



# Desert Hills Fire District

3983 London Bridge Road  
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86404  
(928) 764-3333 (FAX) 764-2397

---

## Desert Hills Fire District Board Meeting Minutes Regular Meeting, July 17, 2019

### 1. Call to order

Board Member Hayes called to order the Desert Hills Fire District Board meeting at **9:01 a.m. on Wednesday, July 17, 2019**, 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 Hayes

### 3. Roll Call

The following Board Members were present:

John Hayes  
Curtis Schafer - absent  
Tom Roger  
Brad Shelton - absent  
Char Beltran

Also in attendance:

Battalion Chief Stanec  
Battalion Chief Bunn  
Administrative Specialist Harrison

4. Call to the Public: Fire Chief Troy Malone from Buckskin Fire District visits for a Meet and Greet. He states that they are a district like DHFD and the board is always open to work together and is very proactive with any kind of shared services, cooperative rate agreements, mergers, consolidations, JPA's or IGA's, etc. They are interest in any thing as a fire district to be more cost efficient with tax payer's money.

5. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes for June 19, 2019: Motioned by Board Member Beltran to accept June 19, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes, seconded by Board Member Hayes; all in favor.

### 6. Reports:

#### a) Fire Administration Report:

- Battalion Chief Stanec states that at the last meeting we discussed the Lexipol policies and decided to create a sub-committee. Admin Spec. Harrison scheduled that for August 1<sup>st</sup> at 9am.
- We attended the County Fire Officer meeting in Kingman, the hot topic was State Wide Mutual Aide rollout which happened July 11<sup>th</sup>. We passed it down to the Captain's and they are on board with the program and know how to use it.
- BC Bunn, Admin Spec. Harrison and myself attended the AZ Fire Chiefs Conference in Glendale last week.
- Our EMS coordinator Steve Reeder attended Western Arizona EMS (WACEMS) in Pine Lake on July 11<sup>th</sup>. We are active with them but not recently, our goal is to start attending these meetings. He came back with about \$2,000.00 worth of equipment that they donated to us.
- Our Fire Prevention Specialist Stancil attended the County Fire Marshals Association meeting on July 16<sup>th</sup> in Lake Havasu City.

- On July 16<sup>th</sup> we held a Company Officers meeting. We welcomed Jeff Spencer as Captain.
- We promote Ryan Johnson, our POC to full time position. One of our full-time firefighters move on to Mohave Valley Fire District.
- Currently we have job postings for one more full-time and some part-time employees to build our staff levels.

b.) **Fire Operation Report:**

- Battalion Chief Bunn states 1511 is up at Mohave Valley Fire for routine maintenance, 1521 will follow.
- Active shooter training will be complete with Lake Havasu Fire July 18<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to Lake Havasu City Fire for including us.
- We received another donated pallet of water from Lake Havasu City Fire.
- We received a community Grant from Walmart and we are using it to get an ice machine. Captain Erickson will be in charge of that project. Any leftover funds will be used for station supplies.
- All 3 shifts participated Walmart CMN fundraiser. In the past in 45 days we raised \$2,000 to send to Phoenix Children's Hospital.
- We did respond to a big fire in Golden Shores along with Yucca Fire District, Bullhead City Fire, Golden Shores, Fort Mohave, and Fort Mohave Mesa. Two structures burned, one of Golden Shores FF was injured from a small explosion.

c.) **Wildland Report:**

- BC Stanec states we have two guys out on a fire for medical outside Phoenix, they should be back tonight or tomorrow morning depending on the fire activity today. We sent 2 crews of 2 guys out on a 28-day assignment. The fire requested another crew swap but we didn't have a paramedic available so we declined. No apparatus has been requested from Mohave County on this fire yet.

d.) **DHFD Auxiliary Report:** None

e.) **Correspondence:** None

7. **New Business:**

- a.) Discussion and possible action re: Approval of monthly Financial Report. Administrative Specialist Harrison stated that the Grant Savings Account is \$32,173.86, Payroll Account \$5,881.66, Petty Cash \$100.00, Special Revenue Checking Account 23,051.58, Special Revenue Savings Account \$8,498.31, Warrant Account \$449,276.15, with a total balance of \$519,981.56. Approval of Financial Report motioned by Board Member Beltran, seconded by Board Member Roger, all in favor.
- b.) Discussion and possible action re: Horizon Six coverage. Chief Davis from Lake Havasu Fire Dept joined us to relay to the Board in length on the Horizon Six Pump System (located in what is known as Donkey Acres). He explained its location and that there are about 300 properties in the district. The Horizon Six water system is a water system that provides water service to that district and transitioned into fire protection. They purchase water from the Colorado River through the city water system. Our conversation with them revolves around the water delivery to that district and then the fire protection of that district. The City has had a long-standing agreement with them that we would provide water to the tank site, they purchase and distribute it. That system is operated and maintained by Horizon Six which by default is the county, so the county operates it. Under contract the city does the meter reading and sends them the bill, all that is collected is provided to Horizon Six. Also, in the contract is the fire protection. The ten-year agreement expires end of this month (July).

