



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

October 15, 2025

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, OCTOBER 15, 2025. 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 John Taylor

C. Roll Call

Board Members in attendance were Chairman Kathleen Chamberlain and Clerk Connie Van Driel. Director Jeff Cross, and Director Shawn Kurian attended via conference phone. Director Jason Moeller did not attend.

Senior Leadership Team in attendance were Fire Chief John Whitney, Assistant Chief Brian Read, Assistant Chief Richard Mooney, Deputy Chief Dave Pohlman, Battalion Chief Ryan Ledbetter, Transportation Services Director Billy Warren, and Administrative Services Director Anna Butel. Also in attendance was Tanya Anderson, Administrative Specialist / Board Secretary. Ben Archer with James Vicent Group and Attorney William Whittington attended via conference phone.

1. Review and approval of the September 2025 financial reports and bank reconciliations.

Motion by Clerk Van Driel to approve the September 2025 financial reports and bank reconciliations.

Seconded by Director 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.

September Service Anniversaries

Retirement Recognition & 25 Years of Service

Engineer **John Taylor**

26 Years of Service

Deputy Chief **David Pohlmann**

Battalion Chief **Jeremy Rocha**

18 Years of Service

Battalion Chief **John Walka**

Captain **Chris Robson**

11 Years of Service

Captain/Paramedic **Jason Chapman**

Captain/Paramedic **Sean Matuszewski**

Captain/Paramedic **Jay Nelson**

Captain/Paramedic **Colt Weddell**

10 Years of Service

Captain/Paramedic **Wes Fimbrez**

Firefighter/Paramedic **Trace Leggett**

Engineer/Paramedic **Trey Schow**

Fire Mechanic II **Roger Nasello**

9 Years of Service

Transport EMT **Sarah Castaneda**

8 Years of Service

Engineer **Chris Wohlforth**

6 Years of Service

Firefighter/Paramedic **Sedona Brugman**

Captain/Paramedic **Joe Potter**

5 Years of Service

Firefighter/Paramedic/Public Information Officer **Sophie Boukatch**

Firefighter/Paramedic **Caleb Brown**

Engineer/Paramedic **Luke Mays**

3 Years of Service

Recruit Firefighter/Paramedic **Wyatt Reimann**

Firefighter **Nolan Willoughby**

Promotions

Kevin Montgomery – Captain

Joe Potter – Captain

Ben Young – Engineer

David Spidle – Engineer

3. Call to the Public.

None

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

- A. Board Meeting Minutes from September 17, 2025
- B. Guardian Background Screening Client Agreement Renewal
- C. Mediacom Agreements for Phone and Internet Services
- D. 7710 Worker’s Comp Insurance Renewal
- E. FY 2024/2025 Baker Tilly Audit Engagement Letter
- F. Professional Services Agreement with The Preplanners, LLC
- G. Lost Dutchman Marathon Medical Staffing Agreement
- H. Country in the Junction Medical Staffing Agreement
- I. Stryker Service Agreement Renewal

Motion by Clerk Van Driel to approve all consent agenda items for October 15, 2025.

Seconded by Director Kurian

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

5. **Discussion, review and status update on Bond Proposition 494.**
6. **Discussion regarding the Fire Chief's annual evaluation process.**
7. **Discussion regarding the government shutdown and the effect on ambulance billing.**
8. **Senior Leadership Team Reports**

Fire Chief Report

- Federal Shutdown
- Bond Meetings & Open Houses
- All-Staff Meeting
- FS266 & Ladder Build Discussion(s)
- CALSC Strategic Planning Committee
- Labor/Management
- Statewide Mutual Aid/Regional Support
- Four Peaks Medical Center Name Reveal Ceremony
- AFDA/PFFA/AFCA Legislative Agenda Meeting
- Chief Executive Officer Program

Emergency Services

District

- Pediatric EMS Training
- E262 supported Globe 9/27 & 9/28
- Coverage for Mesa Fire & Medical
- Stood up E269 dedicated to the District
- Intern Academy
- Personnel Discussion
- AJ Power Wheels Event
- Avalon Touch a Truck Event

Regional Partners

- East Valley AC Meeting
- Florence Fire Battalion Chief Testing
- Comm Ops Meeting

Significant Incidents

Vehicle Fire

Date: 09.18.25

Location: W. Ohio

Response: E263, LT263, E262, BC261, B203

Report: Crews were dispatched for a car fire with exposures. Upon arrival, they found a fully involved vehicle 5 feet from a structure. The assignment was upgraded. Crews made an aggressive offensive attack—fire control—no extensions to structure.

