

Board Agenda June 17, 2025

Pine-Strawberry Fire District

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.02 notice is hereby given to the members of the Pine-Strawberry Fire District Board of Directors and to the public that the Board will hold a public meeting on **Tuesday, June 17, 2025, beginning at 3:00 PM at the Pine-Strawberry Fire District Fire Station 41 conference room,** located at 6198 Hardscrabble Mesa Rd. in Pine, Arizona. Access to the meeting room will be available 15 minutes prior to the meeting.

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 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. **The Board reserves the right to address any item in any order they wish.**

CALL TO ORDER

1) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2) ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS

3) PRESENTATIONS

4) CORRESPONDENCE

5) **CALL TO THE PUBLIC** - Those wishing to address the Pine-Strawberry Fire District Board need not request permission in advance. The Fire District Board is **not** permitted to discuss or take action on any item raised in the Call to the Public, unless the item is specifically noticed for discussion and legal action. However, individual Board members may be permitted to respond to criticism directed at 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 restrictions of the Open Meeting Law. Speakers responding to the Call to the Public are restricted to 3 minutes of speaking time each.

6) APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

a) May 15, 2025, Regular Board Meeting Minutes

7) FINANCIAL REPORT

- a) Approve the May 2025 Financial Report

8) FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT – Discussion/possible action or direction on the following items:

- a) Significant emergency incidents
- b) Other non-emergency Fire District activity
- c) Progress report on Fire Board directed Fire District business activities or projects
- d) Report on emergency call volume for previous month
- e) Report on vehicle maintenance from previous month
- f) Report on training activities for the previous month
- g) Specific program updates or demonstrations

9) OTHER FIRE DISTRICT RELATED REPORTS

(Items to be presented, considered, reviewed, discussed only.)

- a) District's Board Chairman Report & Discussion
- b) Public Safety Personnel Retirement Board Report
- c) Firefighter's Association Report
- d) Labor Organization Report

10) OLD BUSINESS

- a) Update/Discussion on Bond Issuance

11) NEW BUSINESS

(Items to be considered, reviewed, discussed, and possible action on.)

- a) Public Hearing for Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Adoption
- b) Discussion/Possible action on adopting 2025/2026 Budget
- c) Discussion/Possible action on PSPRS Pension Funding Policy
- d) Discussion/Possible action on Intergovernmental Agreement for Election Services.
- e) Discussion /Possible action on change to monthly Board Agenda to include "Prayer"

12) FUTURE MEETING AGENDA ITEMS and NEXT MEETING DATE

13) ADJOURNMENT

Notice of Meeting Agenda dated and posted _____ at _____ local time.
By: _____

If any person has special needs for a specific type of accommodation, please notify the Pine-Strawberry Fire District prior to the scheduled meeting time.

Pine-Strawberry Fire District

PINE-STRAWBERRY FIRE BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

June 17, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm.

1) **Pledge of Allegiance**

2) **Roll Call** – Present were - Board Clerk - Bob Papke, Member - Bob Bennett, Member - Dave Burkhart, and Member - Melvin Palmer. Board Chairman - Chuck Ackerman was absent.

3) **Presentations** – None.

4) **Correspondence** – Two letters of thanks were read.

5) **Call to the Public** –

Woody Phillips - The Pine-Strawberry Neighborhood Radio Watch reported that they now have radio communication with the volunteers at the Pine Brush Pit – which is significant because there is no cell phone service in that area. He again thanked the crews from the Fire District who helped to make this happen.

6) **Approval of Previous Minutes**

a) **May 15, 2025** – Regular Meeting Minutes – Dave Burkhart made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Bob Bennett seconded the motion, and it passed with three ayes. Bob Papke abstained.

7) **Financial Report of April 2025** – Ben Archer-Clowes of the James Vincent Group was in attendance and presented the financials for May. Mel Palmer made a motion to approve the financial report as given and to authorize the Board Clerk to sign. Dave Burkhart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. (See attached Financial Report.)

8) **Fire Chief's Report** – Including but not limited to: (See attached Fire Chief's Report.)

Emergency Activity-

Total Dispatches for May = 79 Total Calls for Service - Previous Month 55

54 Rescue and EMS

1 Fire

20 Misc. Service Calls

4 Motor Vehicle Accidents

Training Report – Total training hours completed this month were 502 hours.

The Fire Marshal's Report – The Fire Marshal's office reviewed 3 sets of plans, adding 1,707 square feet of construction, and totaling \$407.10 of revenue.

Vehicle Report – 5 District vehicles were serviced this month for a total of \$15,890. Of that total, \$11,147 was for the completion of new Brush Truck B416. All District vehicles are currently in service.

