



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

JUNE 18, 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 TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 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

Acting Chairman Connie Van Driel 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, Clerk Connie Van Driel, Director Jeff Cross, Director Jason Moeller and Director Shawn Kurian. Chairman Kathleen Chamberlain attended via conference phone. Clerk Van Driel was acting Chairman on behalf of Chairman Chamberlain for this meeting.

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, Deputy Chief Jeff Cranmer, Chief Dave Pohlmann and President Colt Weddell. Also in attendance was Sherry Mueller, Human Resources Generalist / Board Secretary. Attorney William Whittington and Sarah Simonton with James Vincent Group attended via conference phone.

1. Review and approval of the May 2024 financial reports and bank reconciliations.

Motion by Director Moeller to approve the May 2024 financial reports and bank reconciliations.

Seconded by Director Cross

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.

June Service Anniversaries

30 Years of Service

Deputy Chief **Jeff Cranmer**
Engineer / Paramedic **Mike Wolfe**

18 Years of Service

Captain / Paramedic **Alex Dupuis**

17 Years of Service

Engineer **Brandon Blessum**
Firefighter / Paramedic **Ryan Rodriquez**
Captain / Paramedic **Geof Shively**

3. Call to the Public.

None

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

- A. Board Meeting Minutes from May 15, 2024
- B. Transfer of Funds for 6/30/2024 Chase Bond Debt Service Principal and Interest Payment
- C. Transfer of Funds for 6/30/2024 Certificates of Participation (COP) US Bank Debt Interest Payment
- D. Purchase of a new 2024 Polaris Ranger UTV and New Roof
- E. Gym Use Agreement
- F. Pension Funding Policy - 1050

Motion by Director Cross to approve consent agenda items A, B, C, D and F for June 18, 2024.

Seconded by Director Moeller
Vote 5 ayes, 0 nays, **MOTION PASSED**

Consent agenda item E was pulled for discussion. Chief Whitney explained the Gym Use Agreement now includes a waiver of liability for signature for anyone who is not a direct employee of SFMD.

Motion by Director Kurian to approve consent agenda item E for June 18, 2024.

Seconded by Director Cross
Vote 5 ayes, 0 nays, **MOTION PASSED**

5. Public Hearing in accordance with ARS §48-805.02 in order to hear taxpayer's comments on the proposed Superstition Fire & Medical District revenue and expenditure Budget for Fiscal Year 2024/2025.

No Motion

No person from the public attended the meeting neither in person nor on the conference phone.

6. Discussion and possible approval of FY2024/2025 budget and adoption of Resolution # 2024-06-18-09: Budget Adoption.

Motion by Chairman Chamberlain to adopt Resolution 2024-06-18-09: Budget Adoption, fully adopting the estimates of proposed revenues and expenditures by the Superstition Fire & Medical District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025 in the amount of \$27,897,841, using the tax rate of \$3.6900 for operations and \$0.1150 for principal and interest payment of the Bond refinancing with JP Morgan, declaring that such shall establish the budget of the Superstition Fire & Medical District for Fiscal Year 2024 / 2025.

Seconded by Director Cross

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

7. Discussion and possible approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Superstition Fire & Medical District and the United Mesa Firefighters, Local 2260, Superstition Chapter and possible adoption of Resolution # 2024-06-18-10.

Significant Changes for FY24/25

- 5% Cost of Living Adjustment
- Added two additional Labor/Management Committees (Recruitment & Special Operations)
- 457 match increase
- Incentive Increase (ALS, SCBA Tech)
- Uniform allowance increase
- Leave usage process update (Vacation & Sick Leave)
- ELBO process language clarity (to improve readability)
- Compromised Staffing Reduction – Constant Staffing of FS265
- Reduction in Force process clarity
- Work Trade language clarity based off previous Labor/Management collaboration success
- Disciplinary Review Board/Disciplinary Advisory Panel Language Update

Motion by Director Cross to approve the 2024 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Superstition Fire & Medical District and the United Mesa Firefighters, Local 2260, Superstition Chapter, and adopt Resolution 2024-06-18-10.

Seconded by Director Kurian

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

8. Discussion and possible approval of Policy 1007: Incentives

Motion by Director Moeller to approve Policy 1007: Incentives.

Seconded by Director Kurian

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

9. Senior Leadership Team Reports

Fire Chief Report

- EVRA 24-1 Graduation
- Firefighter Interviews
- Fire Station Design Conference
- MOU Negotiations
- Labor / Management
- Fire Chief Forum
- AZ Burn Camp – Firefighter Day
- NNAFCA Presentation
- Intern Academy – Kudos: Leads, EMS, Evaluators, Floating Evaluators, Facilitators, Volunteers, PT Instructors
- ABF Camp Courage Firefighter Day

Emergency Services

- L264 assisted with flag raising for PCSO Memorial Event
- Meeting with HFFD – Q&A about Occupational Health Services.
- Meeting with DFFM – Wildland Deployment
- EVRA 24-1 Graduation
- Meeting with new Training and EMS Team
- Meeting with the City of Apache Junction Department Heads
- Meeting with Chief Steeves (SFD) – Staffing calculator
- Attended Chief Brian Joseph’s Retirement (SFD)

Significant Incidents

5/16/2024: US60 / Renaissance Festival Drive – Mobile Home Fire - Defensive

5/17/2024: 2 & 1 Medical – Crismon and US 60 – 2 immediate patients. Both were treated and transported to Banner Desert

