

Golden Valley Fire District

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www.GoldenVallevFire.org

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOLDEN VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD

The Governing Board of the Golden Valley Fire District met in regular session on March 23, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held at the Golden Valley Fire District Public Safety Training Center, located at 423 South Colorado Road, Golden Valley, AZ 86413. The Board may vote to go into executive session on any agenda item, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A) (3) for legal advice with the District's attorney on matters as set forth in the agenda item. Board members or other participants may attend by telephonic conference. The following topics and any variables thereto, will be subject to Board consideration, discussion, approval, or other action. All items are set for possible action.

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER.

Chairperson Foster called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS.

Director George Payntar; Director Gary Juneau; Chair Sue Foster; Director Jack Hommel was all present. Clerk Tony DeMaio attended via telephone.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes of February 23, 2022
- B. Executive Session Minutes of February 23, 2022
 - Director Hommel motioned to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 23, 2022, and the Executive Meeting Minutes of February 23, 2022. Director Juneau 2nd. All in favor, motioned carried.

5. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE.

- A. February 2022 Operational Report. (Assistant Chief Martin)
 - Assistant Chief Martin stated for the month of February there were 41 fire calls, 171 EMS calls, and 1 other call, for a total of 213 calls. We ran 5 calls in Chloride, 3 calls in Yucca and 3 mutual aid calls.
- Fire Chief's Report. The governing body may not propose, discuss, deliberate or take legal action on this matter unless the specific matter is described in detail. Therefore, action taken as a result of the Chief's report will be limited to directing staff to study the matter or scheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date. (A.R.S. 38-431.02. K)
 - District properties Assistant Fire Chief Martin
 - Station 13, Replaced soap dispensers, broken bathroom mirror being replace, HVAC vent resecured and caulked, one window re-sealed.
 - Station 12, we had a bay door window broken by an individual, the Sheriff was contacted, and we did file charges. The individual did admit to breaking the window and was taken to jail. We received the new gear extractor washer ordered 8 months ago and should be hooked up this week.
 - o Station 11, two bay door springs broke, replaced and now back in service.
 - Equipment Assistant Fire Chief Martin
 - o Support 117, rear brakes replaced
 - o Hazmat 137, replaced tires
 - o Attack 135 was serviced
 - Brush 126 replaced leaking right rear axle seal

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- o Attack 125, block heater needed to be fixed.
- Training
 - Praxair held a HazMat training at the facility, training went well and Praxair had their corporate office there.
- Meetings Attended
 - o KRMC Pre-Hospital Care
 - Western Arizona Fire Marshals Associations Meeting
 - County Fire Officers Monthly Meeting
 - AMR Meeting
 - Yucca Fire Board Meeting
- Projects in the works
 - Budgets
- Thank-You
 - Received a thank you note and donation from Ed Williams of \$100.00 to the Fire Fighters Association fund. A big thank you Ed Williams.
- Anniversaries
 - o None
- **6. BUSINESS.** Public wishing to speak on agenda items must complete a speaker card and present to the Board Clerk prior to the start of the meeting.
 - A. Discussion and possible action regarding: Approval of February 2022 Financial Reports. (Administration)
 - Comptroller Kindelberger noted for the month of February 2022 the ending register balance for the warrant account at Wells Fargo Bank was \$1,241,541.24. Payroll account at National Bank of Arizona ending register balance \$90,000.42. Income was \$179,207.68; Expenses were \$198,498.08
 - \circ Director Payntar motioned to approve the February 2022 report as presented. Director Hommel 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.
 - B. Discussion only: Review records request for the month of February 2022. (Administration)
 - Comptroller Kindelberger stated that on February 21, 2022, Ann-Marie Minnifield (owner), Fire Report, paid \$0.00, picked up on February 1, 2022; Sweet James Accident Attorney, EMS & Fire Report, paid \$10.00; Terry Leahy, EMS Report, ready February 28, 2022, paid \$0.00, picked up February 28, 2022.
 - No Action
 - C. Discussion and possible action regarding: Consideration of boundary change request from Pernille Hjorth-Olsen and possible signature of resolution to amend the district's boundary. (Cunningham)
 - Assistant Chief Martin stated we have a 40-acre commercial property that is just south of the solar farm and north of Griffith Energy. They will be putting in a 23,000 square foot facility that will be making paving stones. They are requesting to come in the district. Director Hommel asked if there was any negative to this, Chief Martin stated no, we want them to come into the district.
 - \circ Director Hommel motioned to approve the boundary change and signature of resolution. Director Juneau 2^{nd} . All in favor, motion carried.
 - D. Discussion and possible action regarding: Consideration of boundary change request from Western Wind Energy US Corporation and possible signature of resolution to amend the district's boundary. (Cunningham)
 - Assistant Chief Martin stated that this was brought to the board in June, but County couldn't
 process it due to not having the correct signature. Chief Cunningham was able to get the right
 signature on the paperwork. They are requesting to come in the district now.
 - O Director Hommel motioned to approve the boundary change and signature of resolution. Director Juneau 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.
 - E. Discussion and possible action regarding: Revise wage scale; remove fire investigator stipend effective March 23, 2022; grandfather payment of stipend for employees currently receiving. (Assistant Chief Martin)