No reported injuries.

2N1 Medical

Date: 09.19.25

Location: Goldfield & Old West Hwy

Response: E263, M261, LT263, BC261

Report: Single vehicle MVA. The car struck a power pole at a high rate of speed, then rolled several times. 2 patients both deceased.

No reported FF injuries.

2N1 Medical

Date: 09.30.25

Location: Ironwood & Saddle Butte

Response: LT263, E263, M262, E261, BC261

Report: A single vehicle into a wash. Mechanical extrication was needed to remove the patient, who was treated and transported to Vista.

No reported FF Injuries.

Working Fire

Date: 10.01.25

Location: Buena Vista & 21st Ave

Response: E262, L264, M262, U208, E263, LT263, E261, E217, BC261, BC202

Report: Working attic fire. E263 arrived on scene and performed a gable end attack. The crew got a quick knockdown. Fire was contained to the attic. No further extensions. Family of 4 displaced.

No reported FF injuries.

Trail Rescue

Date: 10.04.25

Location: Broadway Trail

Response: E262, E278, E261, M261, BC261, BC203

Report: Hiker experiencing heat-related issues. Crews entered the trail and made contact with the patient. Crew extracted patient with the "Big Wheel." Patient refused any further treatment and transport.

No reported FF injuries.

Structure Fire

Date: 10.05.25

Location: N Vista

Response: E262, E261, E263, L219, BC261, BC202, M261

Report: Room and contents fire located in the 2nd floor bedroom. 4 y/o in adjacent room awoken by smoke. Grandma removed the child safely before the crew's arrival. A quick attack was performed along with a search of the structure. Fire contained to the bedroom. No extensions. Patient evaluated and refusal documented. No reported FF injuries.

Trail Rescue

Date: 10.08.25

Location: Silly Mountain

Response: E262, L264, UTV262, L276, L219, M264, BC261

Report: Report of a patient one mile in on the trail. Crews located the patient approximately ¼ mile in. Crews used the UTV to extract the patient. The patient refused any treatment or Transport.

No reported FF injuries.

Pediatric

Date: 10.12.25

Location: N/A

Response: E261, LT263, M261, BC261

Report: 12-week-old pediatric code. Treated and transported to Banner Goldfield.

Heavy Rescue

Date: 10.09.25

Location: Apache Trail MPM MP219 88

Response: L276, LT276, E261, E263, M263, L264, BC203, CRV201, U208, E262, SQ19, SQ204, E278

Report: Heavy Rescue dispatched for a vehicle over the cliff. BC261 arrived, reporting one patient 40 feet down a steep-angle canyon and a vehicle with two additional patients over 350 feet down in the canyon.

Two additional TRT Team units requested SQ204 and E278. Engine 262 and Squad 219 employed a rope system to lower three TRT members with a Stokes basket to extricate the first patient.

Ranger One, Central Arizona Search and Rescue personnel, conducted a hoist operation to access, treat, and extricate the remaining two patients. They were then hoisted to an LZ and transported as critical to Scottsdale Osborn. The total time of the incident from BC261's arrival to the transport of all patients and the return of personnel topside was 3 hours and 42 minutes.

Water Rescue

Date: 10.13.25

Location: Southern & S Mountain View Rd

Response: E262, L219, LT263, BC261

Report: Crews responded to a reported vehicle in a wash with trapped victims. BC261 was first on scene and received a report from bystanders that two people were swept downstream when trying to exit the car. The two victims were able to self-extricate from moving water to dry ground. Individuals declined assistance. The scene was turned over to PCSO. No reported FF injuries.

