



Superstition Fire & Medical District

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Governing Board Meeting Minutes March 15, 2017

PURSUANT TO A.R.S. §38.431.02, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT THE SUPERSTITION FIRE & MEDICAL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD OF DIRECTORS HELD A MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2017. THE MEETING WAS HELD AT THE SUPERSTITION FIRE & MEDICAL DISTRICT'S ADMINISTRATION OFFICE, 565 N. IDAHO ROAD, APACHE JUNCTION, ARIZONA.

THIS MEETING WAS OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND BEGAN AT 5:30 P.M.

A. Call to Order

Clerk Gehrt called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Director House.

C. Roll Call

Chairman Jeff Cross (telephonically), Clerk Gene Gehrt, Director Jason Moeller, and Director Larry Strand as present. Director Todd House was absent.

Senior Leadership Team in attendance: Fire Chief Paul Bourgeois, Assistant Chief Jerome Schirmer, Assistant Chief Brett Broman, Assistant Chief Mike Farber, and Finance Director Roger Wood.

Executive Assistant acting as Board Secretary Jasmin Jones was also present for the meeting. Legal Counsel Donna Aversa was absent.

1. Review and approval of the February 2017 financial reports and bank reconciliations. (BOD #2017-03-01)

Motion by Director Strand to approve the February 2017 financial reports and bank reconciliations. **Seconded** by Director Moeller.

Vote 4 ayes, 0 nays. **MOTION PASSED.** (Director Todd House was absent)

2. Recognition of employee performance, achievements, and special recognition for community members. (BOD #2017-03-02)

Assistant Chief Brett Broman presented 5 Year Service Anniversary Awards to those who were present: Firefighter/Paramedic Mathew Dold (not present), Firefighter/Paramedic Daniel Elliott, Firefighter Wayne Emerson (not present), Firefighter/Paramedic Lance Frawley (not present), Firefighter/Paramedic Brian Garten (not present), Firefighter Bryan Heun, Firefighter/Paramedic Ryan Ledbetter, Firefighter/Paramedic Matthew Perez (not present), Firefighter/Paramedic Ryan Philips (not present), and Firefighter Adam Rodriguez (not present).

Chief Broman read the list of March service anniversaries: Fleet & Facilities Support Specialist Barb Duffel (11 Years).

3. Call to the Public. (BOD #2017-03-n/a)

N/A

4. Consideration and possible approval of all consent agenda items listed below (BOD #2017-03-03):

A. Board Meeting Minutes from February 15, 2017

Motion by Director Strand to approve consent agenda items for March 15, 2017. **Seconded** by Director Moeller.

Vote 4 ayes, 0 nays. **MOTION PASSED.** (Director Todd House was absent)

5. Discussion and possible approval of participating in a pilot program to gather patient medication history. (BOD #2017-03-04)

Fire Chief Paul Bourgeois introduced this item to the Board of Directors.

Captain Dave Pohlmann presented the details of the program, stating the 30 day pilot program is set to test the concept of gathering patient medication history to assist first responders with the safety and well-being of our citizens. He went on to say that hospitals currently use this same type of system that provides pharmacy information on patients. If first responders had the same type of information, pre-hospital care would be more effective. Currently, crews have to manually enter patient medication information, which takes time that may be spent en-route to the hospital.

BOD made comments stating their support for the pilot program.

Motion by Director Moeller to approve the SFMD to participate in the 30-day pilot program, to test the concept of gathering patient medication history, to better assist first responders with the safety and well-being of our citizens. **Seconded** by Director Strand.

Vote 4 ayes, 0 nays. **MOTION PASSED.** (Director Todd House was absent)

6. Discussion, update, and possible action regarding the PSPRS defined contribution plan that becomes effective July 1, 2017. (BOD #2017-03-05)

Finance Director Roger Wood briefed the BOD regarding the PSPRS defined contribution plan that becomes effective July 1, 2017. He went on to explain the background information:

- February 2016 SB1428 was passed by Arizona Legislature to overhaul PSPRS.
- Numerous changes to the system, however, the most notable is creating a new Tier 3 for public safety personnel hired on or after July 1, 2017.
- SB1428 contains new rules related to a DC Plan for Tier 2B employees; firefighters hired between January 2, 2012 and July 1, 2017 – SFMD has 26 Tier 2B employees.
 - Supplemental Retirement option for Tier 2B firefighters which is funded by both Employer and Employee payroll contributions
 - This is an “opt out” plan, firefighters are automatically enrolled unless they opt out during the period April – June, 2017
- Tier Information
 - Tier 1 – Hired on or before January 1, 1992
 - Tier 2A – Hired on or after January 2, 1992
 - Tier 2B – Hired between January 2, 2012 and July 1, 2017
 - Tier 3 – Hired after July 1, 2017
- SFMD Info
 - Tier 1 – 7 (5 members in DROP)

