

Mayer Fire District
Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 20, 2021 4:30PM
Mayer Fire Administration

1 ***Call to order***

Chairman Thurman called the meeting to order at 4:31 P.M.

2 ***Pledge of allegiance***

3 ***Roll Call of members***

Present were Chairman Thurman, Member Baca, Member Montgomery, Acting Clerk Junkins, Member Runyan. 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:***

Chief Smith reviewed his monthly report with the Board.

a) *Monthly and year-to-date financials*

This month we received a wildland check for \$110,000.00 paying us back for four fires. Our ambulance billing company was hacked last month, so there will be a lag in receivables for the month. It is around \$40,000.00. There will be a couple of big weeks once they catch up. No data was lost, and they are back up and running.

We received grant money that allowed us to buy and install drug boxes on all apparatus.

We have applied for \$160,000.00 federal grant money to purchase more heart monitors. The request is in the Senate appropriations bill for the new federal budget. We should hear in January.

b) *Current event report*

There are still a lot of cancellations due to Lifeline being short staffed.

We are now covering Black Canyon City. Daisy Mountain Fire no longer has an ambulance in service.

The new engine at Station #23 is in service with extrication equipment.

The new Zoll monitor is installed in the rescue.

There is a proposed new state sales tax for public safety that will directly benefit fire districts only. It proposes a one-tenth of one cent sales tax increase that, if passed, is expected to raise \$150 million per year.

The MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) will be revisited to update and comply with current staffing.

The shared IGA has worked well for both MFD and WVFD staffing and coverage.

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

Captain Jake Alanis local 3066 Chapter President stated that the Adopt-A-Family program has selected the families that MFD (Mayer Fire District) charities will donate to this holiday season.

There will be as a union meeting regarding the PTO (paid time off)/sick/vacation policy to align MFD and WVFD. A draft of their proposed revision will be an agenda item for the next board meeting.

7 ***Consent Agenda***

Acting Clerk Junkins motioned to accept the consent agenda items a-h as posted. Member Baca seconded the motion. The vote was Aye-5, No-0. All voting Aye. Motion carried.

8 ***Possible nomination and vote for Fire Board Chairperson***

There was no interest in making a change. Tom Thurman remains as Chairman of the Mayer Fire Board.

9 Possible nomination and vote for Fire Board Clerk

Acting Clerk Junkins nominated Member Runyan, who accepted.

Acting Clerk Junkins motioned to appoint Member Runyan to Fire Board Clerk. Member Baca seconded the motion. The vote was Aye-5, No-0. All voting Aye. Motion carried.

There was additional discussion.

Member Montgomery will be moving out of District. He will resign when he has a specific date.

Member Baca may be moving out of district. If so, it will be after January 2022.

The board seat will be advertised once a resignation is submitted.

10 Drug and Alcohol Policy (post Proposition 207 changes to law)

There was discussion on drug and alcohol policies in other districts and states.

The revision that Chief Smith requested is what has been broadly recommended and accepted until there is precedent set in other states or districts. It adds verbiage regarding medical marijuana use.

The majority of the union's local chapter agree with and approve the use of medical marijuana.

AZ DPS (Arizona Department of Public Safety) has not weighed in yet on what level is considered legally impaired.

Member Baca motioned to accept the revision to the drug and alcohol policy presented by Chief Smith. Member Junkins seconded the motion. The vote was Aye-5, No-0. All voting Aye. Motion carried.

11 Possibly managing Crown King Fire District

Chief Smith, Chief Love, and Chief Tunis met with all the full-time people at CKFD.

CKFD (Crown King Fire District) currently has five paid employees; The Chief, three full-time operations fire fighters, and one secretary. There are thirteen volunteers.

WVFD and MFD can train and certify the firefighters from CKFD.

There would be no cost to MFD taxpayers.

There would be cost to CKFD taxpayers.

Their 3-person fire board has not yet voted on an IGA (Intergovernmental Agreement).

There were questions and discussion between the Mayer Fire Board and two of the CKFD board members that attended this meeting. Chief Smith explained many of the changes, mutual benefits, and successes so far between WVFD and MFD.

The CKFD board would like to review the management agreement currently in place between MFD and WVFD, as it would be the same agreement between MFD and CKFD.

No action taken at this time.

12 Update on solar farm taxes

The solar farm is a \$650 million project with a million solar panels utilizing 5,000 acres of Arizona State Trust land.

It would bring in a million dollars of tax revenue annually for MFD. This would be used partially to increase the budget incrementally, but also to lower the tax rate in the district. The district could potentially be debt free in 5 years.

Chief Smith expects to know by January 2022 if the project will be moving forward.

13 Update regarding the Intergovernmental Agreement between Mayr Fire and Williamson Valley Fire Districts for Shared Management

Captain Jake Alanis spoke, indicating that all was going well, and that we are building well-trained firefighters that can think for themselves. Chief Love agreed. Chairman Thurman stated he felt there is an evident comradery. There has been no issue with the union.

14 Possible Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) training for board members

Chairman Thurman strongly encouraged all the board members to consider taking the course. There will be online training available to help fire boards understand the incident command system if there is ever a major wildland fire event in our area or district.

15 Future Agenda items

PTO/sick/vacation policy to align with WVFD policy
Crown King FD
Revisit MOU with new board-after changes with board resignation/s and filled vacancies.


16 Future meeting dates

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday November 17, 2021 at 4.30 P.M.

17 Adjournment

Member Junkins motioned to adjourn the meeting. Member Baca seconded the motion. The vote was Aye-5, No-0. All voting Aye. Motion carried.

Chairman Thurman called the Meeting adjourned at 6:00 P.M.



Clerk Runyan *Date* 11/17/21