



# 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 15, 2024

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, MAY 15, 2024. 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 Chief Whitney

#### 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 attended via conference phone at 5:38 p.m.

Senior Leadership Team in attendance were Fire Chief John Whitney, Assistant Chief Brian Read, Assistant Chief Richard Mooney, Transportation Services Director Billy Warren, Ben Archer and Sarah Simonton with James Vincent Group, Chief Dave Pohlmann, Deputy Chief Jeff Cranmer 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 April 2024 financial reports and bank reconciliations.

**Motion** by Director Kurian to approve the April 2024 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.**

**22 Years of Service**

Firefighter **Paul Garcia**

Firefighter / Paramedic **Stephan Wagner**

**8 Years of Service**

Firefighter / Paramedic **Kevin Montgomery**

**3 Years of Service**

Fire Chief **John Whitney**

Firefighter **Michael Gallagher**

**2 Years of Service**

Paramedic **Amanda Valles**

**1 Year of Service**

Firefighter / Paramedic **Sean Semrad**

EMT **Nick Selover**

Fire Mechanic I **Jesse Stapleton**

**Annual Award Winners for 2024**

**Travis Yates, Captain / Paramedic – Officer of the Year**

**Dan Elliott, Captain / Paramedic – Officer of the Year**

**Trey Schow, Engineer – Firefighter of the Year**

**Amanda Valles, Paramedic – Transportation Services Employee of the Year**

**Anna Butel, Administrative Services Director – Civilian Employee of the Year**

**Vaughn Croshaw, Fleet Services Manager – Meritorious Service Award**

**3. Call to the Public.**

None

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

A. Board Meeting Minutes from April 17, 2024

B. Arizona Mutual Aid Compact (AZMAC) Agreement

**Motion** by Director Moeller to approve all consent agenda items for May 15, 2024.

**Seconded** by Director Kurian

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

**5. Discussion and possible approval of changing the July 17, 2024 Board Meeting to July 24, 2024.**

On July 17, 2024, most members of staff will either be attending the AFCA/AFDA Conference or the AFSAP Seminar. These conferences are highly valuable and provide connectivity with other fire agencies in the area. Staff are requesting to move the July meeting back one week to July 24, 2024.

**Motion** by Director Moeller to approve July 24, 2024, as the date for the July Board Meeting.

**Seconded** by Clerk Van Driel

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

(Note: Director Cross called in to the Board Meeting at this time (5:38 p.m.) and began to vote.)

**6. Discussion, consideration, and possible action regarding the development of the Tentative Fiscal Year 2024 / 2025 Revenue and Expenditure Budget and adoption of Resolution 2024-05-15-08.**

**Motion** by Clerk Van Driel to Adopt Resolution 2024-05-15-08 adopting a tentative budget in the amount of \$27,897,841 for the fiscal year July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, using the tax rate of \$3.6900 for operations and \$0.1150 for the principal and interest payment of the Bond refinancing with JP Morgan. Also, giving notice to the public of the tentative budget, and a time and place for a public meeting to hear comments before final adoption of the budget as required by law.

**Seconded** by Director Kurian

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

**7. Senior Leadership Team Reports**

**Fire Chief Report**

- Budget, Etc.
- Engineer Interviews
- MOU Negotiations
- Captain Quarterly Meetings
- SM Rotary Club presentation
- Radiance Community Picnic
- April Pools Day
- Blossom Rock Grand Opening
- SFMD Gala
- EVRA Recruit Talk
- Fire Chief Forum
- 3-peat Champions – Battle of the Badges Softball game on Saturday, April 20, 2024

### **Emergency Services**

- MOU Negotiations
- Captains Quarterly Meeting
- Blossom Rock Event
- TRWC Radio Site Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
- Ops Meeting – AJPD Liaison
- SFMD/AJPD – Training Meeting
- MCSO Helo Training
- Attended Heart of America Men’s Lacrosse Conference Championship
- Monthly Incident Call Volume

### **Significant Incidents**

4/19/2024: South Plaza Residential Fire – Working fire in enclosed patio

4/30/2024: Tomahawk / McKellips WUI – Approximate 7 acres with 5 homes threatened

