p.m.

There was no action taken on this agenda item.

**REQUEST FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

There were no requests from the board members.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Andersen made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:02 p.m. Motion seconded by Mr. Tucker.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

DATED THIS 19th DAY OF MARCH 2020.

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Eric Andersen,  
Board Clerk  
Fry Fire District Board