House Fire

Date: 10.14.25

Location: S. Meridian

Response: E262, E263, LT263, E217, BC202, BC261

Report: Units dispatched for reported house fire. E263 arrived first on scene with nothing showing from the exterior. A 360° revealed smoke from the backside gable end. Crews made entry and encountered excessive storage conditions with heavy smoke.

Neighbors reported a possible elderly female occupant.

Crews quickly achieved fire control; however, the primary search was delayed due to limited visibility and excessive storage conditions. PPV was utilized to assist with visibility. Once smoke conditions improved, primary and secondary searches were completed. The all-clear for the structure was established.

No reported Civilian or Firefighter injuries.

Divisional Report Training & EMS

District

- Bond Open House
- Peds Class with Chief Fox
- Training Committee Meeting
- Training Division Excel Class
- Labor Management

Regional Partners

- East Valley Agency
- Meeting with Mountain Vista
- Western Fire Chiefs' Conference

Training

District

- Training Committee Meeting
- Labor/Management
- All-Staff Meeting
- Tactics Tuesday Workshop: Sets & Reps
- Excel for Dummies
- Promotional Presentations, Retirement Celebrations
- Reintegration Week
- Candidate Development Program
- Intern Academy
- 1st Quarter Drill: Interior Ops – C-Shift
- Spring 2026 Hiring/Promotional Map Out

Regional Partners

- Recruit Academy Week 10: Flashover, Car Fire, Natural Gas, Extrication Drills Completed
- LT263 EV Quarterly Ladder Training in Chandler: Residential Ventilation
- Captains Rivera, Frawley, and Yates instructing members of EV Quarterly Ladder Training
- E262 TRT: Heavy Lifting/Confined Space
- Mesa Gateway Acquired Structure Drill
- QCFD Engineer Process Observation

EMS

District

- Completed Phoenix Children's Drowning Training
- Excel Training Class
- Operative IQ Implementation
- EMS Registry Work Group

Regional Partners

- East Valley Agencies
- Florence BC Testing
- Attended Naming Ceremony for Four Peaks Medical Center (previously Mountain Vista)

Transportation Services

- AEMS Board of Governors / Functional Group Meetings
- AZDHS Ambulance Inspection of unit C-87
- Contexture meeting regarding new platform updates
- Uniform Committee Meeting
- EMS ROCC
- East Valley Agency Meeting
- Labor/Management Meeting

Support Services

- Special Events Meeting
- Strategic Planning Committee Meeting
- Uniform Committee Meeting
- Labor Management
- Ladder Build Committee
- Florence Junction Substation Site Visit
- Facility Committee Meeting
- Comm Ops Meeting
- Pediatric EMS Training
- TRWC Monthly Check-In
- Mesa Prevention's 6th Annual Training
- City of AJ Multigenerational Center Birthday Bash
- AJPD Child Passenger Safety Event
- AJHS Career Fair
- First Responder Day at American Leadership Academy

- Avalon Elementary Touch a Truck Event

Resource

- Investigator Update
 - Attending AZIAAI Arson III Class
 - Evidence Collection and Report Writing
- Storm Prep – FS261, FS262, and FS264 with sand/sandbags
- Uniform Committee Report
 - Ordering Test Items
 - Prepping Recruits for November Graduation
- Lion Center-Cut, New Turnout Spec – SeaWestern
 - 6-month Testing and Collecting Data to Pick Spec
 - Priority Replacement for >10 yrs NFPA

Administrative Services

- Labor Management / All Staff
- FS 264 Open House
- Next Door Platform
- Blood Draws – 1582 Physicals (November)
- Hiring and Promotional Schedule for 2026
- Anti-Harassment and Discrimination Training
- Financial Audit – Onsite Monday
- SharePoint Kick-Off Meetings
- Website Redesign

9. New Business / Future Agenda Items

None

10. Announcements / Document Signing

Clerk Van Driel updated us on some recent updates with Pinal County.

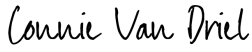
11. Adjourn

Motion by Clerk Van Driel to adjourn the board meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Seconded by Director Cross

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

Governing Board Approval:

DocuSigned by:

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Board Clerk Connie Van Driel