DESERT HILLS
FIRE DISTRICT
3983 London Bridge Road
Lake Havasu City, Az 86404
(928)-764-3333
www.Deserthillsfire.org

Board Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting, June 17, 2026

1. **Call to order**

   Board Member Roger called to order the Desert Hills Fire District Board meeting at **9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 17, 2026,** at the Desert Hills Fire Station Si-Mock Room located at 3983 London Bridge Road, Lake Havasu City, AZ.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

   Pledge of Allegiance commenced by Board Member Roger

3. **Roll Call**

   The following Board Members were present:

   Tom Roger
   Curtis Schafer
   Rich Fountain
   Dana VanLeuven - absent
   Linda Hanks

   Also, in attendance:

   Chief Stanec
   Administrative Specialist Harrison

4. **Call to the Public:** None

5. **Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes for May 20, 2026:** Board Member Schafer motioned to accept meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Board Member Hanks, all in favor.

6. **Reports:**

   a) **Fire Chief Report:** Chief Stanec reports the following;
      - Exciting news, FF Mann is a new dad. He had a boy.
      - Last month, Tom and I went to the Board of Supervisors meeting where they discussed the distribution project, it got approved by the board. They mentioned two acres of land to be donated to us off Fathom Drive. We don't have any final paperwork details, but it is super exciting. Thanks to John Gall, Angelo Rinaldi and the Oxley family. Chief asked BM Roger if he would like to make a comment. BM Roger states, after that meeting with the Board of Supervisors they went to the county assessor's office to ask for ideas on getting a new station

funded. Chief continues that she moves in those political circles and she is already put feelers out. She sent me an email stating that Paul Gosar's staffer and she wants to come out once we get the land to do a survey of the land and see our current facility to see how they can help with funding.

- Recruiting - Currently we're recruiting, we lost one of our Fire Fighter to Peach Springs, Brandon Elders. We wish him the best of luck. Good news is we posted the position last week and we have six applicants. James has taken that off my shoulders and is contacting the applicants and is scheduling applicants in two weeks from now.
- Engineer Pump Academy - Begins on Monday at Mohave Valley and we have five fire fighters attending the academy. We will be sending one of our engines to use for training on. We'll be working with the State and Arizona at Work to get tuition and instructors get paid. They had money left over before the end of the fiscal year and Arizona at Work wanted to fund some projects. There shouldn't be any cost for our department.
- Promotions – We sent out the job requirements, bibliography, what it takes to promote. The requirements and the preferred requirements for those positions. That closes June 29. They are encouraged to send a Letter of Intent along with an updated resume to me. Then we'll formulate a plan with the testing process. Battalion Chief and Captain Testing will be at the end of July and Engineer Testing will be in August.
- Communications – Last Tuesday us and Golden Shores went live with Colorado City dispatch. We've already seen a decrease in when dispatch receives that call to when they tone us out to when we respond and get on scene. Those times have decreased.
  There is a learning curve with the new technology for our group. Our engines have MDT's, mobile data terminals, where they can talk to the dispatcher and the dispatcher can talk to them. Kudos to Captain Sayre, as part of the project, we had to put another tower out at Havasu Heights to support the trunk system. He came in and dug the foundation for the tower that Mohave Valley gave us.
- AFG Grants – The period is open right now and I applied for a water tender once again. The grant would $625,000, our match would be $31,000 if awarded.
- Senate Appropriations – Chief states that we are working on trying to receive our $210,000 EMS equipment. The portal opened for us to apply. Admin Specialist Harrison and I will be working on that. It's about a month out once we request the funding.
- New Engine – Chief spoke to the vendor last week and they are making plans for next week to get it shipped from Michigan to Phoenix, once it's in Phoenix he thought about three or four weeks for some outfitting.
- DEA – Met with the hospital representative for the pharmacy. They want Fire Departments to be their own pharmacy. At the next board meeting we will either stay with Havasu Regional or switch to another vendor for medical direction and pharmaceutical direction. I'm still fact finding to see what our other options are.