9) **Other Fire District Related Reports**

a) **District Board Chairman's Report** – None.

b) **Public Safety Personnel Retirement System Local Board Report** – Secret ballot elections were held to elect 2 new Board members to the PSPRS Local Board. Mike Tweet and Connor True will be the elected members serving on the PSPRS Local Board. Next meeting will be sometime in December.

c) **Firefighter's Association Report** – None

d) **Labor Organization Report** – None.

10) **Old Business –**

a) Discussion and update on Bond Issuance – Chief Brandt reported that we are up to date with all the filings with Gila County for the Bond election. (More on this in item 11d.)
No action taken.

11) **New Business –**

(Items to be considered, reviewed, discussed, and possible action on)

a) Public Hearing for Fiscal Year 2026 Budget adoption - Dave Burkhart made a motion to open a Public Hearing regarding the adoption of the proposed Fiscal Year 2026 budget. Bob Bennett seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously at 3:28 pm.

(No comments from the public.)

Dave Burkhart made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Mel Palmer seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously at 3:29 pm.

b) Discussion and Possible Action on adopting 2025/2026 Budget – Dave Burkhart made a motion to adopt the 2025/2026 Budget as proposed with the 3.5% tax rate and authorize the Board Chairman and Board Clerk to sign it along with the State Form and submit to Gila County. Mel Palmer seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

c) Discussion and Possible Action on PSPRS Pension Funding Policy - Dave Burkhart made a motion to approve the PSPRS Pension Funding Policy and post it on our website. Bob Bennett seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. (See website for PSPRS Pension Funding Policy under “Budget” section.)

d) Discussion and Possible Action on Intergovernmental Agreement for Election Services – Chief Brandt explained to the Board that an IGA is required with Gila County Elections Department for the Bond Issue. A rate sheet was provided to the Board members with the costs for a Special Election. Questions were raised as to whether this would be a “mail-in” vote or if we would have actual polling places set up. Chief Brandt said that is yet to be determined. Dave Burkhart made a motion to sign the IGA and submit it to Gila County. Mel Palmer seconded the vote, and it passed unanimously.

e) Discussion and Possible Action on change to monthly Board Agenda to include “Prayer” -

Marilyn Bennett requested this item and requested the Board to consider this item. Marilyn stated that the Gila County Board of Supervisors begin their meetings with prayer. The United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate begin their meetings with prayer. Mrs. Bennett stated that a simple prayer could be read at the beginning of the meetings and provided a “sample” prayer.

The idea was discussed at length by all the Board Members. Ultimately, Dave Burkhart made a motion to add this as item #2 on the Agenda as “Invocation”. Bob Bennett seconded the motion. Dave Burkhart, Bob Bennett, and Mel Palmer voted aye. Bob Papke voted No. Motion carried 3-1.

- 12) **Future Board Meeting Date** – Due to the summer AFDA conference, the next meeting date will be Thursday, July 24th, at 3:00. (Chief Brandt stated that he will not be here, but that he can have one of the Captains take his place.)

Items for discussion – Bond Issue

- 13) **Adjournment:** Bob Bennett made a motion to adjourn. Dave Burkhart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously at 4:12 pm.

cw

Screenshot 2025-05-27 at 3.18.01 PM

From Carmen Wailes <clwailes@hotmail.com>

Date Tue 5/27/2025 3:18 PM

To Carmen Wailes <cwailes@psfd.az.gov>



K-Lee Gee

Our FD is 🏆

2d Like Reply

9 👍❤️



Margaret Moorhead-Fox

And a huge shout out the Mike and Connor for helping transporting Dave to the Payson hospital and playing the Grateful Dead on the way!

2d Like Reply

4 👍❤️😲

Sent from my iPhone

Screenshot 2025-05-27 at 3.13.29 PM

From Carmen Wailes <clwailes@hotmail.com>

Date Tue 5/27/2025 3:14 PM

To Carmen Wailes <cwailes@psfd.az.gov>



Pine Strawberry comm...



Margaret Moorhead-Fox · 2d ·

A huge shout out to the Pine fire department and urgent care! Thank you for taking great care of my husband at about this time yesterday! Captain Scott- thank you for your kindness! Payson hospital- thank you!



Kim Rupp + 72

9 comments 1 share



Like



Comment



Send



Share

Sent from my iPhone



Pine- Strawberry Fire District

6198 W Hardscrabble Mesa Rd
Pine, AZ 85544



Monthly Financial Report – May 2025

Attached are the following for your information and review:

1. Balance Sheet as of May 31, 2025.
2. Summary of Reconciled Cash Balances as of May 31, 2025.
3. Income Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for May 2025 including budget to actual and year-to-date balances.
4. Income and Expenses Graph FY25.
5. Monthly Disbursement Report.
6. 12-Month Cash Flow.

