



Superstition Fire & Medical District

Serving the Communities of Apache Junction and Gold Canyon since 1955

Phone | (480) 982-4440

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Governing Board Meeting Minutes

DECEMBER 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 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 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

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

B. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance led by Chief John Whitney.

C. Roll Call

Board Members in attendance were Chairman Kathleen Chamberlain, Clerk Connie Van Driel, Director Jeff Cross and Director Jason Moeller. Director Shawn Kurian 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, Chief Dave Pohlmann, Dan Elliot, Administrative Services Director Anna Butel, Ben Archer with James Vincent Group. Also in attendance was Shelley Aspbury, Human Resources Specialist / Board Secretary. Attorney William Whittington also attended.

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

Motion by Director Connie Van Driel to approve the November 2024 financial reports and bank reconciliations.

Seconded by Director Jeff Cross

Vote 4 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.

December Anniversaries

- 12 Years of Service** Mechanic II George Nasello
- 4 years of Service** Firefighter/Paramedic Steven Schaecken
- 4 years of Service** Paramedic Bradley Powers
- 3 years of Service** Assistant Chief Brian Read

Presentation of artwork, Heaven & Hell, from local artist Timm Chapman, donated to SFMD.

3. Call to the Public.

None

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

- A. Board Meeting Minutes from November 20, 2024
- B. MVR Batch Request Agreement
- C. Transfer of funds for the January 1, 2025, Chase Refinancing Bond debt service interest payment
- D. Transfer of funds for the January 2, 2025, Certificate of Participation (COP) Bond debt service interest payment
- E. Purchase of New CF-33 MCTs
- F. Renaissance Festival Contract for Fire and Medical Services 2025
- G. 7710 Worker's Comp Renewal 2025
- H. Communications Site Lease Agreement w/EIP Holdings II, LLC
- I. Operative IQ Rebate
- J. ASU Placement Agreement

Motion by Director Jason Moeller to approve all consent agenda items for December 18, 2024.

Seconded by Director Jeff Cross

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

5. Discussion and possible approval regarding Policy 804: HIPPA & Transportation Billing Compliance.

Motion by Clerk, Connie Van Driel to adopt Policy 804: HIPPA & Transportation Billing Compliance for December 18, 2024.

Seconded by Director Jeff Cross

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

6. Reports.

Senior Leadership Team (SLT):

Fire Chief Report

- All Staff and FC Forum
- Superstition Mountain Country Club HOA – Firewise renewal presentation
- Southwest Sustainability Innovation Engine – Long Duration Energy Storage Symposium
- EVIT Superintendent
- VFW Post 7968 Awards Ceremony
- AFDA Board meeting
- HonorHealth – Mtn Vista Meet & Greet
- FS266 financing discussion
- Avalon Elementary Christmas event @ FS263
- Pinal County Open House
- Pinal County Machu Picchu Meeting
- SFFC Pancake Breakfast @ FS264
- SFMD Family Day

Emergency Services

- Continued Professional Development Meetings
- Safety and Strategy: FDSOA’s Approach to Calculated Risk in Fire Service
- SFMD meet and greet with Honor Health Mountain Vista Leadership
- Internal Bed Delay Discussion
- PIO check-in
- SFMD Family Day
- Local 2260 Superstition Chapter’s Pancake Breakfast
- Avalon Kindergarten Christmas Carols at 263

Significant Incidents

1st Alarm Brush Assignment

12/07/2024 on NE Corner of US60 & Meridian

E261, T261, E263, M263, BR221, BR264, BR216, T262 U251, E213, E216, L264, BC202, BC261, CRV201, EDC

Crews responded to a brush fire at the US60 and Meridian. Crews spent the night working on containment and extinguishment. Despite access issues the crews achieved containment around 0600. Contained to 5 acres.

Structure Fire

12/09/2024 on N. Ocotillo

E261, E263, LT263, E262, BC261, BC202, E217, L291, M261

Exterior fire with minor extensions into the interior of the structure. Quick knockdown by fire crews. No FF or civilian injuries were reported. Red Cross requested for residents.

Working Fire

12/09/2024 on N. Delaware

E263, E262, E217, L219, BC261, BC202, M261, U208

Shed fire on the southeast corner of the residence, fire extended to the residence. Crews made an aggressive interior attack and gained fire control. Residents and dogs out safely. No FF injuries. 2 feline fatalities.

