



MARTINEZ LAKE FIRE DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES

MAY 14 2025 @ 10:00 am

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given that Martinez Lake Fire District will hold a meeting open to the public on:

Wednesday, March 14th @ 10:00 am, beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the main fire station, located at 10845 E. Martinez Lake Rd, Martinez Lake AZ 85365.

The Board of Directors may go into executive session for any of the purposes set forth in A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(1) through (7), as applicable to the agenda items listed, including for the purposes of receiving legal advice or the consideration of employment-related issues.

Martinez Lake Fire District Board Meeting - May 14th, 10 am Transcript summary

Action Items

- [] Prepare and send the resolution to the county for John Dufonte's appointment as the new board member.
- [] Bring the folder with past meeting minutes to the board secretary, Peggy, for updating the binders.
- [] Place "out of service" signage on non-functioning hydrants in the Martinez Lake Resort area.
- [X] Submit content for the newsletter meeting summary and heat related injury and illness.

Outline

Financial Report and Budget Overview

- Fire Chief, Jodi Little calls the meeting to order and introduces the board members: Charlie Bush (board president), Peggy Stankovich (board secretary), and John Defonte (new appointee).
- Fire Chief, Jodi Little reviews the previous meeting minutes and correspondence, including workman's comp survey, unemployment survey, and budget review with the county.
- Financial report: \$34,087.62 in registered warrants, \$98,525.75 in outstanding tax collection, and \$19,006.5416 from the special County Fire fund.
- Discussion on the financial health of the district, with a surplus of about \$51,000 expected if tax collections are met.

Tax Collections and Budget Challenges

- Board President, Charlie Bush inquires about the status of tax collections and the impact on the budget.
- Fire Chief, Jodi Little explains the timing of tax collections, with significant amounts due in December and April.
- Discussion on the potential use of collection agencies to recover overdue taxes.
- Fire Chief, Jodi Little mentions the county's role in managing tax collections and the various actions that can be taken, such as tax foreclosure.

Grants and Equipment Updates

- Fire Chief, Jodi Little discusses ongoing grants, including an application for an automated CPR machine and a patient monitor from Zoll.
- Explanation of the benefits of the Zoll machine, including its smaller size and ability to be used in various medical scenarios.
- Fire Chief, Jodi Little mentions the application for federal appropriations to fund engineering research for the hydrant system.
- Discussion on the timeline for receiving grant funds and the potential use of the funds for feasibility studies and engineering research.

Water Pumping and Fire Suppression Systems

- Board President, Charlie Bush inquires about the current setup for water pumping and additional water transportation.
- Fire Chief, Jodi Little explains the acquisition of a trailer and wild land pump skid to draft water from the river and other sources.
- Discussion on the ability to deploy pumps and engines to different locations in the event of a fire.
- Fire Chief, Jodi Little mentions the need for a feasibility study to move the hydrant system off the public water well to ensure continuous operation.

Community Engagement and Newsletter

- Board Treasure, Peggy Stankovich discusses the creation of a newsletter called "The Current" and its purpose to keep the community informed.
- Board President, Charlie Bush shares experiences from editing a newspaper and the challenges involved.
- Board Treasure, Peggy Stankovich plans to include community updates, safety tips, and personal opinions in the newsletter.
- Discussion on the distribution of the newsletter, both online and in hard copies, and its role in community engagement.

Firewise Program and Community Safety

- Fire Chief, Jodi Little introduces the Firewise program, which helps homeowners protect their properties against wildfires.
- Explanation of the program's evaluation process, including landscaping, vegetation, and roof tiles.
- Fire Chief, Jodi Little mentions the availability of a local Firewise program coordinator to assist with community outreach.
- Discussion on the importance of community awareness and participation in the Firewise program.

Staffing and Training Updates

- Fire Chief, Jodi Little provides updates on staffing, including Flip's new full-time position at the Children's Detention Center.
- Explanation of the current staffing schedule and the impact on training and availability.
- Fire Chief, Jodi Little mentions the ongoing maintenance and repairs on the fire engines and the need for pump tests.
- Discussion on the importance of having trained staff and the challenges of maintaining a full team.

Hydrant System Issues and Community Responsibility

- Fire Chief, Jodi Little discusses the issues with the hydrant system, including out-of-service hydrants and low pressure.
- Explanation of the county's role in managing the hydrant system and the need for upgrades.
- Fire Chief, Jodi Little mentions the legal steps taken to address the issues, including communication with the county and potential legal action.
- Discussion on the responsibility of the board and the fire district to inform the community about the hydrant system issues.

Emergency Preparedness and Response

- Fire Chief, Jodi Little discusses the emergency response plan and the importance of having adequate fire suppression systems.
- Explanation of the challenges faced during recent emergencies, including the need for mutual aid and the limitations of the current system.
- Fire Chief, Jodi Little mentions the ongoing efforts to improve emergency preparedness and the importance of community involvement.
- Discussion on the potential impact of the hydrant system issues on emergency response and the need for continued efforts to address these challenges.

Community Engagement and Future Plans

- Fire Chief, Jodi Little discusses the importance of community engagement and the role of the newsletter in keeping the community informed.
- Explanation of the upcoming events, including the Memorial flag raising and the installation of out-of-service donuts on hydrants.
- Fire Chief, Jodi Little mentions the need for continued efforts to address the hydrant system issues and the importance of community support.
- Discussion on the future plans for the fire district, including ongoing grants, training, and community outreach.

Public meetings have been scheduled for the 2nd Wednesday of every other month at 10:00 am.

Schedule as follow:

September 18th 2024 @ 10:00 am (COMPLETED)
November 13th 2024 @ 10:00 am (COMPLETED)
January 8th 2025 @ 10:00 am (COMPLETED)
March 12th 2025 @ 10:00 am (COMPLETED)
May 14th 2025 @ 10:00 am (COMPLETED)