Key points:

- Revenue for May is \$536,991 which is \$324,249 over budget.
 - Tax Revenue is \$500,788 which is \$365,005 over budget.
 - Non-Tax Revenue for May is \$36,203 which is \$40,756 under budget.
- Expenses for May totaled \$266,376 which is under budget by \$18,487.
- Year to Date Revenue is \$3,884,059 which is over budget by \$168,556.
- Year to Date Expenses is \$3,603,227 which is over budget by \$110,468.

Please contact the Finance Department at (480) 422-9777 for any questions or concerns regarding this report.

This report and the attached detail reports have been reviewed and approved by the Fire Board.



Board Clerk

6-17-25

Date



Pine-Strawberry Fire District

P.O. Box 441 □ Pine, Arizona 85544

Phone: (928) 476-4272 □ Fax: (928) 476-4634

Website: www.psfdez.com

Fire Chief's Report - June 2025

Emergency Activity – Total Dispatches for May = 79 calls for service

1 Fire Calls

54 EMS Calls

0 Gas Leak/Hazmat/Electric/TRT

4 Motor Vehicle Accidents

20 Misc. calls for service

Last month there were 55 calls for service.

Vehicle Report – 5 District vehicles had service done this month. T41 and T42 had their primers replaced. C41 had gasoline drained from its diesel tank. E41 had minor repairs completed and the new brush 416 had the bed fitted, the slip unit installed, upfitting completed, and graphics applied. \$15,890 was spent on vehicle maintenance this month \$11,147 of that was for the completion of B416, and all District vehicles are in service.

Training Report - Total training hours completed this month were 502 hours reported for all career members, and 69 hours reported for reserve members.

Plan Reviews – The PSFD Fire Marshall reviewed 3 sets of plans this month with a total addition of 1707 SQ FT. The total fees collected this month were a total of \$407.10.

Significant Incidents and Events:

- B413 is on deployment to the trout fire in New Mexico.
- B416 is completed and will be ready for deployment by the end of the week.
- Six-man staffing has started, and all the month is filled.

Citizen Request to PSFD BOD

June 17, 2025

I am **Marilyn Bennett**. I have been a **full-time resident in Pine for 13 years**—and have owned property in this beautiful community since 1995.

I want to share with you something that has been **on my heart** for quite some time.

You are the Pine Strawberry Fire District Board of Directors. You are here to generously volunteer your time and expertise to “direct” the affairs of the fire district. You are **men of integrity—with a self-less desire to enact what is best for our beloved community**.

I have attended nearly every board meeting for the past several years. You **carefully follow all of the rules of decorum**: the Call to Order; the Pledge of Allegiance; and the Roll Call for a Quorum. There is just **one vital element that is missing**.

You, fine men, need Wisdom to lead this fire district. It’s a huge responsibility. Not one that you would like to take on alone. **Our heroic men and women need God’s hand of protection.** It’s literally a matter of life and death. **God is the only One who can provide these things.**

The Bible promises in James 1:5

“If any of you lacks Wisdom, you should ask God, ... and it will be given to you.”

That’s a Promise you can take to the bank. I want that Wisdom. I know you do, too.

This reminds us to **rely on God’s Wisdom over our own when navigating life.**

I am requesting that you, as a board, prayerfully consider adding a prayer to your monthly agenda.

The Gila County Board of Supervisors begins each meeting with prayer.

Indeed, the United States Senate, and the United States House of Representatives (Congress) both begin each session with prayer.

I like to keep things simple. I am thinking this can simply be accomplished with a **simple prayer voluntarily read by any member of the board on an alternating basis.**

Done this way, there would be no need to procure a chaplain or pastor from the outside each month. A simple prayer could be read at the beginning of each board meeting before or after the Pledge of Allegiance. I offer the following simple prayer, as an example.

Dear Father God,

We honor You as Creator. We Thank You for our countless blessings. We ask You to continue to Protect our fire fighters and our community. We humbly ask You for Wisdom and Guidance, as we do our best to lead the Pine Strawberry Fire District.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen

Simple. God's ways are simple. This is just a simple way to seek God's blessing and protection in all that we do.

So, in line with the precedent set by our federal government—all the way down to the priority set by our Gila County Board of Supervisors, I respectfully ask you to prayerfully consider this request to add a prayer to the monthly agenda.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Bennett