

**Mayer Fire District**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, March 16, 2022 4:30PM**  
**Mayer Fire Administration**

**1 Call to order**

Chairman Thurman called the meeting to order at 4:34 P.M.

**2 Pledge of allegiance**

**3 Roll Call of members**

Present were Chairman Thurman, Clerk Runyan, Member Baca, Member Junkins. Member Montgomery was not present.

**4 Badge Pinning Ceremony:**

There were six new full-time firefighters recognized in the badge pinning ceremony. Chairman Thurman performed the swearing in and Chief Smith announced each name individually as they were pinned.

Firefighter / Paramedic Janine Jaber pinned by her mother, Elda Narvais

Firefighter / Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Brandon Hopkins pinned by his mother, Billie Jo

Firefighter / Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Zacre Griswold, pinned by his mother, Nichole and father.

Firefighter / Paramedic Erik Kolb, pinned by his wife, Bethany Kolb

Firefighter / Paramedic Brian Harrison, pinned by his wife, Evann Harrison

Firefighter / Paramedic McCally Gibson, pinned by Chief Bryan Smith

**5 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.

**6 Chief's Report:**

Chief Smith reviewed his monthly report with the Board.

**a) February financials**

Ambulance collections are good and holding steady. February, being 2 days short was still over budget.

The preliminary budget process has been started. There were promises that we want to keep including pay parity across the districts, additional staffing through the use of reserve personnel to be able to have a third ambulance when needed.

Fuel prices have almost doubled. Utilities will also be higher.

The state of Arizona had passed legislation for counseling of fire fighters, but they did not include any funding for a firefighter who could be pulled from duty by their counselor. The District is responsible for making them whole for up to 30 days.

The State also passed presumptive cancer legislation last year that states if you are a fire fighter and you get cancer, it is presumed that you got it from the job, and workmen's compensation will cover. All the insurance companies stopped covering fire district workmen's comp.

That is when the Arizona Fire District Association started a fire department risk pool for workmen's comp last year.

Due to the passing of the legislation and the last two years of covid, the rates are going up 105%.

Because the Arizona State legislature caused the issue, they are trying to approve putting \$25 million of their surplus budget in to supplement the funding of the risk pool. If this is not passed, the 105% increase is on the Districts' budgets.

The assessed value for Mayer Fire District went up about 5% this year.

With the increase in ambulance billing, wildland billing, and collections, we should be able to pay all these new higher bills, do pay parity, have the extra reserves, and lower the mil levy rate by \$0.05 this year. It would go from \$3.25 down to \$3.20.

The title on the property of the USDA loan is still not recognized by the County. The loan can't be refinanced until this is resolved.

***b) Current event report***

There was a serious motor vehicle accident on the highway in front of station #22.

There was a structure fire in Cordes Lakes yesterday.

There were 4 calls in February turned over to Lifeline Ambulance.

There is a bid for remounting one of the current ambulances. We should be able to get it done for about \$165,000.00 with expected delivery in June or July.

Arizona Fire Academy is going on at Embry Riddle. Several fire fighters are attending to obtain or advance their certifications.

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

There was nothing new to report.

**8 *Consent Agenda***

**Member Junkins motioned to accept the consent agenda items a through h. Member Baca seconded the motion. The vote was Aye-4, No-0. All present voting Aye. Motion carried.**

**9 *Discussion and question & answer session regarding Annexation from residents near South Breezy Pine Road, Mayer, Arizona***

Chairman Thurman welcomed guests. John Roberts, Member at Large, from Breezy Pine water association spoke.

He explained that one of the property owners had his homeowner's insurance cancelled, a people in the area are having a hard time getting insurance. It was found that due to the roads, it would be problematic for Walker Fire District to offer fire protection.

Chief Smith explained that in the case of a fire, it would be the US Forest Service that would respond to a fire in the Breezy Pine community. The fire protection of their private properties within the forest would then be under Arizona State Land, then they would see if Mayer Fire District could go, Walker Fire District, or any other response close by could respond to the emergency. This chain of command can take time in the actual response to a fire. Forest crews are not required to have any medical certification. Walker is a volunteer fire association, so they must get to their station first before responding.

Mayer Fire is staffed full-time with paramedics for advanced level care.

The current ambulance response for Breezy Pine is by Lifeline near the Costco store in Prescott. Their response times are not that good at this time.

If you were in Mayer Fire District, we would respond to dispatch calls for EMS or fire.

It was explained how to establish a temporary fire station within the community where a truck with water can be parked to establish an ISO (Insurance Service Organization) rating of 5 to allow residents to purchase homeowner's insurance again.

ISO rating was explained regarding homeowners' insurance and cost.

Property taxes were discussed.

Mr. Roberts explained that many driveways would not be accessible to a truck.

Chief Smith responded that 1,000 feet of hose and powerful pumps can reach many places but still the area would be previewed.

51% of homeowners and 51% of the assessed value is what is needed to move forward with annexation of the community and creating a tax district.

Chief Smith explained the steps of the annexation process for a community, estimating it could take a few months up to a year.

**10 *Administrative Policy & Procedures Manual Revision to Holiday Policy***

Chief Smith stated the revision proposed would change the day after Thanksgiving holiday to a floating holiday.

**Member Baca motioned to approve a floating holiday instead of the current day after Thanksgiving holiday. Member Junkins seconded the motion. The vote was Aye-4, No-0. All present voting Aye. Motion carried.**

**11 *November 8, 2022, General Election Candidate Packets***

The seats for Chairman Thurman and Member Baca are up for re-election.

Chairman Thurman will run for election.

Member Baca is willing to run but unsure if she will be able to run.

**12 *Future Agenda items***

Truck payoff for Type 3 Engine

USDA loan/title


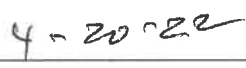
**13 Future meeting dates**

The next regular board meeting will be Wednesday April 20, 2022 at 4:30 P.M.

**14 Adjournment.**

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

**Chairman Thurman called the Meeting adjourned at 5:46 P.M.**

   
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*Clerk Runyan*                      *Date*