5/21/2024: Single vehicle MVA – MP21 / SR88 – Vehicle over cliff. Patient transported Banner Desert

5/22/2024: Runaway Mule – Superstition and Cortez – Rescued loose mule without its rider. The two were reunited without incident

5/27/2024: Trail Rescue – Syphon Draw – Ankle injury and heat related issues. Patient refused transport. No FF injuries reported

5/28/2024: N. Meridian – Working fire – quick attack – Resident had minor burns to wrists – refused Transport – No FF injuries reported

Significant Incidents continued

5/30/2024: E. 2nd Avenue – Structure fire – Quick attack – No civilian or FF injuries reported

6/13/2024: 1st alarm house fire – Broadway / Warner – Automatic aid with MFMD. No reported Civilian or FF injuries

6/15/2024: Mutual Aid Request – Vehicle fire (car over a cliff) E. Apache Trail – Fire extended to the surrounding brush. SFMD crews extinguished the vehicle and brush fire. Scene turned over to Tonto National Forest

6/15/2024: 2 & 1 Medical – Apache Trail / Meridian – 3 vehicle MVA with 1 vehicle in a ditch. 4 Patients total. 3 refusals and 1 immediate. Immediate transported to Banner Desert

6/16/2024: Working 1st alarm fire – S. Tomahawk Road – Working fire to double-wide trailer. Quick knockdown – No civilian or FF injuries reported

- Monthly Incident Call Volume

Training

- Finished up 2nd Quarter Ladder Company Training @ Chandler Public Safety Training Facility
- Crew MCS May – June
- BC Tactical Training in Phoenix
- Expanding fire incidents in large buildings
- Sector Responsibilities
- Mayday operations
- 2nd Quarter EV Command Training
- Response to Natural Gas, CNG, & LPG Emergencies
- EVRA 24-1 Graduating Class
- 24-1 SFMD Intern Academy
- Regional BC/DC Meetings and Trainings
- Monthly and FYTD Training Hours

EMS

- Regional Command Training
- EMS & CQI Meetings
- Regional Meetings (EV Agency, EMS ROCC)
- Meetings to begin the transition of Fire Training and EMS to Chief Elliott and Chief Fox
- Completed the first half of the AJPD Training day to fulfill requirements for HAZMAT, fireground safety, Bloodborne pathogens, bleeding control, and CPR.
- Completed Train-the-Trainer classes for the SFMD Neuroprotective CPR Trial (Elegard device)
- AJPD Training
- Elegard Training

Transportation Services

- Regional/Monthly meetings
 - EMS Committee Meeting
 - CQI Committee Meeting
 - East Valley Agency Meeting
 - EMS ROCC
 - Valley Image Trend Workgroup
- Meeting with Scottsdale Fire - Discussed Ambo Ops/Billing
AEMS Odyssey Conference
- CON Compliance through April 2024
- Monthly Transportation Volume

Support Services

Fire Prevention

Plan Reviews – 15

Inspections – 50

Citizen Requests or Assistance – 3

Environmental Requests, Permits, Concerns and Knox Box Assistance – 32

Community Risk Reduction

Community Events – 1

Fire Safety Presentations – 0

Car Seat Placements – 2

School Pub Ed Presentations – 0

AED/CCR Presentations – 0

- City of AJ Babysitting Camp (CPR-Hands Only)
- CleanPSB Symposium Program
- Station Design Conference
- All Staff Communication Meeting
- Deputy Fire Chief Interview
- 4th of July Site Visit & Walk Through
- Communication Operations Meeting
- Great Day in AJ (PSA) with Police Chief
- Car Seat Education & Installation

Administrative Services

- July Board Meeting is July 24 (not July 17) AFDA/AFCA
- Recruit Firefighter Process 10 on the list
- PEHP – Kick-off meeting
- Civilian Cancer has been completed for 2023/24
- Grant Submission – Tohono O'odham Nation
 - Brush Truck

10. New Business / Future Agenda Items

None

11. Announcements / Document Signing

Clerk Van Driel made the following announcements:

- Sleepy Hollow is being surveyed and striped
- Peralta Way will have two speed bumps
- Cloud View is a very congested trail head and a study is being conducted to possibly move the trailhead in the next year or two
- Pinal County has new ordinances for parking before the planning / zoning committee
- A study is being conducted regarding the Renaissance Festival traffic flow through Gold Canyon
- The Gold Canyon and Peralta HOA presidents are coming together on September 24, 2024 to discuss issues in their neighborhoods and how they can work together to make things happen, benefitting the Gold Canyon/Peralta communities as a whole. At the last HOA meeting, one of the most important topics was discussion on Firewise and how the community could work together to extend Firewise status throughout the communities. This will likely be followed up at the September 24th meeting. It would be good to have SFMD represented at the September meeting. The details are to be determined.

Administrative Services Director Anna Butel announced that the target date for completion of the Board Room remodel is 7/15/2024

Fire Chief John Whitney thanked the board members for their patience with all the changes, movement and growth in the District.


Chief Whitney also announced that Board Secretary Sherry Mueller will be retiring this year in September. Chief Whitney thanked Sherry for commitment and hard work to the District.

12. Adjourn

Motion by Director Cross to adjourn the board meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Seconded by Director Kurian
Vote 5 ayes, 0 nays, **MOTION PASSED**

Governing Board Approval:

DocuSigned by:

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Board Clerk Connie Van Driel