5/6/2024: Idaho Road and E. Od West Highway 2n1 medical involving 3 vehicles

5/10/2024: Ray & Ironwood WUI – Approximately 3 acres

5/10/2024: Peralta & Oro Road – Wildland Fire

### **Training**

- EVRA 24-1
  - Graduation May 16<sup>th</sup>
  - RTO Captain Ledbetter
  - Recruits Elliott, Semrad, Norvell, Pyles, Scerbo
- Firefighter Recruitment Assessment Center
- Monthly Crews Training
- MCS
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter TRT Training
  - Trench Rescue
  - Helicopter Ops
- BC Tactical Training in Phoenix
  - Expanding Fire Incidents in Large Buildings
  - Sector Responsibilities
  - Mayday Operations
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Regional Ladder Co. Ops
  - Residential and Commercial Ventilation
  - Instructors Nelson, Rivera, and Yates
- Ladder Subcommittee
  - Hughes / Pierce
- Firefighter Recruitment Assessment Center
- Helo Ops Training with MCSO
- Monthly and FYTD Training Hours

### **EMS**

- We took delivery of Elegard. The next steps are to train in-district trainers and then all members. The trial’s projected start date is July.

- Attended the Banner Goldfield Welcome breakfast to celebrate our new base station hospital partnership.
- Attended Regional meetings (East Valley, ROCC EMS, CALSC)
- Attended two meetings on the National Emergency Response Information System upgrade.
- Filled in for Chief Whitney as Acting Fire Chief

### **Transportation Services**

- EMS ROCC, East Valley Agency Meeting
- Regional Image Trend Meeting
- Ambulance billing AR meeting – Digitech / JVG
- Meeting with Yuma Fire regarding DHS response time requirements
- Banner Goldfield Welcome Breakfast
- New Hire Alec Lezcano – EMS Training, EVOC
- AEMS Education Committee Meeting, AEMS Functional Group Meeting
- Monthly Transportation Volume
- CON Compliance through April 2024

### **Support Services**

#### **Fire Prevention**

Plan Reviews – 20

Inspections – 39

Citizen Requests or Assistance – 2

Environmental Requests, Permits, Concerns and Knox Box Assistance – 23

#### **Community Risk Reduction**

Community Events – 4

Fire Safety Presentations – 0

Car Seat Placements – 4

School Pub Ed Presentations – 0

AED/CCR Presentations – 0

- Radiance Community Picnic
- April Pools Day
- Bossom Rock Grand Opening Event
- Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive
- TRWC Ribbon Cutting at New Radio Site on US 60
- Lost Dutchman Marathon Awards
- Meet with Radio Tower Company to discuss a new contract
- Fire Company Inspections for 2023 were 285
- Local Emergency Planning Committee Meeting
- Received two 2023 For F150 Trucks from Horne Ford
- Lost Dutchman Awards & TRWC Ribbon Cutting

### **Administrative Services**

- 2023 NFPA Fire Experience Survey
- AJHS Senior Interviews
- Office Upgrades
  - Flooring
  - Conference Tables
  - Other Furniture
- 2024 Recruit Firefighter Process
  - 136 Applications
  - 102 Participated in written test
  - 96 Passed the written test
  - 87 Signed up for the assessment center
  - 78 Participated in the assessment center
  - 26 Passed the assessment center
  - \*29 Invites to the Intern Academy (June 1 and 2)
- New Hire – Alec Lezcano – TSP - EMT

### **Labor**

- 2024 SFMD Recruit Hiring Survey Results
  - How did you hear about SFMD’s recruit hiring process? – Majority: Active recruiting / word of mouth
  - What attracted you to SFMD? – Majority: Culture/Members/Family and Location / size of district
  - What is most important to you when applying for a Fire Service career? – Majority: Positive workplace culture
  - Have you taken the National Testing Network (NTN) Firefighter written exam? - Majority: Yes
  - What platforms do you use to find Firefighter jobs? – Majority: Instagram / Social Media
  - What city do you live in? – Majority: Mesa
  - What mentors, affinity groups, fraternal organizations, or other professional development groups are you utilizing to prepare for a job in the Fire Service? – Majority: Family / Friends / OTJ

(Note: Director Cross left the conference phone call at 6:50 p.m. therefore no longer voting on motions)

### **8. New Business / Future Agenda Items**

None

### **9. Announcements / Document Signing**

Chairman Chamberlain stated the recent Gala event was wonderful. She thanked those who put it all together. Director Moeller enjoyed the event as well.

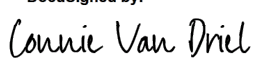
## 10. Adjourn

**Motion** by Director Moeller to adjourn the board meeting at 6:56 p.m.

**Seconded** by Director Kurian

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

### **Governing Board Approval:**

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Board Clerk Connie Van Driel