



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING MARTINEZ LAKE FIRE DISTRICT

Meeting Minutes MARCH 19th 2025 @ 10:00 am

Transcription of this meeting is available upon request

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:

****Regularly scheduled meeting set for March 12th, 2025 is being rescheduled for March 19th, 2025 due to follow up meeting with Nobel Law.**

Wednesday, March 19th @ 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.

1. The agenda for the meeting is as follows:
2. Call to order
 - a. Meeting was called to order at 10:08 am
3. Pledge of Allegiance was recited
4. Roll call of Fire Board Members
 - a. Present members include:
 - i. President Charlie Bush
 - ii. Board member Theresa Harrington
 - iii. Chief Jodi Little
 - iv. Secretary Peggy Stankovich
 - b. Absent members
 - i. John Delfonte (alternate)
 - ii. Sue Townley (alternate)
5. Approval of previous meeting minutes from January 8th 2025 @ 10:00 am
 - a. Motion by T. Harrington to approve
 - b. Motion second by Charlie Bush
6. Correspondence
 - a. T. Harrington received an email in regards to boat title from DJ Murry
 - i. Updated provided by Chief Little, it's been a paperwork nightmare, still trying to provide adequate documentation to DMV to have title issued.
1. FOLLOW UP - Trailer title has been received, waiting on one more document to register the boat.
 - b. T. Harrington submitted her resignation from the Martinez Lake Fire District Board of Directors effective April 1st, 2025.
 - i. John Delfonte will step into Theresa Harrington role, leaving 1 alternate, Sue Townsley. Resolution will be prepared and presented at the March 12th 2025 public meeting.
a. Resolution prepared, will need to be postponed as John was absent this session.

- b. The board decides to keep Teresa on as a volunteer to help with banking and report reviews.
- c. The board agrees to accept Teresa's resignation and move forward with the new election process.
- d. Chief Little explains the election process and the timeline for filling vacant positions.

7. Financial Report

- 1. Chief Little discusses the financial report, noting that the department is staying within budget.
- 2. Chief Little plans to move financial information from QuickBooks to Quicken for better budget comparison reports.
- 3. An outstanding tax collection of \$32,000 was received, and the department should have collected all tax revenue from 2023 and 2024.
- 4. Chief Little mentions the purchase of a new laptop computer for the department.

8. Chief's Report

- a. Concerns regarding the adequate design, maintenance and repair of the Fire Hydrant system in the Martinez Lake Resort area was presented again.
 - i. First, Hydrants that have been damaged, removed and not replaced.
 - ii. Second, the pump system shutting off to hydrants when a sudden increase of water flow is present.
 - iii. General maintenance of the hydrant system itself. Multiple hydrants (3) are in place, but have the water to them shut off.
 - iv. Motion made by T Harrington to:
 - 1. Request a formal letter be prepared by Fire District Attorney David Rogers with Nobel Law addressing the public safety concerns of inadequate design, maintenance and repair of the hydrant system when needing to be used for fire suppression. Once drafted, certified letters of public safety concerns will be sent to:
 - a. Lori Goth
 - b. Philip Johnson
 - c. Yuma County code enforcement / development service
 - d. Yuma County Board of Supervisors
 - e. State of Arizona district attorney (to route to the proper authorities)
 - 2. Motion was seconded by Charlie Bush
 - 3. Chief Little to contact and work with Nobel Law to draft the letter. Will present at the March Board meeting for approval.

• Hydrant and Sprinkler System Issues

- David from Noble Law has all the information needed to discuss hydrant ownership with the county attorneys.
- Chief Little mentions that the department has audited the hydrants and listed which ones work and don't work.

• Public Safety Concerns and Legal Actions

- Theresa Harrington expresses concern about the false sense of security residents have regarding fire hydrants and sprinkler systems.
- Chief Little discusses the need for the county to recognize the issue and push the privately held utility to correct it.
- Chief Little mentions the possibility of legal action and the importance of documenting the department's efforts.
- Charlie Bush suggests sending a letter to the county and insurance companies to raise awareness about the issue.

• Community Awareness and Legal Strategy

- Chief Little emphasizes the need for the county to inform residents about the issue.

- Peggy Stankovich suggests posting notices in property tax payments or sending individual letters to residents.
 - Chief Little mentions the importance of not taking legal action without proper documentation and planning.
 - Charlie Bush suggests involving the county attorneys and public development attorneys in the legal strategy.
 - Chief Little mentions David Rogers from Nobel Law has been retained to contact Yuma County attorneys to see if mediation with all involved parties can resolve the problems we are facing.
- b. P-19 repair update Vote to purchase new tires
 - i. A budget of \$3,500 was set to replace dry rotted tires.
 1. Motion made by T. Harrington
 2. Seconded by Charlie Bush
 - a. Chief little to follow-up on quote received to see if the model of tires will fit on a "split rim". If so, will work with the ordering, delivery and mounting of new tires.
 - i. Chief Little reports that the tires for the P 19 vehicle are not compatible with split rims. Will continue to research a reasonable priced solution.
9. Fundraising and Community Events
 - a. Theresa Harrington discusses the success of the Lucky Last Ticket fundraiser and plans for next year.
 - b. Chief Little mentions the need for more fundraising ideas and the challenges of organizing events due to insurance restrictions.
 - c. Peggy Stankovich suggests sponsoring cornhole tournaments and involving the community in events.
 - d. Chief Little plans to budget for \$10,000 in fundraising for the next year and considers new event ideas like a haunted house or Santa workshop before the Christmas light parade.
 10. Call to the public
 - a. No public members present other than alternate board member recruitments.
 11. Adjournment
 - a. Meeting adjourned at 10:57 am by T. Harrington
 - b. Seconded by Charlie Bush

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 (SCHEDULED)