- Chief Martin stated that the fire inspectors currently get a stipend, its our opinion that we shouldn't give the stipend. The individuals that have the stipend now will be grandfathered but moving forward we recommend not issuing the stipend. Clerk DeMaio stated by removing the stipend I don't see any of our employees wanting to get their fire investigator certification, if it doesn't give them any pay. We currently have two employees that are getting the stipend, what if those employees leave. We want to encourage our employees to further their education and one way is through this stipend. Clerk DeMaio asked if we have any current employees going through the class and Chief Martin stated no, we do not. Clerk DeMaio stated that he would like to either table this matter until next meeting when we can discuss with Chief Cunningham, or the board members could vote not to remove the stipend. Chairperson Foster stated she thinks it's an incentive for employees. Director Payntar stated that this stipend was created before we had a Fire Marshal. Chief Martin said that is correct. Director Payntar stated now we have a Fire Mashal for inspections. In my personal experience when I wanted to advance in my career you go to college or training and don't expect the employer to pay for it. Employer didn't give incentives for you advancing your education, for fifty cents an hour I don't think it would be a deal breaker.
 - O Director Hommel motioned to postpone this matter until next month. Director Juneau 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.
- F. Discussion and possible action regarding: Revise policy article 50 Compensation Administration; 50.3 clarify when step raises are given, 50.5 remove fire investigator stipend, 50.10 correct acting assignments from five to four consecutive shifts. (Administration)
 - Comptroller Kindelberger stated this item is tied to the last agenda item.
 - O Director Hommel motioned to piggyback item F to item E for postponement. Director Juneau 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.
- G. Discussion and possible action regarding: Revise policy article 63 Holidays; replace the day after Thanksgiving with President's Day; 63.2 clarify what hours worked will receive holiday pay for full-time suppression employees, 63.3 add the wording of maximum of 8 hours paid for holiday pay, 63.6 clarify that January 1st will be the date the personal time will restart each year. (Administration)
 - Comptroller Kindelberger stated that last Thanksgiving when the office was closed for the holiday, we must close the office Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday because the office is no longer open on Fridays; that pushed the paid holiday back a day. Staff feels it would be best to trade out this holiday for a different holiday because it will always fall on a Friday. Trade the day after Thanksgiving for Presidents Day, this will have no effect on budget. Other items that need correction is 63.2, not all suppression employees come on shift at 0700, examples are wildland or when employees go to Griffith. We want to clarify that the holiday pay falls between the hours of 0700 and midnight on the scheduled holiday. 63.6 the policy currently states annually, we want to clarify that means January 1st.
 - Director Hommel motioned to approve as presented. Director Juneau 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.
- H. Discussion and possible action regarding: Revise policy article 74 Bereavement Leave; expand the description of what is considered immediate family, 74.2 add that requests be submitted within seven days of the actual death, 74.3 add that leave must be taken within twenty-one days of the actual death, add Assistant Chief to the policy to approve and grant leave; remove 74.6 make bereavement leave hours counted as hours. (Administration)
 - Comptroller Kindelberger stated that this is a change that the Chief wanted to make due to a lot of complaints about bereavement leave not counting toward hours worked. When they have a death in the family, they feel they get penalized for taking bereavement leave by losing their overtime. We have one employee that used his vacation leave because if he used bereavement leave, he would lose 28 hours of overtime. With bereavement leave limited to 48 hours it will not be a big financial burden to the district. We expanded the immediate family to include in-laws. We want to extend

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the time to take the leave, many times the death is out of state, seven days is not long enough. Also, during the Covid outbreaks funerals were being postponed.

- O Director Hommel motioned to approve as presented by administration. Director Juneau 2nd. Discussion: Clerk DeMaio asked about the change for administration from 24 hours to 30 hours. Comptroller Kindelberger stated that the 24 hours was for three days at 8-hour days. Now the staff works 10 hours days so just a housekeeping change. DeMaio stated he spoke to the Chief and wanted to be sure there can be exceptions made for longer than 21 days to use the leave on a case-by-case basis. Kindelberger confirmed that was in the policy. Call for vote: All in favor, motion carried.
- 7. CALL TO THE PUBLIC. Consideration and discussion of comments and complaints from the public. Those wishing to address the Golden Valley Fire District Board need not request permission in advance. The Fire District Board is not permitted to discuss or take action on any item raised in the call to the public, unless the item is specifically noticed for discussion or legal action. However, individual Board members may be permitted to respond to criticism directed to them. Otherwise, the Board may direct that staff review the matter or that the matter be placed on a future agenda. The Fire District Board cannot discuss or take legal action on any issue raised during the Call to the Public that is not on the Agenda due to restrictions of the Open Meeting Law.
 - None

8. ADJOURNMENT.

• Chairperson Foster adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:30 a.m.

MINUTES prepared by: Mindy Kindelberger (This is a working draft, until Board approval)	Date: 03/24/2022
Ву:	Approved:
Board Clerk, Tony DeMaio	

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