



# DESERT HILLS FIRE DISTRICT

3983 London Bridge Road  
Lake Havasu City, Az 86404  
(928)-764-3333  
[www.Deserthillsfire.org](http://www.Deserthillsfire.org)

## Board Meeting Minutes Regular Meeting, May 20, 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, May 20, 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 (Teams)  
Linda Hanks (Teams)

Also, in attendance:

Chief Stanec  
Administrative Specialist Harrison

4. Call to the Public: Curtis Shafer presented a donation of \$1,000 from the American Legion.

5. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes for January 15, 2026: Board Member Fountain motioned to accept meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Board Member Schafer, all in favor.

### 6. Reports:

a) **Fire Chief Report:** Chief Stanec reports the following;

- New Engine update; Capt. Sayre and Capt. Barragan will be traveling to Grand Rapid, MI Tuesday, next week to do the final walk through. Barring no noted repairs, it will then get shipped to Phoenix for stickers and electrical components.
- Communications; Desert Hills is scheduled to go live June 9<sup>th</sup>, along with Golden Shores on the Colorado City piece. On the appropriations that Mohave Valley headed up for us, it made it through the first round.
- We had special guests come to the station, Starline Elementary 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade

classes; we had about 150 students. We had a station set up for stop, drop and roll training, fire engines on display, students got to spray water from the engine, and they got to tour the engines. It was a fun day. Today is water day at Nautilus Elementary School and two of our firefighters' volunteered to take an engine and spray the kids with water.

- DEA update: we were able to apply through the DEA for our license. AZDS gave us our approval. We are working with base hospital on our policies to make sure everything is up to speed.
- Capt. Reeder and BC Bunn recently completed their Chief Officer Certification Program. Congratulations.
- Chief evaluations are coming up next month.

## 7. New Business:

- a.) Discussion and possible action re: Approval of monthly Financial Report. Administrative Specialist Harrison states that the Grant Savings Account is \$3,093.34, Payroll Account \$79,673.65, Special Revenue Checking Account \$106,705.73, Special Revenue Savings Account \$70,380.79, Warrant Account \$3,009,409.02, Petty Cash \$127.00, with a total balance of \$3,269,390.10.

Motioned by Board Member Schafer to approve the financial report as presented, seconded by Board Member Fountain, all in favor.

- b.) Discussion and possible action re: Acceptation of Resolution 2026-01 – to repeal the 2018 International Fire Code and replace it with the 2024 International Fire Code, as adopted by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

Chief Stanec states; the State recently updated to the new 2024 fire code and the County is reviewing the new 2024 fire code. What we are asking for today is to provide information about the resolution, then we post the acceptance for 30 days. We will notify the State Marshall's office that it has been accepted, they will review the code and the appendices. Next board meeting we will adopt the resolution.

Fire Prevention Specialist Kartinen reports; April 19<sup>th</sup> the State went live with the 2024 International Fire Code. We are required by Statute to either meet or exceed the code. There are not a lot of significant changes from the current 2018 code to the 2024 code. I sat through an ICC fire code class; a lot of the changes have to do with lithium-ion storage and things like that. As technology progress we will have more of that to deal with. The code also gives us the right to enforce fire lanes. The appendix we are putting in is the same as we had in our Appendix O. This new updated appendix will be named Appendix P.

Motioned by Board Member Roger to accept Resolution 2026-01 for public notification and State Fire Marshal review, seconded by Board Member Fountain, all in favor.

- c.) Discussion and possible action re: Waiver of Conflict of Interest and Consent to Joint Representation for the Mohave County Regional Public Safety Radio Communications Consortium.

Chief Stanec reports; As we are part of the radio consortium and working with the other fire districts, we need to contractually have the contracts reviewed by legal. Four of the fire districts use Bill Whittington's law office and one fire district has different

representation. We need approval to sign the waiver of conflict of interest. Which allows our attorney to review those contracts on behalf of all of us.

Motioned by Board Member Fountain to approve the Waiver of Conflict of Interest and Consent to Joint Representation for the consortium and related legal matters, seconded by Board Member Schafer, all in favor.

- d.) Discussion and possible action re: Approval of Resolution 2026-02 - Intergovernmental Agreement for Regional Dispatch Services Between Colorado City and Participating Agencies.

Chief Stanec reports Attorney Whittington knowing the importance of this is to all of us and the timeline we are on, he took it in good faith and began to review all the contracts we are presenting today. This resolution is the agreement for all the Desert Hills, Mohave Valley, Fort Mojave Mesa, Golden Shores and Oatman fire districts with Colorado City as our 911 dispatch center. It outlines dispatch service expectations, billing costs, operational coordination procedures, records access and retention standards, cybersecurity and continuity planning, change request and upgrade processes.

