



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

March 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, MARCH 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

Clerk Van Driel called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance led by John Christensen

C. Roll Call

Board Members in attendance were Clerk Connie Van Driel, Director Jeff Cross, and Director Jason Moeller. Director Shawn Kurian attended via Teams.

Senior Leadership Team in attendance were Fire Chief John Whitney, Assistant Chief Richard Mooney, Transportation Services Director Billy Warren, Administrative Services Director Anna Butel, Battalion Chief Tanner Fox, Battalion Chief Ryan Ledbetter, and Sarah Simonton with James Vincent Group. Also in attendance was Tanya Anderson, Administrative Specialist, HR / Board Secretary. Attorney William Whittington attended via conference phone.

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

Motion by Director Cross to approve the February 2026 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 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 – 37 Years of Service

Engineer **John Christensen**

March Service Anniversaries

14 Years of Service

Battalion Chief/Paramedic **Dan Elliott**

Firefighter **Wayne Emerson**

Captain/Paramedic **Lance Frawley**

Captain/Paramedic **Brian Garten**

Captain **Bryan Heun**

Captain/Paramedic **Ryan Ledbetter**

Captain/Paramedic **Adam Rodriguez**

6 Years of Service

Firefighter/Paramedic **Justin Elliott**

1 Year of Service

Administrative Specialist, HR **Tanya Anderson**

3. Call to the Public.

Don Van Driel thanked Union President/Captain Colt Weddell for his help in gathering last minute volunteers for the rodeo. He also expressed his gratitude for the caliber of work that the volunteers provided.

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

A. Board Meeting Minutes from February 18, 2026

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

Seconded by Director Cross

Vote 4 ayes, 0 nays, MOTION PASSED

5. Update, Review and Discussion on FS 266.

6. Senior Leadership Team Reports

Fire Chief Report

- **Budget Meetings**
- **Chief Executive Officers Program**
- **Bond Meetings/Calls**
- **Labor/Management**
- **LDD Parade**
- **Engineer Shield Presentation**
- **Division Meeting**
- **AFCA Board Meeting**
- **Operations Meeting**
- **Personnel Meetings**
- **Station Location Discussions**
- **Staffing Meeting – FS266 & Staffing Calculator**
- **AFDA Board Meeting**
- **All Staff Meeting**
- **MOU Discussions**
- **WFCA President's Forum & Ignite Conference**
- **AFCA/AFDA Legislative Meeting**
- **Utility Wildfire Mitigation Plan Discussion**

Emergency Services

Operations

District

- **Meeting with Citizen – consult on private residence build**
- **Labor/Management**
- **LDD Rodeo Prep**
- **Unified Command for LDD Rodeo and Carnival – Fox, Elliott, Cranmer, Shively, Z. Leon**
- **LDD After Action**
- **Refresh Bid**
- **Engineer Shield Presentation**
- **Staffing Meeting – FS266**
- **Panel Member for SFMD Assessment Center Candidates**
- **FS264 – Meeting to discuss bunk availability**
- **Intern Academy Pre Meeting**
- **Open House Retirement for Eng. Christensen**
- **Coffee with 1st Responders – Aerial Coffee**
- **Boots and BBQ Bash**
- **Blues and Brews**
- **Budget Meeting**

Regional Partners

- **East Valley Assistant Chiefs**
- **Threat Liaison Officer (TLO) Course – Captain Shively**

Significant Incidents

Pediatric Code

Date: 02.24.26

Location: E. Greenlee Ave

Response: LT263, E263, BC261, M264

Report: Crews on scene with an unresponsive pediatric patient. Treatment initiated and patient transported Code 3 to Banner Goldfield. Resuscitation efforts continued at the hospital but were unsuccessful.

BC261 conducted a tailboard debrief with the crews. Continued to follow up throughout the shift. No immediate needs reported.

GSW

Date: 03.05.26

Location: SR88 & Mtn. View

Response: E262, BC261, M261

Report: Patient involved in suspected “road rage” incident. Patient was shot behind the ear. Patient treated and transported Code 3 to Banner Desert.

No FF injuries.