- Tier 2A – 55 (2 members in DROP)
- Tier 2B – 26

7. Discussion, presentation, and possible action on Fiscal Year 2017/2018 budget development. (BOD #2017-03-06)

Fire Chief Paul Bourgeois updated the BOD on the status of the 2017/2018 budget development process. Key points discussed were the following:

100 Fund

- Most significant challenge is PRPRS contribution rate has almost doubled the last 7 years, and the actual cost of PSPRS is up over \$1.3 million in FY17/18 compared to FY10/11.
- District's FY17/18 NAV is still only 76% of what it was in FY10/11
- The Ambulance Operation is subsidizing a portion of the 100 Fund
- Will continue to chase "alternative revenue"
- 17/18 includes evaluating a hiring freeze & cuts to non-emergent OT
- Staff was successful in reducing THIS YEAR by \$100,000

150 Fund

- Operation is sustaining itself AND offsetting significant costs in the 100 Fund
- Corrected major deficiencies with Intermedix
- Major operational change effective March 27th
- Ahead of original projections for transports
- We are on track with original revenue projections

200 Fund

- Reserves continue to dwindle
- Staff working diligently to reduce expenditures
- Several major purchases have been pushed back
- Desperately need Override funds to sustain capital reserves
- Currently project to end FY 16/17 with \$840,000+/- in the Capital Fund (generated by pre-override tax revenue)
- Labor/Management is recommending a transfer of pre-override monies from the 200 Fund to the 100 Fund to shore up any remaining deficit.
- Staff strongly recommends implementing the full \$0.25 tax to raise critical revenue for future capital needs

Grants

- AFG
 - Regional application with VICC (Includes Blue Card Annual Subscriptions)
 - \$100,000 Command Training
 - Additional Personnel Protective Equipment
 - \$283,575 Second Set Of Turnouts
- Under Consideration:
 - Gila River Indian Community Grant (GRIC) - Low Acuity (LA) Unit - \$360,000
 - Firehouse Subs - All-Terrain Vehicle, EMS Equipment (Video Laryngoscopes), CPR Monitoring Devices, UCAPIT - Paramedic Drug Restock and Tracking System, Facilities expansion, Covered Parking for apparatus

Summary

- We've held numerous meetings to build consensus
- All cost-saving options are being considered
- Working to avoid cuts to wages, benefits or emergency service this year
- We need the NAV to "catch up"
- We need PSPRS costs to return to reasonable levels
- We need long-term solutions to fire district revenue

Chief Bourgeois fielded questions from the BOD regarding alternative ways to cut the budget, including billing for out of district responses, and the planning for a Board Work Session to go more in depth of the budget.

8. Discussion and possible action regarding the topic of agency accreditation. (BOD #2017-03-07)

Fire Chief Paul Bourgeois introduced the item to the BOD. He summarized the feasibility of maintaining the departments' accreditation status. He went on to explain the costs associated with accreditation, both monetarily and administratively. He asked the BOD to consider not being an accredited agency under the district's financial challenges. Accreditation costs our department \$60k-\$80k every 5 years – which includes fees associated with CPSE and administrative costs.

Chief Bourgeois went on to explain that moving away from being an accredited agency does not mean we will not adopt the same standards and principles associated with accreditation. The high standards would still be adhered to for the safety and well-being of our members and our citizens

Chief Bourgeois answered questions from the BOD regarding the accreditation process.

Motion by Chairman Cross to direct staff to take the necessary steps to stop participating in the accreditation process. **Seconded** by Director Strand.

Vote 4 ayes, 0 nays. **MOTION PASSED.** (Director Todd House was absent)

9. Senior Leadership Team Reports (BOD #2017-03-08)

Management Services Report

- SFMD Leadership Conference has been canceled due to lack of interest from our own members
- MOU Update
- Completed Strategic Summits – SLT, All Chiefs, Middle Manager's, and Labor Management
- Firehouse educational committee update

Emergency Services Report

- Training Update – Bryan Heun and Bill Tavares led Wildland training
- Operations Update
- Transportation Services Update
- LA-263 Pilot Program Update

Administrative Services Report

- Transportation Services New Hire Orientation
- PIO Update
- EMS Awareness Day

Community & Financial Services Report

- Transportation Billing Update
- CM FLSA Payout
- 2016 Worker's Compensation Audit Update
- Budget

10. Announcements (BOD #2017-03-n/a)

Fire Chief Paul Bourgeois asked the BOD to schedule a Work Session to discuss the FY 2017/2018 Budget.

11. Adjourn (BOD #2017-03-09)

Motion by Director Strand at 6:43 PM to adjourn the meeting. **Seconded** by Director Moeller.

Vote 4 ayes, 0 nays. **MOTION PASSED.** (Director Todd House was absent)

Governing Board Approval:



Gene Gehrt, Board Clerk

Jasmin Jones