

Mayer Fire District
Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 15, 2021 4:30PM
Mayer Fire Administration

1 Call to order

Chairman Thurman called the meeting to order at 4:33 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 The Board may vote to go into Executive Session to interview for possible appointment of a Board Member pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(1):

Chairman Thurman thanked the three candidates vying for the open board seat and briefly explained the district boundaries and some of the duties and expectations.

Member Montgomery motioned to enter Executive session for interviews. Acting Clerk Junkins seconded the motion. The vote was Aye-4, No-0. All present voting Aye. Motion carried. Executive session begins at 4:37

Present in the executive session in addition to the four board members was Attorney Douglas Fant, and Office Assistant Nancy Beirl to take notes on interviews in each of the following sessions, where each interviewee was also present individually during the timeslot noted below.

- a. Mr. Ray Runyan (interview 4:40 – 4:55 PM)**
- b. Mr. Logan Moody (interview 5:00 – 5:15 PM)**
- c. Mr. Steven Quintero (interview 5:20 – 5:35 PM)**
- d. Board discussion regarding interviews for appointment**

Public meeting resumes at 5:50 PM.

6 Discussion and possible appointment of a new Board Member

Chairman Thurman thanked all three candidates for their interest in the board position. He acknowledged the decision will be difficult since each candidate brings different strengths.

Chairman Thurman asked the board members to write their choice on a piece of paper and pass it to Nancy. The board members voted on paper. The vote tally did not select a definitive choice.

The board members submitted their votes a second time on paper. The votes were tallied and the definitive choice was Ray Runyan with three of the five votes.

Ray Runyan was appointed to the vacant board position.

Chairman Thurman thanked the candidates, congratulated Mr. Runyan, and encouraged all candidates to run for election when the seat is up for re-election in November, 2022. He invited all candidates to stay for the remainder of the public meeting and explained that Mr. Runyan will need to be sworn in before participating as a board member.

7 Chief's Report:

a) Monthly and year-to-date financials

Chief Smith reviewed his monthly report with the Board.

August Ambulance billing was \$150,000.00 which is almost three times what the previous billing company was averaging. This may be the first time on record that no loan from the County was needed in the first quarter of the fiscal year.

Call volume is still up. Lifeline Ambulance is still experiencing staffing shortages.

A grant of \$60,000.00 from Gila River Indian Community was awarded for 12 sets of turnouts.

A federal government grant of \$70,000.00 each was awarded to MFD (Mayer Fire District) and WVFD (Williamson Valley Fire District) for radios. It is a 5% match so the cost to each fire district is about \$1,000 for \$70,000 worth of radio equipment.

A grant application has been submitted to the Yavapai Prescott Tribe to cover the cost for 2 MFD firefighters to attend paramedic school.

There may be funds available from the County from Hazmat Emergency Preparedness funding to cover some of the expense of the hazmat training going on now.

b) Current event report

Hazmat training is being conducted in the conference room and at station 22. It will be finishing up next Friday. There will be eleven completing the class. Captain Alanis and Chief Love will attend a train the trainer class for incident command training in 2-3 weeks. They will then be able to train others in-house.

8 Mayer Chapter of the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) Local #3066 (the Union) report
There was no report.

9 Consent Agenda

Acting Clerk Junkins motioned to accept the Consent Agenda items a. through h. as submitted. Member Baca seconded the motion. The vote was Aye-4, No-0. All present voting Aye. Motion carried.

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

Chief Smith consulted Brenda Tranchina from Human Resources Strategies. She indicated that the State of Arizona has not determined a "level of impairment". Employers can still discipline if there is impairment that interferes with performance. Presence of THC in a blood test is not grounds for termination. If there is testing for cause and THC is present in blood, the employer can require counseling for first offense with termination possible for subsequent impairment/testing. As with any impairment, if there is impairment that leads to endangerment, or damage of apparatus, it can result in termination.

The State of Washington is the first state to put a limit on how much THC can be in your system. Their state police department has gone along with that measure. They will see how it goes through court as cases present. If the level of impairment is upheld by the courts, other states will likely follow.

Currently only a blood test can determine the level of THC metabolites, but there is a company developing a breathalyzer test.

Chief Smith stated the proposed policy presented in this meeting is the most current acceptable law in Arizona.

Chairman Thurman would like to postpone voting on acceptance of a policy to allow legal council and the Policy Committee to review and weigh in.

No action taken.

11 Possibly managing Crown King Fire District

Chief Smith was approached by CKFD (Crown King Fire District) to consider a management agreement between MFD and CKFD like the one between WVFD and MFD. They have had an interim fire chief for a time, but a judge who has stepped in due to the financial position the district is in, states he is not a qualified fire chief with the experience needed to run the district. The agreement would be in the form of an IGA (Intergovernmental Agreement) between MFD and CKFD. WVFD would not be a part of it, although Chief Smith would be the fire chief.

Chief Smith stated there are about 467 single family residences, many outside of the district, which could be annexed for tax revenue to better support the fire district that responds to those residents. Chairman Thurman added that there is commercial property there as well.

The Mayer Fire Board would like to discuss face to face with the three Crown King fire board members and see the financials in order to come to a decision.

Chief Smith will arrange a meeting to review the facility, apparatus, and financials of the Crown King Fire District, followed by a meeting of the fire boards.

12 District credit cards:

a. Cancel Jonathan Graham's wildland card and reissue

Jonathan Graham resigned from MFD to join WVFD. Much of his wildland activity and fleet management is expected to be replaced by Brandon Hopkins.

b. Approval for district cards issued to Deputy Chief Tunis and Battalion Chief Love

Deputy Chief Tunis and Battalion Chief Love cover duties of the Chief for Mayer Fire District. They should have purchasing power when Chief Smith is not on-site. They would each have a credit limit of \$2,500.00

Member Baca motioned to cancel Jonathan Graham's wildland card and reissue a new wildland card to Brandon Hopkins, and to approve district cards issued to Deputy Chief Tunis and Battalion Chief Love. Acting Clerk Junkins seconded the motion. The vote was Aye-3, No-0, Abstain-1, Member Montgomery abstaining. Motion carried.

13 Purchase of a new Zoll X-Series heart monitor not to exceed \$22,000

Chief Smith explained the opportunity to purchase a nearly new factory refurbished heart monitor and a deep discount from new pricing. This piece of equipment would allow MFD to fully equip a third ambulance. The better than expected ambulance billing would cover the cost of this non-budgeted item. And by having a third ambulance available for service, its additional billing would also help to cover the cost of the monitor.

Acting Clerk Junkins motioned to approve the purchase of a factory refurbished Zoll X-Series heart monitor not to exceed \$22,000 per the email follow-up to the quote. Member Montgomery seconded the motion. The vote was Aye-4, No-0. All present voting Aye. Motion carried.

13 Future Agenda items

Items 10,11, solar farm taxes update, summary of how the IGA is working between MFD and WVBFD.

14 Future meeting dates

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday October 20, 2021 4.30 P.M.

Adjournment

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

Chairman Thurman called the meeting adjourned at 6:37 P.M.



Acting Clerk Junkins



Date