



Superstition Fire & Medical District

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Governing Board Meeting Minutes August 20, 2014

PURSUANT TO A.R.S. §38.431.02, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT THE SUPERSTITION FIRE AND MEDICAL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD OF DIRECTORS HELD A MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2014. 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. Board Chairman Todd House called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
- B. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Director Cobb.
- C. Roll Call showed Board Chairman Todd House, Board Clerk Linda Shank, Director Barbara Cobb, Director Jeff Cross, and Director Charlie Fox as present.

Senior Leadership in attendance: Fire Chief Paul Bourgeois, Assistant Chief Jerome Schirmer, Assistant Chief Dave Montgomery, Assistant Chief Mike Farber, Finance Manager Roger Wood, and Board Secretary Jasmin Jones were also present for the meeting.

Legal Counsel Donna Aversa was present.

- Item 1:** *Review and approval of the July 2014 financial reports and bank reconciliations. (BOD #2014-08-01)*

Motion by Director Cobb to approve the July 2014 financial reports and bank reconciliations. Seconded by Director Fox.

Vote 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion passed.

- Item 2:** *Recognition of employee performance, achievements and special recognition for community members. (BOD #2014-08-02)*

- 13 Years - Firefighter Paul Gruetzmacher
- 13 Years - Firefighter Mark Widick
- 9 Years - Fire Mechanic David Shrock
- 7 Years - Administrative Assistant Kelly Bartz

August Service Award (will be presented in September):

- 25 Years - Captain Andy Kuhn
- 10 Years - Captain Jon Williamson

August Special Recognition:

Fire Chief Paul Bourgeois presented newly appointed Fire Captain Mark Gomez his new helmet and badge. As tradition holds – Veronica, Captain Gomez's wife was present to pin his badge for him. Chief Bourgeois stated Captain Gomez emanates what a Fire Captain is.

Fire Chief Paul Bourgeois presented newly appointed Fire Captain Mike Ament his new helmet and badge. As tradition holds – Katie, Captain Ament's wife was present to pin his badge for him. Chief Bourgeois congratulated Captain Ament and wished him well on his new position.

August Special Recognition for Community Members and SFMD Members:

Chief Ochs presented special recognition awards to the following:

- Good Samaritans Brandy (who was recently certified in CPR and First Aid by the SFMD) and Leah performed life saving measures on Mr. Jerry Brewer, including the Heimlich maneuver and CCR, until our crew arrived to assist Mr. Brewer and transport him to the hospital.
- Captain Rob Bessee, Engineer Brandon Blessum, Firefighter Matt Perez, and Firefighter Ruben Briones (not present) were recognized for their efforts in saving a cardiac survivor (not present).
- Mrs. Roxanne Coleman, a sudden cardiac arrest survivor attended our meeting with several members of her family. Bystanders; John and Sara Barlo, David Mackey, and Kim Lund assisted Mrs. Coleman in her time of need by taking turns performing CPR until our crew arrived. Captain Craig Horvath, Engineer Brandon Blessum, Firefighter Ruben Briones (not present), and Firefighter Adam Rodriguez all received special recognition certificates from our district and the State Survivor Program, along with the bystanders who helped save Mrs. Coleman.
- Apache Junction Firefighter's Ladies Club presented a check of \$476.11 to the Superstition Fire Honor Guard Pipes & Drums. Captain Carlos Rivera accepted the check on behalf of the group.

Item 3: *Call to the Public.* None

Item 4: *Discussion regarding the impact our City's streets have on our citizens.*
(BOD #2014-08-03)

Bryant Powell, Assistant City Manager addressed the BOD. He briefly summarized the current condition of the city streets, how they impact motorists, and the Mayor and City Council's recommendation on how to improve their condition. The first street of focus will be Apache Trail - from Meridian Rd. to Idaho Rd. City Council proposes to raise the sales tax from 2.2% to 2.4% to assist with this project (\$.20 on every \$100 spent), this will generate \$1 million a year with a total cost of \$3 million dollars to fix the proposed area of Apache Trail. The total amount to fix all the roads in our city is \$18 million. The City Council will go to vote on this issue sometime this fall. The BOD thanked Mr. Powell for the information and keeping them informed.

Item 5: *Discussion regarding the importance of the Apache Junction Unified School District's (AJUSD) override.* (BOD #2014-08-04)

Dr. Chad Wilson, Superintendent of AJUSD presented a PowerPoint in regards to the upcoming M&O Override. If the M&O Override is approved the monies will fund; student and staff safety, class size reduction, competitive salaries, maintain academic and extracurricular offerings, and improve student achievements. Dr. Wilson also answered questions from the BOD. Chairman House questioned the amount AJUSD is asking voters to pass 15% seems high. Dr. Wilson explained that 10% would be easier to pass, it would not help solve the problems the school district is currently facing. Director Cobb verified if the funds would be for the schools that were currently open, not the schools that have closed. Dr. Wilson verified the funds would only be for schools

that were open and also explained the problems with enrollment and how much money schools are losing with declining enrollment.

