

Regular Meeting of Pinetop Fire Board  
Monday November 16, 2015, 4:30 pm  
Pinetop Fire District Station 12  
5976 Buck Springs Rd., Pinetop AZ 85935

Members Present: John Rowlinson, Ed Cibbarelli, & Carla Bowen. Doug Wright Bob Scheuneman joined meeting at 4:38

**I. Call the meeting to Order:** John Rowlinson called the meeting to order at 4:33 pm.

**Roll Call of Board Members:** Board members present, John Rowlinson, Ed Cibbarelli, and Bob Scheuneman, Doug, Carla Bowen

**II. Call to the Public:** None

**III. Consent Agenda**

*The items on the consent agenda are considered routine and will be adopted in one motion unless a board member, staff, or member of the public in the audience requests, before the vote on the motion, to have the item considered separately. If any item is removed from the Consent Agenda, the Board Chairman will indicate when it will be discussed in the regular agenda.*

1. Approval of Minutes of Board Meeting held on September 21, 2015 and October 19, 2015
2. Approval of Warrants paid in October 2015
3. Approval of financial reports
4. Approval of Chief Report
5. Approval of Board chairman Report

Doug Wright – questioned charge for We-Amuse; this was the charge for the bounce house at the districts open house.

Carla Bowen and John Rowlinson commented on the expenses being high and the tax revenues collections being lower. They are concerned with the current budget and financials. Chief Morgan commented on the expenses and increased wages incurred through wildland assignments that will be reimbursed. It may be near fiscal year end before we see those reimbursements; as a result it is likely that the purchase of the ambulance will be postponed until we see some of those expenses recovered. Bob Scheuneman questioned the reimbursable wildland wages, stating that the wages are a push because of overtime paid for the backfilling for the employees on assignments.

Carla Bowen moved to approve the consent agenda items as presented, Ed Cibbarelli seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

**IV. Board Business**

1. Discussion/Consideration/Possible action: Approval of MOU with Navajo County Public Health Service for the purpose of cooperation as it relates to the deployment and dispensing of prophylactic medications and other supplies made available to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Strategic National Stockpile (SNS), through Navajo County Health Services Districts.

Chief Morgan explained that POD exercise, consisting of providing flu vaccinations, will be a training in providing emergency services, should the need arise for mass immunizations. This MOU outlines the expectation should the Center for Disease Control deploy a POD, Point of Distribution Center.

Carla Bowen questioned who the “provider” is meant to be in the MOU presented. Chief Morgan stated the district is the provider and target is our own population within the community. John

Rowlinson commented that he believed the MOU states the district is the provider in item three of the MOU. Doug Wright commented that Roman numeral five, item five, states Pinetop Fire Department as the provider.

Doug Wright moved to enter into a MOU with Navajo County Public Health Service for public mass immunizations as presented, seconded by Ed Cibbarelli. Motion passed 5-0.

2. Discussion/Consideration/Possible Action: :Final report on RBC refinancing of Station 11

Chief Morgan the refinancing of Station 11 has been completed. The rate was locked in at 2.637% with a present value savings \$1,112,674, allowing up to pay off the facility off 2 ½ years earlier. The final payment will be September of 2026. We also have a 5-year pay-off with no penalties. John Rowlinson questioned if the budget will need to reflect the new payments, as they will be made quarterly now.

Bob Scheuneman asked if a press release could be provided to the community advising them of the savings achieved through the refinancing. He also asked if the information could be publicized on the district website.

3. Discussion/Consideration/Possible Action: TruckWorks 2015 legal action:

The board was presented additional information on the legal actions against TruckWorks, consisting of an email from the attorney and a subpoena requesting additional information from TruckWorks. TruckWorks is not providing the information requested. Additional requests have to be provided, explaining why we are entitled to the information.

Additional hours will be needed to continue, which could result in an additional \$15-20,000 in attorney fees. We may be able to recover those costs.

Carla Bowen questioned if the Consumer Protection Board, the federal agency for consumer protection, had been contacted or if we had considered going to them. She stated she will look into if this is an option for the district. Bob Scheuneman is afraid if the board back away, then they will not be representing the constituents within the district. He doesn't see backing off is an option for board.

The board direction to the Chief is to continue and go forth with the required actions.

