

PONDEROSA FIRE DISTRICT (PFD) GOVERNING BOARD
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Held May 16, 2024, at 6:04 p.m.
at Ponderosa Fire District Station 81
1511 N Spring Valley Rd
Parks, AZ 86018

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call:** Vice -Chairman Kurt Wildermuth called the regularly scheduled board meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Members Present:

Members Absent:

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| Mark Christian, Chairman Thomas Humphrey, Clerk Rick Tomjack, Member Deanna Hueston, Member Kurt Wildermuth, Vice-Chairman | |
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Fire District Personnel Present:

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| Lee Antonides, Fire Chief |
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Members of the Community:

Guests:

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2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **Call to the Public – Judson Swearingon**

4. **Approval of Minutes**

- a. Review of Regular Board Meeting minutes from Thursday, April 18th, 2024.

Action: Stand approved as written.

5. **Financial Reports**

- i. Discussion and possible action regarding financial reports ending April 30st, 2024,
• Were not provided in time for board review. Will be presented at June’s Board meeting.

- ii. Action: Tabled until next month

6. **Chief’s Summary and Reports**

Annual number of calls to date and incident reports; year to date there have been 138 requests for service. Last year at this time there were 131 requests for service, up seven calls this year. There have been sixteen requests for service since the last board meeting.

Some significant calls on 4/29 a wildland fire out in Parks, AZ. It was started by a welder and covered two acres. On 4/21 another wildland fire covering 1/10th of an acre in Parks, AZ. On 4/29 a vehicle fire came out in Sherwood. It was an axle on a horse trailer, the driver had the fire out before PFD arrived. On 5/5 a motor vehicle accident involving a log truck that has rolled over. Then on 5/2 there was another motor vehicle accident on I-40 east bound. A semi-truck rolled over.

The department is working on wildland and VFIS drivers training.

Did not attend any committees.

Status of department grants: PFD was not awarded the DFFM grant submitted for new chips truck and chipper. The AFG grant is still pending notification, hopefully later this fall. The GFR Grant for station alert packages for the Fire station is still pending notification.

There were zero subscriptions since the last board meeting. Deposits were from PSPRS \$185.08, EF Recovery \$161.66 and VFIS Class registration \$20.00. Totaling \$366.74.

Residential and commercial development within the district: Blasting for Bellemont townhomes is completed and civil work is under way.

Vehicle maintenance report: We are waiting on Type 3 and 6 graphics installations. The Command trucks upfit. BN82 back and in service. Awaiting on cable for final installations. C81 will go down when a part comes in.

Station 82 expansion status. Construction is ongoing. Walkthrough and punch list May 30th. Tentative move in date now mid-June.

7. Old Business

- a. Discussion and possible action regarding retaining Attorney William Whittington for the purpose of recouping costs invested in the Type 3 Engine that was obtained and then returned to Camp Navajo.
 - i. Received a letter from Bill Whittington and his office, they have contacted the legal counsel for DEMA and have been assured they are making progress towards a solution. They expect a response in the next coming weeks for the board's review.

Action: Tabled until more information is provided.

- b. Discussion and possible action regarding trade of equipment for services with Naval Observatory.
 - i. Chief Antonides spoke with The Deputy County attorney, due to Federal and State Statute differing on this subject an Inter-governmental Agreement is no longer an option for us and the Naval Observatory. Naval Observatory is still required to have fire suppression services so a contract for services may be an option. There is currently no movement but there is still discussion about how to move forward. The board feels strongly about setting a timeframe for a solution to be made. The board will continue to discuss this item so long as continuous information is being provided and forward progress is being shown. More questions have been forwarded to the Deputy County Attorney on this matter. The board should hopefully have a response for next month's meeting.
 - ii. Action: Tabled until next month

8. New Business

- a. Discussion and possible action regarding using The WLB Group, Inc for Maine Townsite Annexation, and possible future annexations.
 - i. The last property owner signed paperwork to be annexed in Maine Townsite. The WLB group would be hired to do the legal descriptions for this annexation. They have been sent the documentation and will look it over and provide the board with details of what they can and can't do and the cost of their services. This is tabled until the information above is provided to the board for review.

Action: Tabled until more information is provided.

- b. Discussion and possible action regarding calling an election on November 5th, 2024. for two expiring board member positions.
 - i. Two members have expiring terms. Notice of election.

Action: Clerk Thomas Humprey made a motion to call for an election on November 5th for two board member vacancies, Chairman Mark Christian seconds. Unanimous.

- c. Discussion and possible action regarding official posting of FY25 budget.
 - i. This is for the 30-day public review.

Action: Member Rick Tomjack made a motion to post the FY25 budget for 30-day public review, seconded by Vice-Chairman Kurt Wildermuth, unanimous.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - The Board may vote to go into an Executive Session on any agenda item, which will not be open to the public, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3).

- 9. ADJOURNMENT – At 7:14 p.m. Vice-chairman Kurt Wildermuth made a motion to adjourn the May 16th, 2024, Regular Board Meeting. Member Deanna Hueston seconded; unanimous.



Mark Christian, Board Chairman