

**FRY FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
August 22, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Huish called the Regular Meeting of the Fry Fire District Board to order at 6:01 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members in Attendance: Joseph Huish, Board Chairman
Eric Andersen, Board Clerk
Norman Sturm, Board Member

Board Members Absent: Robert McMurtrie, Board Member
Thomas Tucker, Board Member

Staff in Attendance: Mark Savage, Fire Chief
Billy Seamans, Deputy Chief
Michael Kean, Captain
Steven Rodriguez, JVG

Others in Attendance: Family, Friends, and Colleagues for the employee
recognitions

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

Mr. Huish led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mr. Sturm gave the invocation.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Mr. Huish reminded board members that they shall declare any conflict of interest. No board member declared a conflict at this time.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. Huish opened the call to the public at 6:01 p.m.

There were no comments from the public.

Call to the public closed at 6:01 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Regular Board Meeting on July 25, 2023.

Mr. Andersen made a motion to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes of July 25, 2023. Mr. Sturm seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0.
Motion Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

a. Review, discussion, and possible action on the monthly financial report for July 2023.

Stephen Rodriguez from James Vincent Group (JVG) gave a PowerPoint presentation reflecting the financial reports for July 2023. A discussion followed. The board reviewed the warrants for the month and there were no questions.

Mr. Sturm made a motion to accept the July 2023 financial reports. Mr. Andersen seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0.
Motion Carried.

COMMAND STAFF'S REPORT

Operations and Staffing – Although we are continuing to make progress with hiring new employees, our staffing struggles continue. One of our recently hired firefighters has resigned to return to Palominas Fire District as a Captain. We have hired an additional Lieutenant who will begin training next week and we have two applicants for EMS-only positions who will be completing their Paramedic training in September.

Huachuca City Operations are continuing to run smoothly.

Our local wildfire season is in a relative lull thanks to the monsoons and Hurricane Hilary. All of our deployed wildland personnel are back in District.

Next week will see our personnel complete their annual firefighter physicals with our new vendor 1582, almost all personnel will be able to complete their physicals on duty with minimal downtime.

Apparatus and Equipment – One of our new ambulances was delivered last month and is in service at Station 161 in Huachuca City. Chief Seamans, Captain Kean, and Mr. Ayers just returned from inspecting the next one and it should be delivered and placed into service within the next month. Mr. Ayers is continuing to repair our backup units in order to get both of the original 2020 Demers ambulances to Phoenix soon for repairs on their medication refrigerators and other warranty repairs.

Grants – This month's financial report reflected the ICA grant for \$209,000.00 which was allocated to offset the costs of Covid-19 industrial compensation coverage. We submitted a request to ADEM for reallocated EPMG funds from FY21 that may potentially offset some of our prior radio and computer costs. Although it is a long shot, it has the potential to reimburse 50% of those emergency management related expenses.

The Philips Tempus Pro modules for our new cardiac monitors are still pending approval and delivery. The last timeline still has them here in early 2024. The financial policies on tonight's agenda were accepted by HRSA. We are continuing to update our financial policies and you will see on an updated District version on a future agenda.

We are continuing to wait to hear feedback on our other pending federal grant requests including the air trailer, SAFER funding for additional staffing, and funding for additional cancer screening for our firefighters.

SEACOM – Southeastern Arizona Communications is continuing to develop. Ms. Wilkins was formally offered the Director position with contractual negotiations pending. She continues to do incredible work.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Review, discussion, and possible action regarding FFD Finance Policies.

Chief Savage said there is no action required. The Policies were written and annotated to lineup with the HRSA Federal Grant Finance Policy and Procedure requirements.

No action was taken on the item.

- b. Review, discussion, and possible action regarding tower lease with AT&T.

Chief Savage provided a draft version of the AT&T Tower Lease for the Board members to review. The contract should be substantially complete. One edit has a 3% inflator, down from 4%, that would bring in approximately \$30,000.00 per year, and five-year terms with a 30-day cancelation for Fry Fire District versus 15 days. The existing tower would be removed upon completion of the new tower creating additional flexibility with the Station 143 remodel.

Mr. Sturm made a motion to accept the terms of the contract as noted pending Mr. Matura's final review and approval. Mr. Andersen seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0.

Motion Carried.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

- a. Firefighter Badge and Oath Presentation to: Joel Altamirano.

Chief Savage administered the oath of office and presented Firefighter Joel Altamirano with his badge and helmet shield.

- b. Engineer Badge Presentation to: Pete Chavez.

Chief Savage presented Engineer Pete Chavez with his Engineer's Badge.

- c. Captain Badge Presentation to: Austin Nash.

Chief Savage presented Captain Austin Nash with his Captain's badge.

REQUESTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

There were no requests from Board Members.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Andersen made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 6:37 p.m. Motion seconded by Mr. Sturm.

Meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

DATED THIS 23RD DAY OF AUGUST 2023.

Eric Andersen, Board Clerk
Fry Fire District Board