

Mayer Fire District
Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 18, 2021 4:30PM
Mayer Fire Administration

1 Call to order

Chairman Thurman called the meeting to order at 4:32 P.M.

2 Pledge of allegiance

3 Roll Call of members

Present were Chairman Thurman, Member Baca, Member Montgomery, Acting Clerk Junkins. All present.

4 Call to the public (The Fire Board can only respond to items on the Agenda, Comments limited to two minutes each.)

There was no public comment.

5 Chief's Report:

a) Monthly and year-to-date financials (Working with Committee)

Chief Smith reviewed his monthly report with the Board.

The regional grant for communications was awarded in the amount of \$150,000.00 for wildland radios through the Federal Government. Williamson Valley Fire District (WVFD) received their grant for turnouts. Mayer Fire District (MFD) applied for the same grant and is still pending an award.

So far, our new ambulance billing service has been exceeding expectations.

b) Current event report

Lifeline Ambulance is going through a staffing shortage. MFD is responding to calls in Prescott Valley and Prescott with about a 60% cancellation rate. But it is increasing our transports.

Central Arizona Fire & Medical (CAFMA) is trying to get an ambulance company started and looking into a blanket Certificate of Necessity (CON) to be able to transport in other areas, including Mayer Fire District.

There was more discussion on preparing and equipping MFD's third ambulance to be in use rather than a back-up.

If the SAFR grant is awarded, MFD will have the ability to staff a third ambulance. SAFR usually awards in September/October.

The Senate bill to repay the pipeline tax has passed. It will pay back 2018 to current. It will save MFD a \$15,000.00 payment that was in this year's budget.

The switch in radio towers should be complete next week. This will allow MFD to get out of the tower lease payment, saving about \$10,000.00 per year. That equipment will probably go on a tower for station #23 in Cordes Lakes to improve reception there.

Part of a new bill for infrastructure includes a billion dollars for new fire station construction or renovation. We will be putting in for the renovation part of it to make all stations co-ed, and to add diesel scrubbers for health and safety, and power back-up for all stations.

6 Mayer Chapter of the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) Local #3066 (the Union) report

Chief Smith spoke on behalf of Firefighter Rudy Armenta, who was on a call. Janine Jaber and Brandon Hopkins were voted into the Union last week.

7 Consent Agenda

Chief Smith pointed out that money was rolled into Capital Reserve at the end of last fiscal year. That money was then rolled into the General Fund at the start of the new fiscal year to operate on until we get taxes in and then we will pay ourselves back. We haven't had to take a loan from the County yet.

Member Baca motioned to approve the consent agenda items a-h. Acting Clerk Junkins seconded the motion. The vote was Aye-4, No-0, all voting Aye. Motion carried.

- 8 **Review of Mayer Fire District Drug and Alcohol Policy (post Proposition 207 changes to law)**
Member Baca asked what WVFD does regarding this policy. Chief Smith stated that WVFD will have to revisit their policy, as well, since the change in the law on marijuana.
Chief Smith suggested having Brenda Tranchina, from Human Resource Strategies, compose the policy wording since she has the expertise on the policy, the language, and the impairment threshold. It would be at a cost to the fire district.

Member Baca motioned to have Brenda Tranchina write an updated department drug and alcohol policy to include verbiage regarding medical and recreational marijuana based on post-Proposition 207 with a cost not to exceed \$1,000.00. Acting Clerk Junkins seconded the motion. The vote was Aye-4, No-0, all voting Aye. Motion carried.

- 9 **Appoint a Fire Board Member as Chairperson of Mayer Fire's Local Pension Board**

There was discussion about a Pension Board Member's responsibility to the District.

Member Montgomery volunteered, bringing his insight as someone who has been through the pension board process.

Member Baca motioned to appoint Member Ryan Montgomery as Chairperson of Mayer Fire's Local Pension Board. Chairman Thurman seconded the motion. The vote was Aye-3, No-0, Member Montgomery abstaining. Motion carried.

- 10 **Future Agenda items**

Item #8

Possibly managing Crown King Fire

Board member applications

Possibly approving a SAFR Grant award

- 11 **Future meeting dates**

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday September 15, 2021 at 4.30 P.M.

- 12 **Adjournment.**

Member Baca motioned to adjourn the meeting. Acting Clerk Junkins seconded the motion. The vote was Aye-4, No-0. All voting Aye. Motion carried.

Chairman Thurman called the Meeting adjourned at 5:24 P.M.



Acting Clerk Junkins

9/15/2021

Date