The issue began with the water system. The Horizon Six System historically when there is leaks or problems what happens is the city public works repairs it. If the city public works does not have the ability, they will contract with the city to do the repairs. The residents believe that they are on the city water system. Summarily to the properties in Havasu Heights which has a water assessment on their property taxes, Horizon Six is just like that, an independent water system. In looking at the assessment for properties in Horizon Six there is no actual assessment for the Horizon Six District. That's a benefit to those folks, however they didn't generate any revenue to maintain their systems.

The Mayor and I attended a meeting that Supervisor Johnson held for those residents to explain that they have their own independent system and have some issues they have to be fix. A couple years ago when we had significant failures of the system and significant hydrant failures our water department and the county public works said we need to evaluate the system. We have an agreement to provide protection, we don't bring tenders we're an urban fire department with a few 100 gallons not a few 1000. We raised the concern, that if we don't have the water we

can come, but we can't put it out. Those hydrants were marked 'out of service' a few years ago and we asked that that be relayed to the residents.

Our ten-year agreement is expiring at the end of the month and they did not get a request to renewal from the county. We did not cancel a county agreement to provide protection, they did not ask for a renewal. They did ask for the renewal on the water agreement and that was renewed with the county and the city, so that will continue for 5 more years where they purchase the water and distribute it to their system. We did add to the agreement that breaks has to have immediate repair or we are authorized to immediately repair them and charge a simple flat rate cost.

We did not renew the fire protection but yes will provide coverage if there is a fire. We will charge a cost per service like we do for a call on the lake, out in the desert, and on hwy 95. Residents asked 'why can't you call Desert Hills or Buckskin for a tanker, the answer is yes, we can, however our mutual aid agreement is based on our tax payers and your tax payers working together. Chief Davis also states to the residents that he's uncomfortable signing a legal document provided you service in exchange for money to them when the city had to rely on DHFD equipment. If their service requires all of us than the agreement should include DHFD as well and DHFD should be paid for the service also. It is inappropriate for the city tax payers to subsidized Desert Hills tax payers. Unfortunately, those folks have a pump pack doesn't provide abdicated water flow. The city believes the line in the ground are due for replacement and we know the vast majority of the hydrants are inoperable or simply do not have a flow. Chief Davis informed the residents that when their contract expires the will provide fire service at a cost and any other district that arrives to help will also be billing for cost of services. Board Member Hayes thanked Chief Davis for the information. Also state the billing should be coordinated so one district is not billing more than another district. DHFD will send a tanker if needed as a billable service.

- c.) Discussion and possible action re: Proposals for New Auditors. Admin Spec Harrison states she that sent out letters to potential Auditors, and received two replies back. One from our current Auditor, Hinton Burdick, that we've had for three years, with our contract ending last fiscal year. The charge for 2019 is \$12,500.00, with a three-year contract. The other Auditor is from Walker & Armstrong, their charge is \$12,000.00. Admin Spec Harrison did learn that we do not have to change auditor, however best practice suggests to ask for a new auditor within the same company. Board Member Roger asked who we preferred to go with. Admin Spec Harrison prefers to continue with the current Auditors, they are very thorough and very helpful. Board Member Beltran asked what the BC's thought about it being the new Chief. BC Stanec stated as the finance BC he feels it would be best to stay with the same auditors for now, so it's not new to all of us. Approval to continue with Current Auditor, Hinton Burdick, motioned by Board Member Roger, seconded by Board Member Hayes, all in favor.
- d.) Discussion and possible actions Re: Resolutions 2019-02 Disposal of Surplus Equipment. BC Bunn states we have an old SCBA compressor from station 2, we took it out of service about 2-3 years ago, it did not fill our bottles adequately. I would like to donate it to the Mohave County Sheriff Office. They will use it to fill their scubas at the water safety center. Approval for Disposal of Surplus Equipment to be donate motioned by Board Member Roger, seconded by Board Member Beltran, all in favor.

**8. Board Member Comments:**

- a) New Business to be considered on future agendas: August 1<sup>st</sup>, 9am for Lexipol policy workshop.
- b) Comments: None

**9. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn at 9:51 a.m. by Board Member Beltran, seconded by Board Member Hayes, all in favor.**