7. **Old Business:**

a) Discussion and possible action re: Adoption of Resolution No. 2026-01 – 2024 International Fire Code. Chief Stanec states last month the board approved the submittal of Resolution No. 2026-01, the 2024 International Fire Code to the state fire marshal's office. Also posting the notice for 30 days to the public. The state fire marshal approved the fire code, and we received no public comments. Fire Prevention Specialist Kartinen states he met with the fire marshal's office and reviewed the adopted resolution in depth; it took about an hour. They were impressed with the format we used. Last fire code we adopted included the hydrant spec, they don't recommend we include it now. The adoption is the same other than we removed the line that said Appendix P. It will be a stand-alone document. Motioned by Board Member Roger to adopt Resolution No. 2026-01, 2024 Internation Fire Code, seconded by Board Member Fountain, all in favor.

8. **New Business:**

a.) Discussion and possible action re: Approval of monthly Financial Report. Administrative Specialist Harrison states that the Grant Savings Account is $3,93.37, Payroll Account $28,852.68, Special Revenue Checking Account $38,032.38, Special Revenue Savings Account $78,077.49, Warrant Account $2,908,266.56, Petty Cash $127.57, with a total balance of $3,056,450.05. Motioned by Board Member Roger to approve the financial report as presented, seconded by Board Member Fountain, all in favor.

b.) Discussion and possible action re: Approval of Sponsorship for the Firefighter/Paramedic Program Candidate. Chief Stanec states we were approached by Firefighter Guzzetta to sponsor him through the Mohave College Paramedic Program. We need paramedics and we always encourage our people to go through that 1 year of school. The cost of the class is $7,500. Chief Stanec put his feelers out with WACEMS, Arizona at work for grant funds and we do get credits through the college with the first responder scholarship. If we get any funding it will reduce the cost. Motioned by Board Member Roger to approve the sponsorship for the firefighter paramedic program candidate, seconded by Board Member Fountain, all in favor.

c.) Discussion and possible action re: July 2026 Regular Board Meeting Date Change. Chief Stanec states that our July board meeting is the same week as the Arizona Fire Chiefs Association conference. We would like to push our board meeting back one week to July 22nd. Motioned by Board Member Roger to approve the July 15th board meeting moved to July 22nd, seconded by Board Member Hanks, all in favor.

d.) Discussion and possible action re: Approval of the Updated District Fee Schedule. Chief Stanec states when Fire Prevention Specialist Kartinen came on board I had him go through our systems and he brought to my attention our fee schedule. FPS Kartinen states that he reviewed our fee schedule and other departments around our area. The new fee schedule we came up with is more in line with the other departments and what everybody else is charging, so it's not a big surprise between fees going up and down the river. We all use a lot of the same contractors. The new fee now explains what cover is. It simplifies the fees. The fee is based on the $100 rate. Motioned by Board Member Roger to approve the new fee schedule, seconded by Board Member Fountain, all in favor.

e.) Discussion and possible action re: Adoption of Resolution No. 2026-04 – Hydrant Installation Specification. Fire Prevention Specialist Kartinen states the hydrant installation specifications are basically the same. The Fire Marshalls office recommended to remove the section that called for specific brands and types of hydrants. We replaced it with the water company specifications. Because the water company owns the distribution systems, they have their own specifications, it takes that liability off us. Motioned by Board Member Roger, seconded by Board Member Schafer, all in favor.

f.) Discussion and possible action re: Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Budget. Chief Stanec states the proposed budget has been posted for 30 days. We have not received any concerns or comments from the public. This is the time if any board member has concerns or questions. This budget is keeping the levy limit at 3.5%, 5% raises, 9 promotions, increase family coverage to 75% coverage and 100% for single personnel. Motioned by Board Member Roger to adopt the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget, seconded by Board Member Hanks, all in favor.

g.) Discussion and possible action re: Chief's Evaluation. The board of Directors may by motion recess into Executive Session for board discussion, Pursuant to A.R.S. 38-4731.03 (A). Let the record reflect that Board Member Rogers motioned to enter into executive session at 9:30am to discuss the Chiefs evaluation, seconded by Board Member Fountain and exited executive session at 10:28am.

9. <u>Board Member Comments:</u>

a) New Business to be considered on future agendas: None
b) Comments: None

10. <u>Adjourn:</u> Motion to adjourn at 10:30, Board Member Schafer motioned to Adjourn, seconded by Board Member Hanks, all in favor.