

Regular Meeting of Pinetop Fire Board
Monday March 21, 2022
Pinetop Fire District Station 12
Video & Conference Available
1845 S. Pine Lake Rd, Pinetop AZ 85935

Call the meeting to Order: Chairman John Rowlinson called the meeting to order at 5:00pm

Roll Call of Board Members; - John Rowlinson available by video conference - Brad Baker and Ernie Lawes present, Carla Bowen and Ben Borrego were excused.

Chiefs, Jim Morgan, Richard Wallace, Fire Marshal Chad Berlin and Gabe Buldra (JVG) were available by video conference and William Whittington by telephone.

I. Call to the Public: None

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 for February 2022
- 2) Approval of Warrants paid in February 2022

Brad Baker - Roll Call correction Lydia Hunter was present by video conference not in person.

Brad Baker made the motion to accept the February 2022 consent agenda with correction as presented, seconded by Ernie Lawes, motion carried unanimously 3-0

IV. Board Business

1. Discussion/Consideration/Possible Action re; Presentation of the February 2022 Financial Reports

All documents and reports are included in the packet.

Gabe Buldra (JVG) gave a brief summary of the February financial reports. Revenue and Expenses were slightly under for the month, everything else was either in line, slightly above or below, nothing notable.

However, Year to date and Total Cash are still over budget - with Wildland and Grant income driving those numbers.

IT and communications were slightly over budget – timing of dispatch billing and computers for new apparatus helping drive that number up,

Percentages for February were; Personnel 67%, Ops 27%, Admin 4% and Communications 2%. Personnel is still trending lower but should change during upcoming Wildland Fire Season.

Brad Baker made the motion to accept the February 2022 Financial reports as presented, seconded by Ernie Lawes, motion carried unanimously 3-0

2. Discussion/Consideration/Possible Approval re; Update on Waste Management Property Purchase and evaluation of other sites.

Chief Morgan explained that the property sale with Waste Management, had fallen through. Regarding the future liability for anything possibly coming up, they had reached a legal

impasse – non -negotiable. Waste Management will not eliminate the indemnity clause and the district as a public body cannot assume WM liability simply by taking title.

Pinetop Fire District is evaluating other possible sites; Martinez management has some properties that have potential. Chief Morgan will have an update at the next meeting – after having a face to face with Martinez management and possibly viewing what is available to see if our vision fits their intended development. Chief will keep the board informed as time goes on.

This is informational only – no board action.

3. Discussion/Consideration/Possible Approval re; Update on Type 6 Engine Purchase through Ken Garff and Possible purchase through Fire Trucks Unlimited in the amount of \$180,000.00

PFD took possession of the Type 6 approved and ordered last fall, unfortunately there were 31 problems, several of them serious, including the wrong chassis. We are hoping the company will take the vehicle back and issue a credit. Captain Watson is actively searching for another, unfortunately the date of delivery may not be in time for wildland season. He found some vehicles in Henderson NV, keeping in mind the supply chain and rising prices. In just two weeks the price changed by approximately \$3000.00. The Chief is asking for a slightly larger amount to accommodate the rising costs. We must move now if we are to secure a vehicle and have it here before October

Ernie Lawes made the motion authorizing the fire chief to execute a purchase agreement with a truck manufacturer, including Fire Trucks Unlimited as a backup, for one (1) 2022, 4x4, Type 6 Engine not to exceed \$180,000.00 excluding taxes, license and shipping.

Seconded by Brad Baker, Motion carried unanimously 3-0

4. Discussion/Consideration/Possible Approval re; Update regarding the sale of PSPRS Unfunded Liability

Documents and reports are included in the packet. Last month, PFD Board approved the sale of C.O.P.s in the hopes of paying down our pension liability. The certificates sold rapidly after they were publicized, all but 1 million went immediately.

Chief Morgan explained that we secured an “A” rating which was exceptional and could greatly impact our chances of securing a GO bond in the future. Gabe Buldra from JVG explained the graphs that were presented in the packet. Mr. Buldra told the board that PFD was able to secure a 4.91% interest rate which will net a savings of 1.6 million dollars on our debt of 7.7 million. The cost for Stifel will be based on the selling of the COPs and will be calculated as part of the restructuring costs.

Positive comments from the board, it was a big decision that will benefit the district long into the future.

Informational only – no board action.

Summary of Current Events

1. Chief Report

1. Chief Morgan updated the board on our internal EMT program. He explained that all of our students at the direction of Captain Moseley and Captain McNeil had passed the class with score of 80 or above. Congratulations JD Ottman, Darrell Craig, Sam Hatfield, Mario Dopazo and Nick Munera and Brian Finch. Next for them is the National Registry Test. Great job to the instructors, Captains’ Moseley and Mcneil and again to Captain Moseley for securing the program in house.

2. Chief Morgan, Chad Berlin and Allison Moseley went to Annapolis Maryland for the University of Maryland Fire Institute's Staff and Command Program. Captain Moseley enjoyed the situational awareness presentation; she said the whole activity was very educational and informative. Chad Berlin echoed her remarks but included the opportunities for networking with 44 out of 50 states participating will be very beneficial. Chief Morgan added, he found the presentation from Dr. Griffith the most educational. Dr. Griffith took the horrifying experience, when 9 firefighters were killed in the 2007 Sofa Super Store Fire in Charleston SC, and turned it into a widely respected presentation on how firefighters can do things better to prevent unnecessary LODDs and injuries. Chief Morgan would like to implement some of the fundamentals to better our firefighters' responses.

2. Board Chair Report

Nothing significant to report

VI. Future Meeting Dates: April 18, 2022

1. Tentative consideration of adoption of 2018 ICC Fire and WUI Code
2. Update on land purchase quest

VII. Announcements

3. 2018 ICC Fire and WUI Code adoption with the city.
4. AFDA summer meeting in Glendale – for scheduling contact Chiefs Morgan or Wallace.

III. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:39 pm

Respectfully Submitted

Karen Robbins