

**Mayer Fire District**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, August 16, 2023 4:30 PM**  
**Mayer Fire Administration**

**1 Call to order**

Chairman Thurman called the meeting to order at 4:30 P.M.

**2 Pledge of allegiance**

**3 Roll Call of members**

Present were Chairman Thurman, Clerk Tang, Member Junkins, Member Lundeen. Member Baca present electronically as of 5:00 P.M..

**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**

There were 150 calls for service in July.

Wildland season is very busy.

We have four of our Battalion Chiefs instructing in Arizona State Fire Academy, starting in a few weeks.

There is still a decent amount of new home starts.

The transfer of ownership for the land for the TA Travel Stop has been completed by the County. No word on when the dirt work will begin.

No progress has been made on the solar farm.

Chief Smith and Chief Tunis met with Mr. Ohberg with the County Board of Supervisors regarding consolidation of rural fire districts in the western half of the county because they are either all-volunteer or struggling financially. When asked how to make this happen, Chief Smith said it was within the power of the Board of Supervisors to force consolidation if fire districts are not making it on their own.

**b) Current event report**

Chief Smith reported that a new fire station will not be awarded this year due to cuts in Congressional spending budget.

There will be a fund-raiser in September for Crown King Fire District.

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

Nothing to report.

Captain Rudy Armenta, reporting. Capt. Armenta had lunch today with Ben Roche, Union chapter president regarding his transition to replace Battalion Chief Jake Alanis as Union Representative for Mayer Fire District. Capt. Armenta and BC Alanis still have the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) to review and edit before presenting an updated version to the fire board for adoption.

Capt. Armenta spoke with Russell Sportswear who promised a one-month turnaround for uniform orders. They also offer different items and brands that are desired by the firefighters. Currently orders are taking around four months to be filled.

Firefighter Christopher Carruth took over the Mayer Firefighter Charities when firefighter Steve Valdez retired in June. Capt. Armenta will be working with firefighter Carruth while he transitions.

Chief Smith added that he has spoken to Ben Roche and the WVFD (Williamson Valley Fire District) board regarding exploring a JPA (Joint Powers Authority) to allow for all the fire districts who currently have an IGA (Intergovernmental Agreement) with WVFD to work under the same umbrella. It would allow all employees to be paid out of the same funding source, regardless of which location they worked. Their pension would be paid from one funding source. The boards still stay intact and make financial and budget decisions. Mayer fire board would only

have to meet quarterly because there would be Mayer Fire board representation on the Fire Authority board. It will streamline operations and make many operations less complicated than they are now with four separate entities, (Williamson Valley Fire District), MFD (Mayer Fire District), CKFD (Crown King Fire District) and SYFD (Southern Yavapai Fire District).

There was more discussion on what a JPA would mean for MFD.

The Union members present are unanimously in support of moving forward with a JPA.

Chief Smith informed that the next pinning ceremony will be held at station #22 in October. The WVFD board will be invited to attend.

**The Board was referred to item 8, out of order, due to time constraints of Member Lundeen.**

**At 5:07 P.M. Member Baca joined the meeting telephonically.**

**7 *Consent Agenda***

**Member Junkins motioned to accept the consent agenda items a-h as posted.**

**Clerk Tang seconded the motion. The vote was Aye-5, No-0. All voting Aye. Motion carried.**

**8 *Emergency beacon signs – update from Member Lundeen***

Member Lundeen reported that ADOT (Arizona Department of Transportation) would not allow MFD to add emergency beacon lights with solar panels to the existing pole. A double pole system and permits are required. The ADOT contact suggested flashing LED signs that can be on a single pole with solar, would not require permitting, and would be much cheaper. The same type of sign can be seen at the Robert Road and Fain Road intersection. A contact name was given to help with acquiring the necessary items for the beacon. Battalion Chief LaGreca will reach out to a local ADOT sign installer to complete the installation when the items are acquired.

**At 5:00 P.M. Member Lundeen excused himself from the remainder of the meeting.**

**The Board was referred back to item 6 to resume discussion.**

**9 *Future Agenda items***

Joint Powers Authority

Attorney Doug Fant will look into 5G upgrades

**10 *Future meeting dates.***

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday September 20, 2023 at 4:30 P.M

**At 5:20 P.M. the connection was lost with Member Baca's phone call.**

**11 *Adjournment.***

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

**Chairman Thurman called the meeting adjourned at 5:27 P.M.**

  
Clerk Tang

  
Date