



# Superstition Fire & Medical District

Serving the Communities of Apache Junction and Gold Canyon since 1955

Phone | (480) 982-4440

Website | [sfmd.az.gov](http://sfmd.az.gov)

## Governing Board Meeting Minutes

### MAY 16, 2023

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 TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2023. 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 PM.](#)

#### A. Call to Order

Chairman Chamberlain called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

#### B. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance led by Carter Daniel

#### C. Roll Call

Board Members in attendance were Chairman Kathleen Chamberlain, Clerk Connie Van Driel, Director Jason Moeller and Director Shawn Kurian. Director Jeff Cross was not in attendance.

Senior Leadership Team in attendance were Fire Chief John Whitney, Assistant Chief Brian Read, Assistant Chief Richard Mooney, Transportation Services Director Billy Warren, Administrative Services Director Anna Butel, Finance Director Roger Wood, Chief Dave Pohlmann and Captain John Walka. Also in attendance was Sherry Mueller, Human Resources Generalist / Board Secretary. Attorney William Whittington attended via conference phone.

#### 1. Review and approval of the April 2023 financial reports and bank reconciliations.

**Motion** by Director Kurian to approve the April 2023 financial reports and bank reconciliations.

**Seconded** by Director Moeller

**Vote** 4 ayes, 0 nays, **MOTION PASSED.**

**Administration Office**  
565 North Idaho Road  
Apache Junction, AZ 85119

**Regional Training Center**  
3700 East 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Apache Junction, AZ 85119

**Fleet Services**  
1455 East 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Apache Junction, AZ 85119

**2. Recognition of employee performance, achievements, and special recognition for community members.**

**May Anniversaries**

**21 Years of Service**

Firefighter **Paul Garcia**

Firefighter / Paramedic **Stephan Wagner**

**7 Years of Service**

Firefighter / Paramedic **Kevin Montgomery**

**2 Years of Service**

Fire Chief **John Whitney**

Firefighter **Michael Gallagher**

**1 Year of Service**

Paramedic **Amanda Valles**

**Annual Award Winners for 2023**

**Jay Nelson**, Captain / Paramedic – **Officer of the Year**

**Zachary Leon**, Firefighter / Paramedic – **Firefighter of the Year**

**Ryan Markham**, Paramedic – **Transportation Services Employee of the Year**

**Lauren Daniel**, Information Systems Coordinator – **Civilian Employee of the Year**

**Monte Fuller**, Engineer – **Chief's Award for Outstanding Service**

**Roger Nasello**, Fire Mechanic II - **Chief's Award for Outstanding Service**

**Promotion**

**Sean Matuszewski**, Captain

Promoted on 5/8/2023

**Retirement**

Captain / Paramedic **Craig Horvath** – 1999 to 2023

**3. Call to the Public**

None

**4. Consideration and possible approval of all consent agenda items listed below:**

- A. Board Meeting Minutes from April 12, 2023
- B. Executive Session Minutes from April 12, 2023
- C. FY2022/2023 Baker Tilley Audit Engagement Letter
- D. Professional Services Agreement with Crest
- E. Delta Dental Contract
- F. Life Scan Wellness Agreement
- G. Server 5-Year Replacement – Capital Project

**Motion** by Director Moeller to approve all consent agenda items for May 16, 2023.

**Seconded** by Clerk Van Driel

**Vote 4** ayes, 0 nays, **MOTION PASSED**

**5. Presentation, discussion and possible direction of Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Budget Development.**

A high-level presentation of the major new and on-going initiatives was provided in support of the District’s FY 2023/2024 suppression and ground transportation operations, capital replacement plans, and bond debt payment plans.

Property Tax Revenue:

- 100 / 500 / 600 Funds: NAV + 6.61%
  - Pinal County +6.61%
  - Maricopa County +8.93%
  - SRP – 1.03%
- 100 Fund at \$3.47 tax rate
- 500 / 600 Funds at \$0.12 tax rate
- Ground Transport Net Revenue: +\$21,179

Other Revenue – 100 Fund:

- Superior IGA (\$40,000)
- State Land / Wildland (\$450,000)
- Smart & Safe Funds (\$200,000)

Essential operating cost increases impacting District:

- Medical Insurance +13%
- Worker’s Compensation Insurance +36.92%
- Property/Casualty Insurance +3.83%
- Dispatch Fees +17.1%
- COLA for all employees +4.0%
- Meeting all pension obligations including COP principal (\$530,000) and interest (\$777,469) payments
- Pension unfunded liability (\$267078 from 100 fund)
- Civilian cancer screening (8 people at \$3,000 each: \$24,000)

