



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

APRIL 15, 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, APRIL 15, 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 Captain Geof Shively.

C. Roll Call

Chairman Kathleen Chamberlain attended in person. Clerk Connie Van Driel, Director Jeff Cross, Director Jason Moeller and Director Shawn Kurian attended via conference phone.

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

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

Motion by Director Cross to approve the March 2026 financial reports and bank reconciliations.

Seconded by Director Kurian

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.

Special Recognition

In appreciation of Captain Geof Shively for presenting Inside-Out Leadership at the Arizona Department of Forestry's Inaugural BC Academy.

2026 Employee Award Recipients

Matt Leon, Captain/Paramedic - **Officer of the Year**
Matt Perez, Engineer/Paramedic - **Firefighter of the Year**
Belle Worden, Transport Paramedic - **Transportation Services Employee of the Year**
Valerie Blodgett, Administrative Specialist, Payroll - **Civilian Employee of the Year**
John Walka, Battalion Chief/Paramedic - **Meritorious Service Award**
Colt Weddell, Captain/Paramedic - **Meritorious Service Award**

April Service Anniversaries

22 Years of Service

Deputy Fire Marshal **Tina Gerola**

9 Years of Service

Transport Paramedic **Ryan Tonelli**

7 Years of Service

Transport Paramedic **Levi Unzeitig**

Promotions

Logan Garman - Engineer
Layni Rodriguez - Engineer
David Tavares - Engineer

3. Call to the Public.

None

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

- A. Board Meeting Minutes from March 18, 2026
- B. Delta Dental PPO Plan Renewal for FY 26/27

Motion by Director Kurian to approve all consent agenda items for April 15, 2026.

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

5. **Discussion and updates regarding the 2026/2027 revenue expenditure budget development.**
6. **Discussion and possible approval of Resolution #2026-04-15-07, authorizing the release and transfer of Bond proceeds for the purchase of one 100' platform ladder, one Pierce Velocity Pumper, one Pierce Kenworth T880 3,000 gallon Tender, and two Rebel Brush Trucks.**

Motion by Director Cross to approve Resolution #2026-04-15-07.

Seconded by Director Moeller.

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

7. Senior Leadership Team Reports

Fire Chief Report

- Captain's Meeting
- Bond Closing – Meetings
- Budget Development
- MOU Discussions
- Fire Station 266
- Personnel Discussions
- BC Quarters, 261 and 263 Planning
- Labor Management
- Recruit Firefighter Interviews
- Chief Strong Conference
- AFSI
- East Valley Fire Chiefs
- AFCA
- American Legion – Legion of Silver Rose event
- WFCFA Legislative event prep
- Superstition Mountain Rotary Club Presentation
- EVFC – Poker Run at Superstition Harley

Emergency Services **Operations**

District

- Captains Meetings – A, B, C
- L264 assisted VFW Post 7968 – Evaluated exterior lighting
- Budget Meeting – Training/EMS
- BC quarters discussion
- Labor Management
- Special Event – City of AJ Easter Egg Hunt
- Radiance Community Event – Radianceland
- Special Event Task Force
- LDD – Rodeo Wrap-up
- Emergency Services SharePoint migration

Regional Partners

- East Valley Assistant Chiefs
- Hosted CAWRT
- Wildland Field Day – Hosted QCFD

Significant Incidents

GSW

Date: 03.19.26

Location: Apache Trail

Response: E261, R266, BC261

Report: Crews responded to a reported GSW. Crews arrived, located the patient with AJPD, and provided care. Wounds appeared to be self-inflicted, with a gunshot wound to the neck and lacerations to the wrist.

Patient was assessed, treated, and transported code 3 to Banner Desert.

Patient remained stable throughout transport and continued to talk with crews.

Water Rescue

Date: 03.22.26

Location: N Encanterra Dr., Queen Creek

Response: E262, E415, M415, SQ219, BC261

Report: Report of unstable van on edge of water, 10 occupants. BC261 with command E262 assisted SQ219 with stabilization and removal of occupants from the vehicle.

No civilian or FF injuries.

Working Commercial Fire

Date: 03.23.26

Location: S. Royal Palm

Response: E263, E217, E261, L264, BC261, BC202, EE220, E212, E213, L209, CRV201, EDC, E265, M262, U251

Report: Crews responded to a fire at a large transfer station. Crews took a defensive position utilizing handlines and deck guns to extinguish the fire.

No reported injuries.

2N1 Medical

Date: 04.04.26

Location: US 60 MPM 209

Response: L264, BC261, M263, LT263, E265, E263, M264, BR264

Report: Crews arrived on the scene of an MVA involving two vehicles. One vehicle on fire with a patient trapped. The vehicle on fire was a wrong-way driver being pursued by DPS. Patient called on scene. The second patient was extricated, treated, and transported Code 3 to Banner Desert.