Training

District

- **TSP Probationary Packet**
- **Labor Management**
- **LDD Rodeo Days Set Up**
- **Promotional Shield Presentations**
- **All Staff**
- **Western Fire Chiefs Conference**
- **Began UofA AI Automation Course**
- **Family Skills Course**
- **Tactics Tuesday Workshop: Apartment Fires**
- **Labor/Management and All Staff Meetings**
- **TRT Selection Process**
- **Wildland Pack Tests**
- **2026 Station Rebid**
- **Engineer Shield Presentations**
- **Vector Solutions Meeting**
- **Firefighter Assessment Center Process**
- **Hiring/Promotional Process Development**
- **4th Quarter: Wildland Field Day**

Regional Partners

- **East Valley Training Steering Committee**
- **SFMD Recruit Update**
- **Tesla EV Training: LT263/E262/E263/L264**
- **EVLТ: Heavy Lifting/Stabilization**
- **EV Training Steering Committee Meeting**
- **TRT: Rope Ladder/Lead Climbing**

EMS

District

- **NREMT Recertification**
- **Operations Meeting**
- **New Hire Orientation**
- **Assessment Center Interview Panel**
- **Monitor Trial**
- **Engineer Shield Presentations**

Regional Partners

- **East Valley Agencies**
- **EMS ROCC**

Transportation Services

- **EMS ROCC**
- **Labor Management**
- **AZDHS Meeting**
- **Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Prep/Parade**
- **Uniform Committee Meeting**
- **Division Meeting**
- **All Staff Meeting**
- **New Hire EMT Training**

Support Services

- **Crew participated in a Donation & Chili Contest at LD RV**
- **Read to Preschool Students at Early Learning Center**
- **Pre-Construction Meeting with Sewer District**
- **City Meeting to Discuss New Project**
- **Weekly Fire Station Build Meetings**
- **JC Retirement Open House**
- **Labor Management**
- **Apache Junction State of the City Event**
- **Fire Station Site Visits for New Fire Station Build**
- **AJ/QC Flood Response Plan Meeting**
- **TRWC Directors Meeting**
- **Sundt Construction Site Meeting**

- **Engineer Badge Presentations**
- **Special Events Meeting**
- **Division Meeting**
- **Valley Fire Marshals Meeting**
- **Uniform Committee Meeting**
- **AJ Rodeo Ground Project Meeting**
- **All Staff Meeting**
- **Superstition Region Public Manager Meeting**
- **9-11 Event Meeting**
- **Coffee with First Responders**
- **FS 261 Remodel Meeting**
- **Blues & Brews Site Meeting**

Resource

- **Investigator Update**
 - **Prep for Fire Investigator IV**
 - **Working with AJPD Detective Rivera**
 - **Fire Behavior Training**
 - **Investigation at Gold Canyon Fire**
 - **4551 S Avenida Corazon De Oro**
- **Annex Updates**
 - **Annual Hose Testing**
- **Uniforms**
- **Audit New Turnout Spec**
- **Uniform Budget Meeting**
- **New Station 266 Build Team Meetings**

Administrative Services

- **7710 Site Review**
- **Labor Management**
- **STARS – PSPRS Employer Training**
- **Division Meeting**
- **Staffing and Bid Discussion**
- **SAM Registration**
- **Budget Meetings**
- **RTC Conference Room – Teams Room**
- **Bond Calls (Pre and Post Pricing)**
- **MOU Discussion**
- **Recruit Firefighter Assessment Center**
 - **203 Signed Up**
 - **174 Attended**
 - **92 Passed Practical Portion of Assessment Center**
 - **53 Passed Interview**
 - **30 Invited to Intern Academy**
- **New Hire – Dallas Noriega, Transport EMT**

7. New Business / Future Agenda Items

Director Moeller advised that the PSPRS Local Board Meeting was held in February 2026

8. Announcements / Document Signing

9. Adjourn

Motion by Director Moeller to adjourn the board meeting at 6:29 p.m.

Seconded by Director Cross

Vote 4 ayes, 0 nays, MOTION PASSED

Governing Board Approval:

DocuSigned by:

Connie Van Driel

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Board Clerk Connie Van Driel