



WATER WHEEL FIRE & MEDICAL DISTRICT

10603 N. Houston Mesa Road
Payson, Arizona 85541
928-474-3088 (office)
928-472-3392 (FAX)



Water Wheel Fire & Medical District Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held September 19, 2023

A public meeting of the Water Wheel Fire & Medical District was convened on September 19, 2023 at the Whispering Pines Fire Station 71, 10603 Houston Mesa Road, in Whispering Pines.

Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order:

Chris Oberg called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

II. Pledge of Allegiance:

Pledge was led by Al Kendall

III. Roll Call of Board Members:

Present were, Chris Oberg, Steve Stevens, Al Kendall and Dan Newman. Absent was Geoff Caldwell

A quorum of board members were in attendance.

IV. Motion to approve the minutes of the following business meetings:

A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting held August 15, 2023

Chris Oberg made a motion to accept the minutes from the meeting held on August 15, 2023. Steve Stevens seconded, the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

V. Reports and correspondence

Monthly Financial Report

1. Monthly Financial Report presented for review
2. Approval of Reconciliation Report for July 2023, moved by Al Kendall seconded by Dan Newman, accepted by a unanimous vote.

Chairman's Report – None



WATER WHEEL FIRE & MEDICAL DISTRICT

10603 N. Houston Mesa Road
Payson, Arizona 85541
928-474-3088 (office)
928-472-3392 (FAX)



Chief's Report

- a. Operations
- b. Equipment
- c. Administration

Discussion and possible action. None

VI Call to the public for comments on current agenda items.

- A. John Collins has requested time to address the Board concerning his recent resignation from the fire department. No actions taken

John read a long prepared statement outlining numerous references to issues pertaining from safety concerns, to poor management skills of the Fire Chief, to accusations against the Admin Assistant, to unnecessary spending by the Fire Chief, to lack of an adequate plan to replace the two recent full-time employee that recently resigned, etc.

- B. Heidi Swatty has requested time at the board meeting to ask questions relative to critical staffing issues at the fire house.

Heidi led a long (45 min +) discussion along with more than 20 citizens that attended the meeting that revolved around the staffing issues and the perceived lack of the plan to recover by hiring replacement personnel. Several suggestions came for the audience regarding how and were to post our job openings and offers to assist with creating some alternate advertising modes such as Face Book and LinkedIn. A Special Board meeting was suggested to do a workshop to further discuss ideas and options that folks might have. There was also extensive discussion about the upcoming possible degrading of our ISO ratings due to the downsizing of the District resources, manpower and facilities.

VII Items for Discussion and Possible Action:

- A. Approve Resolution 2023-2024.004 to amend the Fire District boundaries to add parcel 302-05-024E to the District, as requested by the property owners.

This item was tabled due to the discovery of a clerical error in the Resolution.

- B. Approve Resolution 2023-2024.005 to amend the Fire District boundaries to add parcel 302-07-015 to the District, as requested by the property owners.

This item was tabled due to the discovery of a clerical error in the Resolution.



WATER WHEEL FIRE & MEDICAL DISTRICT

10603 N. Houston Mesa Road
Payson, Arizona 85541
928-474-3088 (office)
928-472-3392 (FAX)



- C. Approve a revision to the Fire Chief's employment contract changing his compensation from salaried to hourly for the hours worked, retroactive to August 6, 2023.

Motion made by Steve Stevens and seconded by Chris Oberg to table this item until further discussions are completed.

- D. Approve Resolution 2023-2024.006 incorporating changes to our accounting related to leases and lease purchases under new GASB 87 Rules. This is requested by our auditors.

Motion made by Chris Oberg and seconded by Steve Stevens to approve Resolution 2023-2024.006.
Motion approved unanimously.

- E. Revise Policy 2.3.10, Reserve Program Guidelines, to allow more than 40 hours per week worked by Reserve Employees to support the needs of the District operations.

Motion made by Chris Oberg and seconded by Steve Stevens to table this until further discussions are completed. Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Call to the public for comments and non-agenda items. None

IX. Call to the staff and Board for non-agenda items and future agenda items:

Due to the nature of the discussions regarding the public comments from John Collins, Heidi Swatty and numerous citizens in attendance, a Special Board meeting is requested to be held on October 10th at 6:30 PM at Fire Station 71 in Whispering Pines.

IX. Call for Adjournment

Motion made by Chris Oberg made a motion to adjourn, Dan Newman seconded the motion.
Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:52PM.

Dated this 19th day of September 2023

Ron Sattelmaier for Geoff Caldwell _____ Clerk