



Superstition Fire & Medical District

Serving the Communities of Apache Junction and Gold Canyon since 1955

Phone | (480) 982-4440

Website | sfmd.az.gov

Governing Board Meeting Minutes

SEPTEMBER 20, 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 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 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 Elise Chapman

C. Roll Call

Board Members in attendance were Chairman Kathleen Chamberlain, Clerk Connie Van Driel, Director Jeff Cross, Director Jason Moeller and Director Shawn Kurian.

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 President Colt Weddell. Also in attendance was Sherry Mueller, Human Resources Generalist / Board Secretary. Attorney William Whittington attended via conference phone.

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

Motion by Director Moeller to approve the August 2023 financial reports and bank reconciliations.

Seconded by Director Kurian

Vote 5 ayes, 0 nays, MOTION PASSED.

Administration Office
565 North Idaho Road
Apache Junction, AZ 85119

Regional Training Center
3700 East 16th Avenue
Apache Junction, AZ 85119

Fleet Services
1455 East 18th Avenue
Apache Junction, AZ 85119

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

September Anniversaries

25 Years of Service: Assistant Chief **Richard Mooney**
Engineer **Jose Sepulveda**
Firefighter / Paramedic **Nat Erickson**

23 Years of Service: Engineer **John Taylor**

21 Years of Service: Captain / Paramedic **Craig Halver**
Engineer / Paramedic **James Crowley**
Engineer **Aaron McDonald**

18 Years of Service: Captain / Paramedic **Tanner Fox**
Engineer **Rob McMinn**

17 Years of Service: Firefighter / Paramedic **Eric Ellsworth**
Firefighter / Paramedic **Ken Simkins**

6 Years of Service: Captain / Paramedic **Zachary Leon**
EMT **Jack Hafer**

5 Years of Service: Captain / Paramedic **Travis Yates**

2 Years of Service: Firefighter **Layni Rodriguez**

1 Year of Service: Paramedic **Isabelle Worden**

PROMOTIONS

Battalion Chief **John Walka**
Battalion Chief **Jeremy Rocha**

Captain / Paramedic **Zachary Leon**
Captain / Paramedic **Jason Chapman**

Engineer / Paramedic **July Ritschel**

RETIREMENTS

Battalion Chief **Brett Broman – 28 Years**
Battalion Chief **Amy Brooks – 30 Years**

Appreciation

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community – 12% Grant Program

3. Call to the Public.

None

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

- A. Board Meeting Minutes from August 16, 2023
- B. Engagement and Retainer Agreement to retain Cynthia K. Kelley, Esq. of Kelley Law Group (in association with the Kraw Law Group), as the Local Pension Board attorney effective October 1, 2023
- C. 2023 The Wedding Venue Event Firewatch Staffing and Apparatus Standby Agreement

Motion by Clerk Van Driel to approve all consent agenda items for September 20, 2023.

Seconded by Director Cross

Vote 5 ayes, 0 nays, **MOTION PASSED**

5. Senior Leadership Team Reports

Fire Chief Report

- Interviews (Paramedic & EMT)
- PFFA/AFDA/AFCA – Joint Statement of Principles
- COPA Health – Emergency Preparedness Seminar
- AFCA New Chief’s Seminar
- FF Collaborative Research Project
- EVRA 23-2 Recruit Orientation Family Night
- DPCA Awards
- Career Survival Group
- AJ/Pinal County Economic Development
- Fire Chief Forum
- Recruitment & Retention
- IAFF Fallen Firefighter Memorial

Emergency Services

- Lithium Battery Protocol – AJPD and SFMD
- Attended Image Trend Training and Q & A
- Virtual Meeting with Coach Hutch – AJHS Athletic Director
- Attended Career Survival Presentation at GRPSTC
- Hospital Bed Delay Meeting – Internal
- Operations Meeting
- DPCA Awards

Significant Incidents

- 8/21/20223 – Patient was extracted from a roof and transported to Baywood for evaluation – E265, E263, BC261
- 8/27/2023 – Working garage fire. Quick knock down, fire contained to NE corner of the garage – E263, LT263, E261, BC261 – no injuries

- 9/8/2023 – Initial dispatch – pediatric code – crews with immediate transport to Cardon’s. Outcome – patient has an extensive medical history – extremely low oxygen levels, which increased with treatment. The patient crying and reaching for their mom upon arrival at the emergency – E261 Knock down & Fire Control
- Monthly Report / Daily Report

