

Regular Meeting of Pinetop Fire Board
Monday August 17, 2020
Pinetop Fire District Station 11
Video & Conference Available
1845 S. Pine Lake Rd, Pinetop AZ 85935

Call the meeting to Order: John Rowlinson Called Meeting to order at 5:03 pm

Roll Call of Board Members, John Rowlinson, Carla Bowen, and Doug Wright

Attorney Bill Whittington and Finance Director Gabe Buldra also present.

I. *Call to the Public:* Aimee Backus from Arizona Coalition of Military Families introduced herself and explained who she is associated with and why she is attending our meeting. Chief Morgan will reach out to her with information on our Fuels Mitigation Program for Veterans and active duty vets.

II. *Consent Agenda Board Business*

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 in July 2020
2. Approval of Warrants paid in July 2020

There was one correction for the July Draft minutes, Doug Wright, not Carla Bowen made the motion to accept Bradley Baker as one of the new board members replacing Mr. Cibbarelli.

Carla Bowen made the motion to approve the consent agenda with the one correction, as presented, seconded by Doug Wright, motion carried unanimously 3-0

IV. Board Business

1. Discussion/Consideration/Possible Action re: Delivering Oath of Office and Swearing in Board Members Baker and Lawes

Clerk Doug Wright swore in the two new Board Members, Brad Baker and Ernest Lawes, making them official members of the Pinetop Fire District Governing Board.

Information only, no board action

2. Discussion/Consideration/Possible Action re: Presentation of the July 2020 Financial reports

Gabe Buldra gave the financial presentation, all documents included in packet.

Highlights were Navajo County Revenue for July which was over budget approximately \$9,074.

Non-Levy Revenue was under budget by \$96,562, wildland fire billings were just getting under way but we should see some of that coming in by next meeting.

Grant income was also under by 75,582 due to timing of billing and grant money received.

Personnel during this time of the year, depending on the fire season, is over budget – we should see that balancing out over the next month or so as Wildland Revenue starts rolling in.

Covid has affected our Training and Travel spending due to- Covid 19 everything has been canceled or some are available online.
Buildings and Land and managerial were under budget, while vehicles and equipment, communications and IT were right in line last month.

Year to date Cash is about 2.9 million compared to last year this time at 2.8 million.

Year to date expenses were high with Wildland Season upon us. We will see that start to level out as the money starts to come in.

Cash is sufficient for the foreseeable future. There is no need for a draw on our county line of credit.

Summary 89% personnel Ops at 9% Admin 2% and 2% communications.

Gabe Buldra gave a brief summary of the duties of financial management for the new members, explaining the opportunities and oversight they have provided the district. He told them about the CAFR audit, the award for the CAFR audit and putting in for the Budget award. Mr. Buldra told them how this has benefited the district providing an extra added layer of confidence and transparency for our taxpayers.

There was discussion about grant funding and chief talking to several congressmen/women about securing that funding.

Discussion about Wildland Fire funding and how quickly we receive it now, Chief Morgan told the board we had just received \$15,000. For one the Bringham Fire deployments. Mr. Buldra told the new members of the board that we have 3 major non-levy revenue factors, Wildland, Ambulance and Grants. We also receive money from our Prevention department for Plan Reviews and CPR Training, as well as donations. Chief Morgan told them about the donation for \$21,000.00 from the "Bull Frog Parade Group" very impressive. Carla Bowen suggested we have them come to a future meeting so we could recognize their generosity and commitment to the district each year. We are incredibly grateful for everything they do.

Doug Wright made the motion to accept the July 2020 Financial Reports as presented, seconded by Carla Bowen, motion passed unanimously 5-0

3. *Discussion/Consideration/Possible Action re; updates on Covid-19*

Chief Morgan: Covid19 information is in the packets; He gave a discussion about Arizona numbers slowly beginning to level out. There were no new cases in Pinetop at the time of the board meeting, Still some in Navajo County but not like the numbers in the last two months. Dr. Wright gave some numbers for Summit Hospital, which were also a little hopeful. He told the board that there were no new employees with Covid, some were still on quarantine and some were still ill but there were no new Summit employee cases. Everything is looking up – hopefully we aren't jumping the gun but it is looking hopeful.

Informational only, no board action.

4. *Discussion/Consideration/Possible Action re; Updates on Wildland Fire Season*

Chief Morgan, information in the packets. He went over ERCs and told them that so far this season, we have been extremely lucky, he went on to update the board on current fire conditions.

Chief Morgan told them we have several folks out on fires in CA, NM, Oregon and AZ, and probably will have for the next month or two. Hopefully we will continue to get moisture. This has been a very different season. We have no fire restrictions currently, that could change if we do not get moisture. There was discussion about how the weather always plays a huge factor in bad fire seasons and minor fire seasons such as we have had this year.

Informational only, no board action.

v. Summary of Current Events

VI. Future Meeting Dates:

September 21, 2020 at 5pm

VII. Announcements

AFDA has been cancelled this July due to Covid 19.

Welcome to the new Board Members, Mr. Lawes and Mr. Baker.

VIII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:02pm

Respectfully Submitted

Karen Robbins