Mr. Tahoney, a community member spoke in favor of the M&O Override for AJUSD. He stated he recently retired in our community and feels we need a thriving school district for the betterment of our city. He stated there is quite a bit of misinformation in regards to the override, correct information can be found on AJUSD's website. Director Cross stated he has lived in Gold Canyon since 2002 and his neighborhood has fewer families with children, now there are more winter visitors. He stated this could be a problem for the AJUSD going out for the override.

Item 6: *Consideration and possible approval of all consent agenda items as listed below:
(BOD #2014-08-05).*

- a. *Board Meeting Minutes from July 1, 2014 and Special Board Meeting Minutes from July 21, 2014.*
- b. *Consideration and approval of the purchase of a 3,000 gallon water tender.*
- c. *Consideration and approval of the purchase of four (4) Staff vehicles.*

Motion by Director Fox to approve the consent agenda items for August 20, 2014. Seconded by Clerk Shank.

Vote 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Item 7: *Consideration and approval of an increase in the district's line of credit (LOC)
(BOD# 2014-08-06)*

Finance Manager Roger Wood addressed the BOD in regards to increasing the district's line of credit (LOC). Per A.R.S. §11-604.01 a fire district may establish a LOC with the county's contract servicing bank with the assistance of the county treasurer. Under A.R.S §11-604.01 parameters, the district could establish a maximum LOC of approximately \$4.5 million. Roger explained that we are not asking for the max, just an increase from \$500,000 to \$2 million.

Roger went on to explain the district has been awarded its share of the 3-year Community Care Response Initiative in conjunction with City of Mesa Fire & Medical Department. While the exact timing of expenditures related to the initiative is not known at this time, what is known is that the reimbursement of expenses from the federal government will result in months of lag time before the district will receive reimbursement.

Director Cobb stated she cannot support this increase in the LOC. She feels that if the federal government can give money to third world dictators or companies that have poor management skills, we shouldn't have to finance grant monies before we are reimbursed. Director Fox stated that is an issue with the government not our district.

Chairman House asked if increasing the LOC to \$2 million would be enough to cover the costs. Roger explained, the district has never had to use the LOC and we currently only have a LOC of \$500,000. It is early into the grant process, however, he feels that \$2 million should be sufficient. Roger reiterated that this LOC would be paid back in full when the district is reimbursed for the grant monies – we are trying to plan for the worst case scenario.

Director Cross reminded the board that this is the first time our district has received a grant for \$3.5 million. Chairman House agreed and feels that the only problem with the LOC would be the interest that could accumulate. Roger explained that there is monies budgeted for interest in this year's budget cycle and again, the intent would be to pay the money back as soon as the district is reimbursed.

Chairman House stated he would not want to put any stipulations on how we are going to receive the grant money because we may not receive the money if we do. Director Cross reminded the board that they asked Staff get grants to help better our district. Now that Staff has done so and done it extremely well having one being awarded by the federal government, he feels the board needs to back Staff up and support their work. Chairman House agreed and stated the only caveat would be the board be notified if the LOC was utilized.

Motion by Director Cross to approve an increase in the district's line of credit, not to exceed \$2 million. Seconded by Clerk Shank.

Vote 4 ayes, 1 nay (Director Cobb). Motion passed.

Item 8: *Chief's Report (BOD# 2014-08-07)*

- Donated 100 cases of water to the Water for Life project.
- Chief Bourgeois summarized the CoN process.
- Chief Bourgeois briefly summarized the recent grant the federal government awarded our district and the changes it will bring.
- August is Drowning Impact Awareness Month – Staff participated in the Phoenix Children's Hospital annual kick-off event.
- Video presentation of the 2014-01 Intern Academy.

Item 9: *Announcements (BOD# 2014-08-n/a)*

Chairman House congratulated Mr. Gene Gehrt on being elected for the BOD (running unopposed).

Chief Bourgeois asked the BOD for permission to be absent for the September board meeting to attend a leadership conference, Chief Schirmer will also be attending. Chairman House asked if Chief Montgomery would be at the September meeting to cover, and he stated he would be. Chairman House stated it shouldn't be a problem for Chief Montgomery to cover the September meeting.

Chief Bourgeois stated that earlier this morning the reserve ladder truck did have a fire and Staff is currently working with our insurance agency for the claim.

Item 10: *Adjourn (BOD# 2014-08-08)*

Motion by Director Fox at 6:52 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Director Cross.

Vote 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Governing Board Approval:



Linda Shank, Board Clerk