Commercial 1st Alarm Fire

12/16/2024 on S. Ironwood

E263, LT263, E217, E261, BC261, BC202, E212, E262, E265, L219, BC252, M262, CRV201, U251, EDC

Crews responded to a commercial fire with active water flow. Crews gained entry and located the fire, which was kept in check due to the fire sprinkler head activation. The fire did extend up the inside and exterior portion of the wall but was stopped before it got into the attic space. No reported FF or Civilian injuries.

Training

Annual Driver/Operator Continuing Education (CE):

- We are wrapping up the CE activities, including pump evaluation, cone course, and a review of the backing policy

Second Tactics/Strategy Workshop:

- Completion of the second workshop focused on tactics and strategy

Candidate Development Program:

- Meetings were held on December 11th and 14th

TRT Year-End Drill:

- Completion of the Technical Rescue Team (TRT) year-end drill, which included trench rescue and structural collapse scenarios

TRT Ops Training with MCSO:

- Collaboration with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office for TRT operational training

EVIT Live Fire Training:

- Meeting with EVIT to discuss live fire training plans

Annual Tour of Mormon Flat Dam:

- Conducted with Station 262 A-Shift
- Renewal of the fire service agreement between SRP and SFMD

EMS

- Addressed the Functional AEMS Group about EleGARD
- Met with the new Honor Health Mountain Vista administration along with Dr. Casey Solem
- Met with Banner Baywood's new ED Director for winter planning
- Met with Banner Baywood administration and regional partners to address bed delay concerns
- Attended EMS ROCC Meeting
- Deployed the new AIRQ3 supraglottic airways to the frontline units
- Assisted in Captain promotional process for Scottsdale Fire
- ImageTrend EMS chart updates

Transportation Services

- ImageTrend EPCR State Posting Meeting

- Submitted AZDHS CON Renewal
- All Staff Meeting
- Met with Banner Baywood ER Director – Winter Plan
- EMS ROCC Meeting
- AEMS Fall Forum
- Honor Health Meet and Greet
- Fire Chief Forum
- ARCR Review meeting with JVG
- EMS and Law Enforcement Awards Luncheon – Banner Goldfield/Ironwood
- Met with Banner Baywood CEO
- AEMS Board of Governors Meeting
- AEMS Education Committee Meeting

Support Services

- Station 263 Tour w/ PS School for Adult Autism
- Pancake Breakfast Toy Drive at SM Golf & Country Club
- City of AJ Holiday Event at Flat Iron Park
- City of AJ Holiday Parade w/ Santa (L264)
- Avalon Kindergarten Christmas Carols at 263
- Delivered Santa to Boys & Girls Club
- Pinal County Open House
- Station 265 Private Holiday Outreach w/ HeadStart
- Radiance Amenity Center Open House
- Ladder 264 lead Montessa Golf Cart Parade
- Imagine Prep Hero's Honoring First Responders
- Special Events Meeting
- SFMD Family Day
- TRWC Meeting
- Valley Fire Marshals Meeting
- Apparatus Update

Administrative Services

- All Staff and Fire Chief Forum
- Weekly Administration Team Meetings
- Phoenix Solutions Meeting
- AFG Grant Application Submitted
- Confidentiality Agreements and Annual Driver's License Report (Per Policy 1042 Driver License Requirements)
- TSP Fit Testing and T-Spot complete
- UKG Telestaff User Meeting (Lauren and Lena)

7. **Possible vote to go into Executive Session** at 6:24 p.m. for personnel matters pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(1) and legal advice pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3) and possible instructions to legal counsel pursuant to A.R.S. § 34-31.03(A)(4) re: Fire Chief John Whitney's Annual Evaluation.

Motion by Director Jeff Cross, to go into Executive Session for personnel matters pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(1) and legal advice pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3) and possible

instructions to legal counsel pursuant to A.R.S. § 34-31.03(A)(4) re: Fire Chief John Whitney's Annual Evaluation.

Seconded by Director Jason Moeller
Vote 4 ayes, 0 nays, MOTION PASSED.

8. Public Session. Discussion regarding the Fire Chief's Annual Evaluation.

Public Session reconvened at 7:47 p.m. Chairman Chamberlain stated that Chief Whitney has exceeded the Board's expectations and received a favorable Annual Evaluation. Director Cross, Moeller and Clerk, Van Driel, thanked Chief Whitney for his accomplishments and for continuing to build a great SFMD team.

9. New Business/Future Agenda Items

10. Announcement and Document Signing.

11. Adjourn

Motion by Clerk Connie Van Driel to adjourn the board meeting at 8:02 p.m.

Seconded by Director Jason Cross.
Vote 4 ayes, 0 nays, MOTION PASSED.

Governing Board Approval:

Board Clerk Connie Van Driel