



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

February 18, 2026

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, FEBRUARY 18, 2026. 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 retired Captain/Paramedic Craig Halver

C. Roll Call

Board Members in attendance were Chairman Kathleen Chamberlain, Clerk Connie Van Driel, Director Shawn Kurian.

Senior Leadership Team in attendance were Fire Chief John Whitney, Assistant Chief Brian Read, Assistant Chief Richard Mooney, Deputy Chief Dave Pohlman, Deputy Chief Jeff Cranmer, Battalion Chief Ryan Ledbetter, Battalion Chief Tanner Fox, Transportation Services Director Billy Warren, Administrative Services Director Anna Butel, Ben Archer with James Vincent Group, Steven. Also in attendance was Tanya Anderson, Administrative Specialist, HR / Board Secretary, Steven May from BakerTilly. Bryan Lundberg & Jill Johnson with Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, and Paul Gales from Greenberg Traurig. Attorney William Whittington attended via conference phone.

1. Review and approval of the January 2026 financial reports and bank reconciliations.

Motion by Director Kurian to approve the January 2026 financial reports and bank reconciliations.

Seconded by Director Van Driel

Vote 3 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.**

Retirement Recognition – 23 Years of Service

Captain/Paramedic **Craig Halver**

February Service Anniversaries

26 Years of Service

Administrative Services Director **Anna Butel**

Captain/Paramedic **Carlos Rivera**

17 Years of Service

Fleet Superintendent **Vaughn Croshaw**

13 Years of Service

Captain/Paramedic **Dave Endres**

Engineer **Monte Fuller**

Captain/Paramedic **Chris Furgeson**

7 Years of Service

Captain/Paramedic **Matt Leon**

Firefighter/Paramedic **Ryan Markham**

4 Years of Service

Firefighter/Paramedic **Erik Arbit**

Engineer **Logan Garman**

Firefighter **Max Gregor**

Firefighter **Haden Langenhorst**

Engineer/Paramedic **David Tavares**

Firefighter/Paramedic **Jordan Wilkes**

3 Years of Service

Transport Paramedic **Holly Bassett**

Firefighter **Brad Steinepreis**

2 Years of Service

Transport Paramedic **Sean Smeltzer**

1 Year of Service

Transport Paramedic **Jordan Hershberger**

Transport EMT **Cayden Serdy**

Community Appreciation

- The Reserve at Lost Dutchman - \$4,000 to Station 261
- Charles P Farrell - \$100 to Station 263
- Sunrise RV Church - \$1,000
 - "Thank you for all you do for our community "
- Residents of the West end of Gypsum St - \$100
 - "For all the good work you do with our community "

3. Call to the Public.

None

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

- A. Board Meeting Minutes from January 21, 2026 & Special Meeting Minutes from January 26, 2026
- B. Addition of 1 Lifepak 15 Monitor to Monitor Service Agreement
- C. 2026 Blues & Brews Festival Medical Staffing Agreement
- D. Professional Liability Insurance Renewal
- E. Commitment to Purchase a 2026 Ford F-150
- F. Perlman Architect Agreement & Fee Proposal

Consent agenda item E was pulled for discussion and ultimately approved.

Motion by Director Kurian to approve all consent agenda items for February 18, 2026.

Seconded by Director Van Driel

Vote 3 ayes, 0 nays, **MOTION PASSED**

5. Discussion and possible approval of the Fire District's Independent Auditor's Report and related financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, as required by Arizona Revised Statute §48-253, and as presented by Baker Tilly US, LLP – Certified Public Accountants.

Steven May from BakerTilly presented the 2025 Audit to the Board where he found the following information:

- **Audit Completion and Opinion:**
 - The audit was completed, and the report was issued on February 13, 2026.
 - An unmodified opinion was given, indicating the financial statements are free from material misstatement and present fairly in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- **Compliance and Internal Controls:**
 - No instances of noncompliance or other matters were found.
 - No material weaknesses in internal controls were identified.
- **Audit Procedures and Findings:**
 - Various controls were tested with no reportable findings.
 - No significant unusual transactions or difficulties encountered.
 - No disagreements with management.
 - No corrected or uncorrected misstatements identified.
 - No other audit findings or issues were identified.
- **Management Consultations and Compliance:**
 - Management did not consult with other accountants regarding auditing or accounting matters.
 - No non-compliance with laws and regulations was identified.
 - No instances of known or suspected fraud were found.
 - No issues related to the District's ability to continue as a going concern.
- **Related Parties:**
 - No significant findings or issues related to the District's related parties.
- **Nonattest Services Provided:**
 - Financial statement preparation, and adjusting journal entries.
 - GASB No. 34 conversion entries were prepared.

6. Consideration and possible adoption of a resolution providing for all matters relating to the sale and issuance of general obligation bonds of The District, including delegation to the Fire Chief of The District to determine certain matters related thereto.

Presentation by Bryan Lundberg with Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, and Attorney Paul Gales with Greenberg Traurig.

Motion by Director Van Driel to adopt Resolution #2026-02-08-06 providing for all matters relating to the sale and issuance of general obligation bonds of The District, including delegation to the Fire Chief of The District to determine certain matters related thereto.