**Key Capital Budget Initiatives within Budget:**

- Dual band radio replacements (\$118,000)
- G2 upgrades (\$22,000)
- FS 265 Bay Door Replacement (\$42,000)
- Staff truck replacement contingency (\$100,000)
- A/C unit replacement contingency (\$30,000)
- Grant contingency (\$200,000)

**No Motion**

**6. Senior Leadership Team Reports**

**Fire Chief Report**

- Academy Graduation
- All-Staff Communications Meeting
- Promotional Processes
- Fire Mechanic I Interviews
- Legislative tracking
- Budget
- Benefits Transition
- SFCOA Firewise
- Pinal County Fire Chief's Association Meeting
- Superstition Sluggers – Battle of the Badges
- SFMD Budget Managers

**Emergency Services**

- April Pools Day – Chief Mooney and Tina Gerola
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July planning meeting with the City of Apache Junction agencies
- Special Event Task Force Meeting – Chief Mooney
- Positively AJ Meeting
- Active Shooter Planning meeting with AJPD

**Significant Incidents**

- 4/26 - Working attic fire – fast attach, quick knockdown. One civilian was transported for evaluation with no firefighter injuries
- 4/30 - Violent incident – GSW
- 5/6 – 5-acre brush fire, quick containment. DFFM assisted SFMD units

**Monthly Incident Call Volume**

**Training**

- East Valley Recruit Academy 23-1 Graduates and RTO
- Regional Mayday / Firefighter Training at Fiesta Mall
- Regional Ladder Company Training
- Monthly and YTD Training Hours

## **EMS**

- Received over \$10,000 worth of surplus PPE items from the AZ Dept. of Health Services
- Coordination and collaboration with several regional partners to finalize SFMD's transition to the National Emergency Medical Service Information Systems v3.5
- Planning meetings with AJP, SFMD Training and SFMD EMS for upcoming Active Shooter Drill
- Attended Regional Medical Directors meeting

## **Transportation Services**

- Conditional offers given to 1 Paramedic and 1 EMT
- Refining the data collection process for the Medicare Ground Ambulance Data Collection System (GADCS)
- Hospital Bed Delay Update
- Assisting Chief Pohlmann with the NEMESIS v3.5 migration
  - Meetings with Gilbert Fire, Scottsdale Fire, BK Squared and Digitech
- AEMS Board of Governors Meeting
- AEMS Education Meeting
- EMS ROCC
- East Valley Agency Meeting
- Central AZ Regional EMS Medical Directors Consortium
- Monthly Transportation Volume
- CON Compliance through April 2023

## **Support Services**

- Fire Prevention
  - Plan Reviews – 15
  - Inspections – 8
  - Citizen Requests or Assistance – 3
  - Environmental Requests, Permits, Concerns, Knox Box Assistance – 3
  - Community Events – 7
  - Fire Safety Presentations – 0
  - Car Seat Placements – 4
  - School Pub Ed Presentations – 0
  - AED/CCR Presentations – 3
- Battle of the Badges
- DVES Spring Carnival
- April Pool's Day (300 participants)
- EVIT Meeting with Mechanic Program Chair
- Pinal County Fallen Officer Memorial
- Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive
- Station Tour 263 with Avalon Kindergarten Students
- Lost Dutchman Marathon Donation Event
- Annual Water Donation event

**Administrative Services**

- UKG Update
  - Core HR
  - Benefits
  - Payroll
  - Time & Accruals
  - Integrations
- NFPA Annual Fire Experience Survey
- Quick Books Purchase – Implementation
- Battalion Chief Open – closes May 18<sup>th</sup>
- Onboarding – May 22, 2023 – 1 Paramedic, 1 EMT, 1 Fire Mechanic I, 1 Lateral Firefighter

**Financial Services**

- Fiscal Year-End Planning
  - Purchase Order clean-up
  - Debt payment scheduling
  - Account reconciliations
- PCT/Wells Fargo Negotiations
  - Planning for potential impact

**7. New Business / Future Agenda Items**

None

**8. Announcements / Document Signing**

No announcements

**9. Adjourn**

**Motion** by Director Moeller to adjourn the board meeting at 6:58 p.m.

**Seconded** by Director Kurian

**Vote 4** ayes, 0 nays, **MOTION PASSED**

**Governing Board Approval:**

DocuSigned by:

*Connie Van Driel*

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*Connie Van Driel*, Board Clerk