4. Discussion/Consideration/Possible Action: District holiday party and employee recognition dinner.

Chief Morgan advised the board that Allison Moseley, the labor representative provided requested dates for the recognition dinner, the biggest constraints is the availability of a location.

The district currently has \$1378, for this event for donations received. Carla Bowen questioned if the restaurant would close for the event and commented that she would like to move it around the community.

Bob Scheuneman thought it was great event last year other than the fragmentation of everyone. He would like a venue that provides the best opportunity to bring everyone together and would be most supportive of that location. Bob Scheuneman would like to use a venue within our district, Carla Bowen agreed. The board directed the Chief to select and date prior to the week of Christmas and location and to advise everyone once it had been set.

5. Discussion/Consideration/Possible Action: Alignment of reserve firefighters wages

Chief Morgan; through a cooperative effect with Timber Mesa Fire & Medical we held a joint reserve academy and created a full time hiring list. The wages structure for reserve firefighters is different between the two districts. Pinetop Fire District reserve firefighters have not had a wage adjustment for several years. Because of the wage disparities we could have Timber Mesa Fire & Medical reserve in our agency working for more than our reserve make. The starting wage for a fulltime firefighter is less per hour than the rate being presented for reserves, however reserve receive no benefits. There is also a paramedic differential pay provided to reserves; a paramedic reserve would be paid \$15.28 per hour.

Carla Bowen questioned where the wage disparity came from; as past review Pinetop Fire District she had seen had higher pay rates. Reserve pay rates have not been part of comp and class studies in the past and have not been adjusted.

Doug Wright questioned the financial impact of the increase. Per Chief Morgan Reserve wages are considerably lower than hiring back one of your fulltime employees. In order to help control overtime cost when possible a reserve will be used for backfill.

Carla Bowen questioned if we would be able to keep the budget allocations for reserves at \$12,000 or if it would have to be increased. Chief Morgan stated that we would have to trend that this fiscal year but thinks we will be able to keep it the same. The board should see an increase in reserve wages and a lower fulltime personnel cost.

John Rowlinson commented that reserves are essential in a major incident as a backup to keep other services going or to assist where needed. It is essential that we provide a reasonable wage to attract a many good people as we can.

John Rowlinson motioned to authorize a Reserve Firefighter wage adjustment changing the reserve academy rate to \$10.00 per hour and increasing the qualified Reserve Firefighter rate per hour from \$12.50 to \$13.67 and include CEP differential at \$15.28 per hour, Bob Scheuneman second passed 5-0

**V. *Summary of Current Events:***

There was a recent house fire in White Mountain Summer Home, the house was 50-60% involved when personnel arrived. No one was home at the time of the fire. At this time we believed the cause was from ashes had been disposed of and left on the porch.

Bob Scheuneman questioned the access of equipment to the fire. Per Richard Wallace that we had good access, the problem was late notification of the fire due to no one being home. We encountered no water issues; hydrants were significant for providing water source.

Bob Scheuneman thanked staff for their professionalism provided last week.

**VI. *Future Meeting Dates and Items for Future Agendas -***

Next regular board meeting scheduled for December 21, 2015 at 4:30pm.

Agenda items requested; TruckWorks, 2015 board meeting date for 2016, election of board members positions.

Bob Scheuneman would like to review our website at a future meeting.

Bob Scheuneman asked about the Grant Workshop. It was postponed, Chief Morgan working on obtain grant funds for fire department attendance. He has submitted a request to the Tohono O'Odham for funding.

**VII. *Announcements:***

Chief Morgan advised that Danny McNeil has passed his Nursing boards. Nov 20<sup>th</sup> we are participating in Flu shot clinic, serving as a POD exercise. White Mountain Firefighters Association is holding a food drive. The Reserve Academy has been completed by three of our reserves, Lance Yazzie, Clay Wallace, and JR Castro. The academy was consisted of twenty reserves that were Co-sponsored with TMFM. Eighteen participants completed that academy. Those eighteen reserves will now make up a shared pool of reserves employees for Pinetop Fire District and Timber Mesa Fire & Medical.

**VIII. *Adjournment-*** Carla Bowen moved to adjourn; Ed Cibbarelli seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 5:42.

Respectfully Submitted

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Charlotte Williams

Approved