Motioned by Board Member Roger to approve Resolution 2026-02 authorizing the Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement for dispatch services, seconded by Board Member Fountain, all in favor.

- e.) Discussion and possible action re: Approval of Resolution 2026-03 - Intergovernmental Agreement Establishing the Mohave County Regional Public Safety Radio Communications Consortium.

Chief Stanec reports this contract is between Mohave Valley, Fort Mojave Mesa, Golden Shores, Oatman and Desert Hills Fire District. The purpose of this consortium is to jointly develop, operate, maintain, protect and expand a regional interoperable public safety radio communications system serving all the agencies.

Battalion Chief McShea from Mohave Valley Fire District states that as a group there are five fire districts that decided to work as a group for a common goal to build this radio structure system that will create a longevity of good communication for all the districts. This allows this consortium to a representative from each fire district, governed by By-Laws. They will make decisions for the best moving forward. We are limiting the board to five fire districts. The board would decide if they wanted other districts to join and if they are a subscriber or a member of the consortium.

Chief Stanec states the contract covers the governance procedure, how we operate as a group, the voting structure, financial protections, cost allocation formulas, infrastructure ownership protections, withdrawal procedures, disputed resolution processes and long-term continuity requirements.

BC McShea states that one of the biggest pieces to the legal side of this was not to be kicked out or pushed out by other districts in the consortium. It would have to be voted on by the board and the only way you could be kicked out is if broke the law or didn't pay your bill.

Motioned by Board Member Roger to approve the Resolution 2026-03 authorizing the Intergovernmental Agreement establishing the Mohave County Regional Public Safety Radio Communications Consortium, seconded by Board Member Fountain, all in favor.

- f.) Discussion and possible action re: Approval of Subscriber Intergovernmental Agreement

for Participating Agencies of the Mohave County Regional Public Safety Radio Communications Consortium.

Chief Stanec reports that now that we have the consortium approved, this agreement establishes the framework for outside agencies to subscribe to and utilize the regional radio communications system without becoming a full consortium member.

BC McShea states this isn't a final draft; this is a framework to set the stage for when that agency comes into play. We want to educate all the boards on how this framework looks upfront, then once we do the study of the new agency. We will take all that information and develop this subscriber agreement specifically to that agency. We would take this agreement to the consortium board for approval. The consortium will remain on the original board with the five members. New subscribers will fund their own equipment and pay a fee to be part of the consortium. The host agency will manage all the finances. There will be budgets and audits. The host agency will be Mohave Valley FD right now, but it's up to the consortium board if they ever want to change the host agency. The consortium is a subcommittee of the agencies.

Motioned by Board Member Roger to approve the Subscriber Intergovernmental Agreement for participating agencies of Mohave County Regional Public Safety Radio Communications Consortium, seconded by Board Member Schafer, all in favor.

g.) Discussion and possible action re: Purchase of Two Base Radios.

Chief Stanec reports these radios are for station alerting. The consortium has agreed to get all radios the same so when Mark works on communications all radios will be the same. The total cost for two radios is \$4706.26 plus tax. The radios we currently have will go into vehicles that need upgrades.

Motioned by Board Member Fountain to purchase the two base radios, seconded by Board Member Roger, all in favor.

h.) Discussion and possible action re: Implementation of The Compliance Engine Software Platform.

Fire Prevention Specialist Kartinen states the compliance engine is a platform that receives and collects data, gives us live feed and it's for everyone that has a restaurant with a sprinkler system, hood system. They all must be up to compliance. When contractors come into the restaurant and service the systems they will input it on the platform. The platform allows us to see who's in compliance and who is out of compliance. There's not cost to the district. It is paid for by the contractor that submits the reports. The compliance engine will send out notices if businesses are due for cleaning or out of compliance.

Motioned by Board Member Roger to approve the implementation of the Compliance Engine Software, seconded by Board Member Schafer, all in favor.

i.) Discussion and possible action re: FY26/27 Budget Review and Approval of Proposed Budget.

Chief Stanec states that the last meeting we discussed the levy and to try and keep the levy at 3.5%, the next was raises for employees. We were at 3% pay increase. We were able to increase the increase to 5%. Regarding health insurance, we wanted to help families more, so we were able to increase the family portion to 75% coverage. Everything else in the budget remained the same as at the last meeting.

Motioned by Board Member Schafer to approve the proposed budget, seconded by Board Member Roger, all in favor.

**8. Board Member Comments:**

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

**9. Adjourn: Motion** to adjourn at 9:45AM, Board Member Fountain motioned to Adjourn, seconded by Board Member Schafer, all in favor.