Training

- East Valley Recruit Academy 23 -2
- Probationary Firefighter Training
- Regional Command Training
- Future TRT Captain Jason Chapman
- Command Training – Electric Vehicle and Battery Storage Facility – High-rise / Mid-rise
- Regional Ladder Training
 - Building Construction and Ladder Company Fundamentals
- Six Firefighters attended Hydraulics class at State Fire School and 1 transport personnel attend a crisis support class
- Regional TRT – Skills Evaluation and Structural Collapse
- Monthly Training Hours
- Year to Date Training Hours

EMS

- Banner Desert Outreach – Medical Director, Trauma Coordinator and Pre-hospital Coordinator
- Attended Regional Command Training
- EMS Regional Operations Consistency Committee (ROCC)
- Arizona Ambulance Conference
- Two-day Image Trend Work Session
- Four-day New Chief Seminar
- Training Meeting with AJPD

Transportation Services

- Attended the Arizona Ambulance Association Conference (AZAA)
- DHS Inspection of unit C-86
- Banner Desert EMS Luncheon
- Medicare Ground Ambulance Data Collection System
- New Hire Training for Paramedic Kaitlin DuPaul
- EMS ROCC meeting, AEMS Board of Governors meeting, AEMS Education Committee meeting
- CON Compliance through August 2023
- Monthly Transportation Volume

Support Services

- Fire Prevention
 - Plan Reviews – 28
 - Inspections – 15

- Citizen Requests / Assistance – 3
- Environmental Requests, Permits, Concerns, Knox Box Assistance – 13

- Community Risk Reduction
 - Community Events – 2
 - Fire Safety Presentations – 0
 - Car Seat Placements – 1
 - School Pub Ed Presentations – 3
 - AED/CCR Presentations – 4

- Community Events
 - Avalon Elementary Patriot Day Ceremony
 - Mad Science Event – SFMD vs AJPD with Parks & Rec in Watermelon Bust
- Mechanic Roger Nasello taught Pump Theory at Arizona State Fire School
- Panel Member for AJPD Commander interviews
- Rock 2 Remember Meetings
- Image Trend Training in Scottsdale
- Drowning Coalition Awards
- Facility Committee Station Repair Visits
- Lithium Battery Discussion with AJPD
- Career Survival Program at Glendale Training
- Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Meeting
- City Special Events Meeting
- Contract Discussion Meeting for Wedding Venue

Administrative Services

UKG Payroll

- Parallel 1 – Completed for the September 1st pay date
- Parallel 2 – In process for September 15th pay date
 - Telestaff to UKG Ready
 - Payroll Comparison for the September 29th pay date
 - Go live for the October 13th pay date

- Grant Update
 - SAFER grant closeout
 - GRIC received \$201,986 – Ambulance
- SRPMIC awarded \$111,983.83
 - Pass through with the City of AJ – Radio Upgrade & TRT Equipment

- Financial Services
 - James Vincent Group
 - ARPA Submission 8/31/2023 - \$804,689.19

JVG reviewed payrolls from October 2021 to June 2022 and captured eligible hourly wages applicable to ARPA

- Firefighter Recruitment
 - Applied (103)
 - Firefighter written exam (66)
 - Passing (61)
 - Panel Interviews (51)
 - Passing (28)
 - Intern Academy October 7th & 8th
 - Mesa Fire Academy – January/February 2024

- Kaitlin DuPaul – Paramedic – Transportation Services

6. New Business / Future Agenda Items

None

7. Announcements / Document Signing

Clerk Van Driel announced the following:

- Wildland Firefighter Legend Buck Wickham passed away
- Pinal County is looking at potential sites for electric vehicle charging stations
- City of Apache Junction will be receiving a grant from FEMA for improvements to Weeks Wash. Pinal County is partnering with the City on this project.
- October 6, 2023 – Dedication at the Rodeo Grounds
- Pinal County Public Works in association with ADOT and Town of Queen Creek working together to develop Central Arizona Parkway. It is designed to run along the western side of the CAP canal. The County has setup several meetings with the Public for their input.
- The Peralta Way meeting has been changed to October 19, 2023
- Rockin’ 2 Remember Concert has been cancelled
- Hackamore area – BLM has received comments and will soon announce their decision for changing the use in this area. The public will have 30 days to comment on the decision.


8. Adjourn

Motion by Director Cross to adjourn the board meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Seconded by Director Moeller

Vote 5 ayes, 0 nays, **MOTION PASSED**

Governing Board Approval:

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Board Clerk Connie Van Driel