2N1 Medical – Mutual Aid

Date: 04.04.26

Location: HWY 79

Response: L264, BC261

Report: Mutual Aid request from Florence Fire. 2N1 medical semi vs. truck. L264 assisted with extrication. One patient was flown to Banner University.
No reported FF injuries.

2N1 Gas Leak

Date: 04.06.26

Location: W Superstition Blvd

Response: E263, LT263, E262, BC261, E223, E217

Report: Responded to a 1” gas line break 40 feet from a gate to an adjacent property. E263 established site control and deployed a protection line. LT263 coordinated evacuation of residents to the south. SWG arrived on scene and secured the leak.
No injuries reported.

2N1 Gas Leak

Date: 04.08.26

Location: N Plaza

Response: E263, LT263, E213, E217, E262, BC261

Report: Excavator hit a 2” residential main. E263 on scene, pulled a protection line and set up limited access. LT263, E213 assigned evacuation sector. 25+ evacuated from Family Fitness. BC261 with command, E217 assigned hazard. E217 was able to clamp the line and secure the leak. SWG monitored the area. Evacuees clear to return to facility.

Training & EMS

District

- Intern Coordination Meeting
- Intern Academy
- Budget Meetings
- Personnel Work
- Captains Quarterly Meetings
- Labor Management
- SharePoint Meeting
- Family Skills Day

Regional Partners

- Scottsdale Captains Testing Role Play

Training

District

- Candidate Development Program
- Intern Academy
- Captains Quarterly Meetings
- Labor/Management
- Promotional Tactics Workshops
- Captain's Promotional Process
- 4th Quarter Wildland Field Day
- Family Skills Course

Regional Partners

- Recruit Academy Update
- Recruit Extrication: LT263A
- Recruit Live Burns: LT263B (Class B) & E263C (Class A)
- PMGA Water Tender Ops
- EVLT
- TRT: Regional Rigging/Elevator Shaft/Air Ops/Monopole
- Wildland: QCFD BR412 and BC411
- EVIT Live Burn

EMS

District

- Completion of NREMT Recertification
- Share Drive Migration
- Special Event Prep – AJ Easter Egg Hunt
- Breakdown the EMS room at the Renaissance Festival
- Lost Dutchman Days Recap

Regional Partners

- Assist with test the test for SFD Captains process

2026 Renaissance Festival Recap

- 19 Days
- 76 SFMD Personnel Staffed
- 851 Interactions
- 24 Transports

Transportation Services

- FY 26-27 Budget Meeting
- EMS ROCC
- Labor Management Meeting
- Submitted request for AZDHS automatic rate increase 1.8%
- AHCCCS Virtual Site Visit
- AHCCCS revalidation completed and approved
- Visit to Horton factory in Columbus, Ohio, to inspect the new ambulance

Support Services

- FS 266 Weekly Meeting
- FS 266 Meeting w/ Perlman Architect Firm
- FS 266 Vendor Meeting Facilities Group
- FS 261 Site Visit w/ Contractor
- Labor Management
- Budget Meeting
- SharePoint Meeting for Prevention
- CMAR Review Meeting
- Special Events Meeting
- LDD Wrap-Up Meeting
- Project Meeting w/ Builder for Plaza Project
- Comm Ops Meeting

- Peralta Trail (ES) Read Across America Assembly
- Animal Blessing Event at United Methodist Church
- FS 263 Tour for Farrell Family
- Birthday Party Fire Truck Visit
- La Hacienda RV Resort Donation
- Golden Vista RV Resort St. Patrick's Day Parade
- Apache East Estates Golf Cart Parade

Resource

- Investigator Update
 - Gold Canyon Fire Investigation conducted March 23-27th
 - 4551 S Avenida Corazon De Oro
 - Prep for Fire Investigator IV
- Facilities/Annex
 - Annual Hose Testing Completed
 - ST262 hydrant repaired by AZ Water Co
 - Budget Meetings - Decision Packets
 - Uniforms
 - Audit New Turnout Spec
 - Uniform budget meetings
 - New Station 266 build team meetings

Administrative Services

- Bond Closing
- Pinal County Treasurer's Office Meeting
- Budget Meeting(s)
- Bill.com Walk-Through of New Module
- Roth Option Implementation
- Payroll Transition to STARS (PSPRS)
- Open Enrollment Planning
- SharePoint Migration Complete
- Architect and Construction Administrator Meeting FS 266
- BC Quarters, 261 & 263 Renovation Discussions
- Labor Management
- Captains Conference (HR/IT)
- UKG – Configuration List
- Intern Academy Numbers
 - 29 attended; 21 passed (1 withdrew); 20 interviewed by FC & Labor; 17 on Hiring List; 10 conditional offers sent out (2 from previous list & 8 from new list)

8. New Business / Future Agenda Items

None

9. Announcements / Document Signing


10. Adjourn

Motion by Director Cross to adjourn the board meeting at 6:44 p.m.

Seconded by Clerk Van Driel

Vote 5 ayes, 0 nays, MOTION PASSED

Governing Board Approval:

DocuSigned by:

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Board Clerk Connie Van Driel