



Lake Mohave Ranchos Fire District



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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LAKE MOHAVE RANCHOS FIRE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD

The Governing Board of the Lake Mohave Ranchos Fire District met in Regular Session on 9/18/2025 at 1:00 p.m.

The meeting was held at the LMRFD Annex building (16154 Pierce Ferry rd. Dolan Springs, Az 86441). The Board may vote to go into Executive Session on any Agenda item, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3) for legal advice and A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(4) for legal direction with the District's Attorney on matters as set forth in the Agenda item. The following topics and any variables thereto, will be subject to Board consideration, discussion, approval, or other action. All items are set for possible action.

1) CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Theodora Koeppen called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

2) ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS

Director Reh-Bower – Present

Director Geisler – Present

Director Garza – Present

Director Nelson – Present via phone

Director Koeppen – Present

3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE *(To honor those who serve our Country and within Public Safety and to those we've lost)*

Director Garza led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for fallen first responders and members of the military at 1:01 pm.

4) EXECUTIVE SESSION: *(Board of Directors may vote to go into Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S §38.431.03 (A) (3))* *No Executive Session was scheduled this month*

5) MINUTES

a. 8/21/2025

No needed corrections were noted, and Director Koeppen called for a vote on approval.

Director Reh-Bower moved to approve the minutes as written.

Director Garza seconded the motion.

All five directors voted AYE, the motion carried, and the corrected minutes were accepted at 1:04 pm

6) CONSENT AGENDA

a. Chief Report: Presented by Fire Chief Bonnee beginning at 1:04

(Notwithstanding subsection H of this section, the chief administrator, presiding officer or a member of a public body may present a brief summary of current events without listing in the agenda the specific matters to be summarized, if:

- 1. The summary is listed on the agenda. 2. The public body does not propose, discuss, deliberate or take legal action at that meeting on any matter in the summary unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action. (A.R.S. 38-431.02.K.)*

Run Report:

- AMR Transports – 0
- Med Calls – 114
- Dolan Transports – 78
- Fire Calls – 16
 - On the last day of August, one of the fire calls involved a structure fire with children trapped inside. Fire crew got everyone out with no injuries.
- Hwy 93 Calls – 24
- Meadview Calls – 14
- Meadview Transports – 11
- Meadview Coverage Days – 16

Meetings/Conferences/Trainings:

- Run Review and MCFOA meeting

District Properties:

- Station 43 was without water after the recent storms but remained open and in service. Our people brought their drinking water with them.

District Vehicles:

- No big expensive items this month
- Edgar's assistance with the regularly scheduled minor maintenance is saving a lot of money when we buy the parts and he does the work.

Projects in the works:

- Chief just got notified that the AFG grant (for a new tender and cardiac monitors) should be resolved by October 15th.
- Fundraising luau-style event is scheduled for Saturday at the American Legion.
- We're getting started with planning for our annual Halloween Trunk-R-Treat in Dolan.
- The new website is up and running. Director Geisler did an amazing job with it. Director Reh-Bower will administer the site and transfer of data from the old site continues. Three other fire districts have called specifically to compliment the upgrade.
- Fire Recovery collections process is up and running well. So far, in the first three weeks, we have three claims (two motor vehicle accidents and a vehicle fire incident) in progress that are billed out at around \$13,000.
- Battalion Chief Matt Pagliero his wife just welcomed a new baby girl into the family this morning.
- For those who don't already know, LMRFD provided 22,000 gallons of water to Meadview area residents for household use during the recent water emergency. We have received quite a few calls expressing thanks from the people who were helped out. Chief Bonnee and others helped unload incoming water supplies and, in many cases, delivered the water directly to homes in need.

Chief's report concluded at 1:11 pm. There were a few minutes of discussion about LMRFD's participation in the water emergency response, and Chairperson Koeppen and Chief Bonnee expressed everyone's appreciation for the great effort from the Elks Club in Kingman, who donated and hauled drinking water for the Meadview community. He said the communities came together and help came from many other sources, including the VFW, the MCA, Don Short, Don Martin, other people from Dolan Springs. Several of the board members also took a moment to emphasize the district's appreciation for all the volunteers who continue to work on fund-raising projects for the district. Discussion ended at 1:14 pm.

b. Financial Report: Presented by Gabe Buldra of JVG via phone: 1:15 pm.

Key Points:

- Revenue for the month of August is \$69,504, which is under budget by \$17,013.
 - Tax Revenue for August is \$12, 126, which is under budget by \$2,308.
 - Non-tax revenue for August is \$57,378, which is under budget by \$14,705.
- Expenses for August totaled \$187,203, which is over budget by \$53,155.
 - Personnel costs were over budget by \$23,915, primarily driven by wildlands wages that we have billed for but not yet been reimbursed.
 - The other big expense that has been hitting us hard is vehicle maintenance, currently \$33,222.17 over budget. This number is so large due to a complete engine replacement on the water tender. The Chief reported no new major vehicle maintenance expenses this month so far.
- Total Revenue year-to-date is \$159,097, which is under budget by \$26,025.
- Total Expenses year-to-date are \$375, 050, which is over budget by \$55,207.

Mr. Buldra said he and the Chief have had several lengthy discussions about the vehicle maintenance costs and the Chief has taken steps internally to reduce our reliance on the very expensive Emergency Vehicle Repair relationship. Chief Bonnee expanded on that, explaining that since much of the regular maintenance can be performed in-house, that work is now being done by Edgar Tolentino, a qualified local mobile mechanic who is also an LMRFD volunteer. Edgar is assisted by Chris, one of our wildlands-qualified people. We will continue to utilize EVR as necessary for major repairs. That being said, Chief Bonnee added that he has approached two EVR competitors in Kingman and requested quotes from both in order to ensure we are getting the best deal available in the area when we do need to go with an external vendor for major repairs.

