

AVRA VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT

15790 W Silverbell Road Marana, AZ 85653

Phone: 520-682-3255 Fax: 520-682-5458 www.avfire.org



MINUTES REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting Date: Friday, February 28, 2020

Meeting Time: 8:00 AM

Location: 21021 E. Homestead Drive, Red Rock, AZ 85145

RECORDING ON

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Castaneda called the meeting to order at 8:09 AM.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

3. ROLL CALL AND CONFIRMATION OF A QUORUM

Chairman Castaneda Chief Delfs Counsel Wencker, by phone

Vice-Chairman Bauer Assistant Chief Klein several firefighters

Clerk Neilson Lorrie Palmquist, by phone

Director Armendarez Director Haffner

4. RECOGNITION OF PERSONNEL

Tony Lopez, Paramedic 5 year pin Mike Ryder, Firefighter/EMT 10 year pin Mark Velasquez, Paramedic 10 year pin Captain Lyle Kennedy 20 year

Captain Daniel Coody
Captain David Collings
Award of Service
Award of Merit
Firefighter Louie Rojas
Award of Merit

Chief Delfs recognized Paramedic Tony Lopez, commenting on his active participation in the community events. Paramedic Lopez always has a positive outlook and is happy to be here. Chief Delfs expressed thanks for 5 years of service, adding that the District looks forward to many more years of service.

Captain Coody was presented an Award of Service for distinguished service to District and the Avra community. Captain Coody serves the District in many capacities, not just as a Captain, but also as a paramedic and a wildand Engine Boss. He will always find a way to get things done and serves the District with utmost integrity.

Captain Collings was presented an Award of Merit for his outstanding work on refurbishing the wildland trucks. Beyond that, Captain Collings provides exemplary service to the District in his role as a wildland Engine Boss.

5. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There were no calls from the public.



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6. ANNOUNCEMENTS, CURRENT EVENTS & CORRESPONDENCE

Marana State of the Town Address & Luncheon, will be Thursday, April 23, 2020 at the Ritz-Carlton, Dove Mountain

The annual Pinal County Special Districts Meeting will be held Friday, April 3, 2020 at the Florence Community Center

7. <u>REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION</u> REGARDING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS FOR CONSENT

Minutes from the regular meeting held on January 24, 2020

Vice-Chairman Bauer motioned to approve the Minutes from the regular meeting held January 24, 2020. Director Haffner seconded. *Motion carried unanimously*, 5:0.

8. CHIEF'S REPORT

The Fire Chief may update the Board on items of interest relating to but not limited to the following: fire suppression, EMS and wildland services, response times, vehicles, facilities, labor relations, personnel, finance, grants, communications and/or training. Alternatively, the Fire Chief may provide written comments in the Board member's packets or by email. The Board members may ask clarifying questions and they may direct the Chief to place items on future agendas for further discussion or action.

The Chief highlighted the following items from his report:

Written test for firefighters/medics will be March 3rd and 4th

We have placed \$800,000 worth of equipment into service via grant funding, with a new ambulance coming in the Spring

District CON times are improving slightly

We have been notified that Copper Point will no longer insure fire districts throughout Arizona due to a recent Senate bill regarding presumptive cancer occurrences for firefighters assumed to be work related. We currently have 2 other options in Arizona, the 7710 group and the Risk Pool shared by 32 States. We have been told that the 7710 Group could increase our premium as much as 280%. However, our broker has informed us that for next year we may not see a huge increase in premium under the Risk Pool option due to our favorable EMod rate. Our employees have done a stellar job in bringing this rate down substantially. Currently, several entities are working on getting a State pool to insure fire districts. We are hoping to have some clarity soon. Our broker is actively shopping for carriers.

A preliminary look at the budget for next year shows that tax levies will go up, but not as much as hoped. Our ambulance revenue will increase because of the State allowed automatic rate increase which we will apply for in April. We have a budget shell, but numbers will be more solid next month when some benefit rates are available.

SB1398 will lower the commercial rate by 1%, however there is a possibility that the tax levy cap may increase to \$3.75.

Discussion ensued.

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9. <u>REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION</u> TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 2019 FINANCIAL REPORTS AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN AND CLERK TO SIGN THE CERTIFICATE OF REVIEW

Vice-Chairman Bauer motioned to approve the January 2020 financial reports and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to sign the *Certificate of Review*. Director Haffner seconded. *Motion carried unanimously*, 5:0.

10. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE CONTRACT AMENDMENT NO. ONE (01) TO CONTRACT NO. CT-OEM 15*240, AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE AVRA VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT, DREXEL HEIGHTS FIRE DISTRICT, GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT, GREEN VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT, NORTHWEST FIRE DISTRICT, RINCON VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT, CITY OF TUCSON FIRE DEPARTMENT, AND PIMA COUNTY, ON BEHALF OF THE PIMA COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, ALLOWING FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE BY A HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAM IN PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA. THE AGREEMENT TERMINATES ON JANUARY 5, 2025, AND MAY BE RENEWED FOR ONE ADDITIONAL FIVE-YEAR PERIOD.

Chief Delfs explained that this is an extension of our current agreement in which the Consortium will share resources, personnel, training. Counsel Wencker has reviewed the renewal agreement. Chairman Castaneda motioned to approve the Contract Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement. Vice-Chairman Bauer seconded. *Motion carried unanimously*, 5:0

11. <u>REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE 3-YEAR ENGAGEMENT LETTER FROM OUR AUDITORS FOR THE FISCAL YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2020 THROUGH JUNE 30,2022</u>

Lorrie clarified that the first year of the renewal agreement will remain at the same rate, while years two and three will increase by \$400. Vice-Chairman Bauer motioned to approve the 3-Year Engagement Letter. Director Armendarez seconded. *Motion carried unanimously*, 5:0.

12. REPORTS OF BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF NONE

13. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Board may not discuss or take any action on topics presented for future agendas.

14. DATE OF NEXT BOARD MEETING

The date of the next Board meeting will be March 20, 2020

15. ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Chairman Bauer motioned to adjourn the meeting. Director Armendarez seconded. **Motion carried unanimously, 5:0.** Meeting adjourned at 8:50 AM **RECORDING OFF**

BOARD MEMBERS

LUIS CASTANEDA, JR. SARA BAUER THOMAS ARMENDAREZ ERIC NEILSON JAMES HAFFNER

In accordance with the Federal law and the U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, Avra Valley Fire District is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202)720-6382 (TDD).