



La Paz Unified **Fire**-Medical District
PO Box I889 Quartzsite, AZ 85346
70 E Tyson Street



Serving: Quartzsite, La Paz Valley, Rainbow Acres, Vicksburg, Hope, Brenda, Harcuvar, Salome and Wenden -EST 2025

Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 28, 2026

1. Call Meeting to Order: **Called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairperson Susan Sewell.**
2. Pledge of Allegiance: **All in attendance participated.**
3. Roll Call: Board Members present: **Susan Sewell, Philip Cushman, Pam Wolfe-Brady, Travis Freedmen and TC Collier. Staff Present: K. Hess, W. Aaron, D.Davis and J.Johnston. Legal Counsel: Bill Whittington. Public: Teena Conrad (teleconference).**
4. Possible vote to go into Executive Session for the following items. **Board Member P.Wolfe-Brady made the motion, Board Clerk P.Cushman seconded. Executive session began at 6:03pm**
 - A. Personnel matters, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03 (A)(1) regarding the Fire Chief's Employment and the Fire Chief's Employment Contract/Terminal Leave.
 - B. Legal advice, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03 (A)(3) regarding the Fire Chief's Employment and for instructions to legal counsel pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(4) regarding the Fire Chief's Employment Contract/Terminal Leave. **Executive session ended at 7:13pm. No actions were taken in executive session.**
5. Discussion/Possible Action re: Fire Chief's Employment and Fire Chief's Employment Contract. **The Board discussed the Fire Chief's contract; following discussion, Board Clerk P.Cushman motioned to renew the contract presented, Board Member T.Freedman seconded and it passed unanimously.**
6. Discussion/Possible Action re: Resolution 2026-04-01: Fire Chief Terminal Leave. **The Board discussed the above resolution authorizing Fire Chief Kevin Hess to utilize accrued sick and vacation leave (terminal leave) with continuation of benefits, pursuant to District policy, Arizona law and the Fire Chief's Employment Contract. Board Member P.Wolfe-Brady made a motion to accept the resolution with option A (Continue payment of wages and**

benefits on a biweekly basis consistent with the District's regular payroll cycle). Board Clerk P.Cushman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The Board announced that a special meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, May 7th at 6:00pm to discuss the potential transition of the current Assistant Chief into the role of Interim Fire Chief, including consideration of the interim appointment's roles, responsibilities, and salary during the interim period.

7. Adjourn Meeting: The meeting was adjourned at 7:19pm by Chairperson Susan Sewell.

The Budget Hearing will be on the 21st of May at Station 33 in Quartzsite at 6:00pm.

Susan Sewell, Chair Person

Philip Cushman, Clerk