With three engine replacements in the last 18 months, the lingering major equipment issues have been taken care of and, with the huge savings in-house regular maintenance will give us, the overall vehicle maintenance expense is now expected to drop dramatically. Chief Bonnee took a moment to explain some of the maintenance pricing and give a quick comparison of external vendor vs in-house maintenance using an ambulance oil change as an example. With the external vendor charging roughly \$900 for the job and our in-house maintenance cost being parts plus \$100, the savings for a single instance are obvious. Multiplied by several vehicles over the course of a year's scheduled maintenance along with minor breakage repairs, that lesser cost will have a huge impact on the budget while allowing us to maintain the integrity of the fleet.

Chief Bonnee also reported that LMRFD right now has the highest collection rate of any other emergency services in the area. Mr. Buldra noted that our collection rate usually runs around 50%, plus or minus 5%, which is a very good rate compared to the success of other emergency organizations. Chief Bonnee later added that he just checked his record and our current collection average is 69.8%. He attributed the high success rate and overall better situation to JVG having contacted and established a working relationship with our billing vendor.

Director Reh-Bower once again asked about tracking of money from the various fund-raising events and the Chief and Mr. Buldra said they will get together and make sure that is taken care of expeditiously. Director Koeppen added that

this is important, as the money must be accounted for and dispersed appropriately.

Director Koeppen called for a vote to approve the consent agenda items as presented and discussed.

Director Reh-Bower moved to accept the consent agenda.

Director Geisler seconded the motion.

All five directors voted AYE, the motion carried, and the consent agenda was accepted at 1:28 pm.

7) REGULAR SESSION

Old Business:

a. Discussion: Annexation Workshop update (Director Koeppen) 1:29 pm

The workshop will be held on Thursday the 25th at The Barn from 10:00 am to 12 Noon. The workshop presentation schedule has been worked out and the presentation slides are being prepared with a little help from Admin. Director Koeppen and Glenn Gardner will meet with Edie at the Barn on Friday to work on the PowerPoint presentation and verify technical details. Director Koeppen asked for any board member who can be there to please do so.

Chief Bonnee will be speaking on the recent Proposition 310 vote and the financial side of annexation vs fire contract vs accepting the risk and living with no fire coverage. He will also cover some of the current avenues he and Battalion Chief Pagliero are working on toward expanding the Fire District by annexing certain highways and whole areas, such as Chloride, White Hills, Greg's Hideout, Meadview and Mead City.

Director Koeppen stated that she thinks this is a direction that we must pursue.

Discussion ended at 1:45 pm.

b. Discussion: Fundraiser Update (Director Koeppen)

Director Koeppen reported that she has attended several community gatherings representing the Fire District and will be attending more before month's end. She said the Chief will be the primary speaker at the Oct COMM meeting. She pointed out to the group that fundraising, as important as it is in terms of community outreach and income, it is not as important as annexing new properties into the Fire District boundaries. Discussion ended at 1:49 pm.

c. Discussion: Website Update (Emily Geisler)

Director Geisler reported that the new website is up and running. Director Reh-Bower has assumed the responsibility of administering the site. She has been moving historical data into the new site as quickly as possible, and she and Director Geisler are still working out a few kinks concerning site privileges. Report ended at 1:52 pm.

New Business:

No new business was scheduled for this meeting.

8) CALL to the PUBLIC. *(The Fire District Board is not permitted to discuss or take action on any item(s) that are not on the Agenda that are raised in the call to the public. However, individual Board Members may be permitted to respond to criticism directed to them. Otherwise, the Board may direct that staff review the matter or that the matter be placed on a future agenda. The Fire District Board cannot discuss or take legal action on any issue raised during the Call to the Public due to restriction of the Opening Meeting Law).*

No one from the public attended this meeting, therefore no one asked to speak.

9) CONSIDERATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.

Specified tabled items will move to following month's Regular Meeting, unless noted otherwise and/or pending additional information.

10) NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING DATE & LOCATION. (Subject to change, notice/announcement will be posted via District Website, if any changes occur.) 10/16/2025 at the **Meadview Civic Association (247 Meadview Blvd. Meadview, Az 86444)**

Director Koeppen called for a vote to adjourn the meeting.

Director Reh-Bower moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:53 pm.

Director Geisler seconded the motion.

All five directors voted AYE and the meeting was adjourned at 1:53 pm.

Minutes prepared by: Glenn Gardner

Date: 9/23/2025

Minutes posted by: Ellen Reh-Bower

Date: 09/23/2025

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Lake Mohave Ranchos Fire District endeavors to ensure accessibility of all its programs, facilities, and services to all persons with disabilities. If any disabled person needs an accommodation, please notify the Lake Mohave Ranchos Fire District at: (928) 767-3300, prior to the scheduled meeting time.

LMRFD Official Posting Locations:

Administration / St. 41 (16126 Pierce Ferry Rd Dolan Springs, AZ)

LMRFD annex Building (16154 Pierce Ferry Rd Dolan Springs, AZ)

St. 43 (30250 Stillwater Meadview, AZ)

Meadview Post Office (250 Pueblo Dr. Meadview, AZ 86444)

LMRFD Website (www.lmrfd.org)

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