

Regular Meeting of Pinetop Fire Board
Monday March 16, 2020
Pinetop Fire District Station 12
5976Buck Springs Rd, Pinetop AZ 85935

Call the meeting to Order: John Rowlinson Called Meeting to order at 5:00 pm

**I. Roll Call of Board Members, Ed Cibbarelli, Kurt Alcumbrac, Carla Bowen and John Rowlinson, and Doug Wright was excused
Attorney William Whittington was present**

II. Call to the Public: None

III. 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 February 2020
2. Approval of Warrants paid in February 2020
3. Ratify January 2020 Financials

Carla Bowen made the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Kurt Alcumbrac, motion carried 4-0

IV. Board Business

1. Discussion/Consideration/Possible Action re: Presentation of February Financials

Gabe Buldra was present by computer through a Zoom Meeting to present the financials. Revenue for the month was under by about \$90,000.00. Mostly due to timing of Non-levy items, ambulance revenue is down but has been consistently in February/March for prior years. Grant revenue is also down but there has been more invoicing.

Expenses are also under by approximately \$39,000. February performance is good for all other line items, they are close to or on mark. We did have the facility upgrade in February.

Year to date Revenue is under - mostly Grant and Ambulance revenue. Expenses for the year are under.

Percentages have stayed pretty consistence with Personnel at 80%, Operations 13%, Administrative at 5% and Communications at 2%.

Cash position is up. Of course, we had other assets decreasing slightly, due to normal depreciation decreases with the new vehicles and Engine, also remember Cash is higher and stronger than last year.

We are sad to report that Melissa Tomlinson is moving on so James Vincent Group is going through a transition. All the board and administration commented how they would miss Melissa and hated to see her go but wished her luck in her new endeavors. There were no questions.

John Rowlinson made the motion to accept the February Financial Reports as presented. Seconded by Carla Bowen, motion passed unanimously 4-0

2. Discussion/Consideration/Possible Action re: Entering a Service Agreement with Global Traffic Technologies for traffic pre-emption equipment.

Chief Morgan, this item was discussed last month at the meeting in order to prepare for action/vote today.

The City of Show Low and Timber Mesa Fire and Medical have both signed the agreement. Attorney Bill Whittington found a couple of errors in the agreement. Mr. Whittington had a second look at this with the City Attorney- Morgan Brown and Jason Moore the Navajo County Attorney. There was little discussion and the board decided to discuss the contract in Executive Session. At 5:11pm Carla Bowen made the motion to move to executive session to discuss A-3, A-4 and A-1 items. Also to be included – Chief Morgan’s employment contract. Seconded by Kurt Alcumbrac, motion carried unanimously 4-0 Regular meeting closed and Executive Session opened for discussion.

Meeting Called back in Session by Chairman Ed Cibbarelli at 5:51pm,

Carla Bowen made the motion to approve the Master Sale of Goods and Services Agreement with Global Traffic Technologies for traffic preemption equipment as presented with the addition to add the addendum to the agreement presented by Attorney Bill Whittington. Seconded by Kurt Alcumbrac, motion passed unanimously 4-0

3. Discussion/Consideration/Possible Action re: Update ASRS Wade & Paddock Versus Arizona and agency liability.

The board was alerted to this last month in preparation for payment agreement for employee James Morgan and Pinetop Fire District for the ASRS deferred compensation Invoices. Everything is included in the packet including correspondence to and from ASRS, the official invoice, and additional information for board consideration. Chief Morgan explained we are compliant with ASRS contributions at this time and going forward, we just need to consider payment the outstanding contributions from PFD and employee (Chief Morgan).

Carla Bowen, point of order we will be addressing this matter in the Fire Chief Contract in executive session.

4. Discussion/Consideration/Possible Action re; Senate Bill 60 regarding Firefighter Cancer Presumption and Workers Compensation Insurance Costs

Chief Morgan; provided information in the packet regarding SB1160 it looks like it will go through and be signed into law by the Governor. The bill requires workers compensation to coverage for several firefighter cancers. There is a provision including CA diagnosis post retirement for up to 15 years. Today there are two workers compensation providers for firefighters in AZ, 7710 and Copper-point, we currently use 7710.

The impact to our district could be huge, a 270% increase with a cost around \$220,000.00. This bill has an impact on all Arizona fire districts everywhere, not just our district, and thus has created a buzz of urgency. Currently the legislature is working to find a resolution, they have included language for a budget appropriation of 20 million dollars, 15 for post-retirement claims and 5 million for cancer prevention. There has been talk of starting a risk retention pool to address the workers compensation claims long term. We just cannot sit back and wait and be surprised that something wasn’t done, and suddenly we are seeing a 270% increase. Chief Morgan will provide information as it comes in.

This is informational only we will not have a vote.

5. Discussion/Consideration/Possible Action re; Updates on Covid 19

Chief Morgan, we are being updated daily almost hourly on the Covid 19 pandemic. We will stay on top of it as much as we can, providing daily updates, webinars, and information for first responders. At this time, we aren't seeing an increase here in Navajo county. The exception is the Navajo Nation. Apache County doesn't have any cases yet but numbers in Arizona and across the nation continue to grow by the hour. So far, Arizona has 18 confirmed with 17 active and 1 recovered. We in the EMS field have been preparing for this for approximately 20 years, we know how to prevent spread and keep each other safe.

There was some discussion and talk about the next meeting being by video platforms via computer if the spread continues and we are still socially distancing. Carla Bowen wanted to know if our Firefighters and Medics have enough PPE equipment, Chief assured her we are doing everything we can to keep our front lines safe and if we do not, we would be ordering more as we continue through this crisis. Chief Wallace said we would be implementing a quarantine program if anyone has been exposed or comes down with the virus, Greentree Inn has graciously agreed to provide rooms for first responders if needed for quarantine. Chief Morgan told the board he would keep all informed.

This is informational only no board action.

V. Personnel

1. Discussion/Consideration/Possible Action re; Fire Chief Contract Renewal between PFD and Jim Morgan and Annual Performance Review.

Note: The discussion for the Personnel Contract with J. Morgan and PFD was discussed in Executive Session earlier in meeting.

Carla Bowen made a motion to approve the contract between Chief Jim Morgan and Pinetop Fire District with the modification to accommodate the shortage of \$4311.52 to ASRS both Employee and Employer Amounts.

Seconded by John Rowlinson, Motion carried unanimously 4-0

VI. Summary of Current Events

Board chair and Chief's report were provided for review by the board.

VII. Future Meeting Dates:

Our next Meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2020

VIII. Announcements

Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant allowed us to hire 2 of the 3 new Firefighter/EMTs positions and the third will be hired shortly. Also, annual conference Leadership is scheduled for July unless COVID 19 doesn't cause everything to be cancelled in the near future.

Also, election season starting, Chief has additional packets if anyone needs one.

IX. Adjournment

Carla Bowen made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 pm, seconded by Kurt Alcumbrac, motion passed 4-0

Respectfully Submitted

Karen Robbins