Seconded by Director Kurian

Vote 3 ayes, 0 nays, MOTION PASSED

7. Senior Leadership Team Reports

Fire Chief Report

- Sourcewell Meeting
- Skyline Towns Groundbreaking
- Architect/FS266 Meetings
- Florence Fire Meeting
- Labor Management Meeting & Retreat
- Budget Manager Training
- FY27 Budget Development Meeting
- Statewide Recruitment & Retention Discussion
- AFDA Board Meeting
- Engineer Interviews
- Division Collaboration Meeting
- Community Member Meetings
- Promotional Helmet Presentation
- Strategic Planning
- Bond Meetings

Emergency Services

District

- Lost Dutchman Marathon Teams Meetings
- Rodeo Grounds Site Walk for LDD
- One Thing Meeting – Social Media Directive
- Ren-Fest Kick-Off
- AZ Bluegrass Festival
- Promotional Process Discussion
- Incident Action Plans for Special Events
- Labor Management Retreat
- Staffing and Deployment Rebid

Regional Partners

- Attended Recruit Class 26-2 Family Night
- East Valley Assistant Chiefs
- Met with Horizon and AJ Parks and Rec

Significant Incidents

Mountain Rescue

Date: 01.25.26

Location: Hieroglyphic Trail

Response: E262, L219, E265, BC261, M264, UTV262, SQ219, BC202

Report: 92 y/o patient chief complaint fall with bleeding. Pt. Located approx. 500 ft up the trail, Report of multiple falls. Crews made contact with pt. Treated, packaged, and extracted from the trail via stokes basket an “big wheel”. Patient transported to Four Peaks.

No FF injuries.

Working Fire

Date: 02.02.26

Location: E Broadway Ave / S Arroya Rd

Response: E262, E263, LT263, E261, BC261, BC202, T220, T261, DR411, T262, E265, L264, M263, U208

Report: Fully involved barn with no exposures. Defensive fire. Tenders were utilized for the water supply.

No civilian or FF injuries.

Working Fire

Date: 02.10.26

Location: N. Acacia

Response: E262, E261, E263, LT263, BC261, BC202, T264, E217, L264, M261, U208, M263

Report: Crews arrived on scene and reported fire under the trailer with minimal extensions inside. Crews quickly extinguished the fire. One victim located.

No reported FF injuries, one Civilian Fatality.

GSW

Date: 02.14.26

Location: W. Shiprock St.

Response: BC261, LT263, BC203, M261

Report: Officer-involved shooting. Single patient.

No reported FF or PD injuries.

Training & EMS

District

- Attended Paramedic Graduation
 - Nolan Willoughby & Erik Arbit
- Promotional Process Meeting
- Assisted Renaissance Festival Set Up
- Budget Manager Training
- Met with Cloudwick
- New Hire Assessment Center Discussion
- Captain Philips Helmet Presentation
- East Valley Medical Directors
- LM Retreat

Regional Partners

- Met with Horizon for LDM
- ImageTrend Regional Summit
- Bariatric Unit Demo

Training

District

- Engineer Promotional Process
- 3rd Quarter Drill Completed: Hydraulics/Cone Course
- Operations Meeting
- Fire Engineering Training Demo
- Firefighter Hiring Process Set-Up
- Captain's Promotional Process Set-Up

- Can-Act-As-Engineer Final Practicals
- Candidate Development Program

Regional Partners

- Recruit Academy
- Quarterly TRT: Rope Ladder-Lead Climbing
- EVLT: Heavy Lifting & Stabilization
- EVLT: Captains Frawley, Yates, and Rivera Instructing

EMS

District

- Renaissance Festival Preparation and Start Up
- Paramedic School Preparations and Start Up
- New Hire Training
- EMS Vendor Integration
- Labor Management Retreat
- Lost Dutchman Marathon UC
- Implementation of NREMT recertifications

Regional Partners

- EMS ROCC
- ImageTrend Client Connection Summit

Transportation Services

- New Hire Training – 1 Paramedic, 5 EMTS
- Budget Manager Training
- EMS ROCC
- Labor Management Meeting
- Staffing and Deployment Committee Meeting
- East Valley Agencies Meeting
- Bariatric Ambulance Demo - SFD

Support Services

- Lost Dutchman RV Resort Health Fair
- Rodeo Grounds Site Visit
- Architect Firm Meeting
- PC Investigator Task Force Meeting
- Labor Management
- Horizon Health & City Meeting for Marathon
- Budget Managers Training
- FS 266 Site Meeting w/ Architect and Community Rep
- Weekly FS 266 Build Meeting
- Special Events Meeting
- LEPC Meeting
- Stantec Meeting
- Helmet Presentation for Captain Philips
- City 9-11 Planning Meeting
- Inter Division Collaboration Meeting
- Comm Ops Meeting

- City & Builder Meeting
- Labor Management Retreat
- PC Board of Supervisor Meeting
- Budget Meeting for Prevention Division

Resource

Facility Project Management

- Repairs as needed (stations, showers, water heaters, appliances, gym equipment)
- Station 262 – Painting and asphalt complete

Uniforms

- New Turnout Spec is starting to arrive
- Budgeting for FY 2026/2027

New Station 266 Build Team

- Regular meetings with Chief Mooney, Captain Garten, and Construction Supervisor Victor Ledo

Administrative Services

- BLM – Training Center & Entrada Del Oro Discussions
- Division Collaboration Meeting
- Sourcewell Procurement Solutions (Cooperative Contracts)
- Perlman Architect Meeting – FS266
- Worker’s Compensation Audit
- Recruit Firefighter Process
 - 325 Applications Received (48 not qualified-no EMT cert)
 - 250 Assessment Center slots available (188 signed up so far)

8. New Business / Future Agenda Items

None

9. Announcements / Document Signing

10. Adjourn

Motion by Director Van Driel to adjourn the board meeting at 6:56 p.m.

Seconded by Director Kurian

Vote 3 ayes, 0 nays, **MOTION PASSED**

Governing Board Approval:

DocuSigned by:

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Board Clerk Connie Van Driel