

Regular Meeting of Pinetop Fire Board
August 21, 2023
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 meeting to order at 5:00pm

Roll Call of Board Members; Present- John Rowlinson Carla Bowen, Wayne Booher, Ben Borrego and new member Edie Webber

Administration present; Attorney Bill Whittington and Gabe Buldra (JVG) remotely. Chief Jim Morgan, Asst. Chief Richard Wallace and Karen Robbins were also present

- 1. Call to the Public:** White Mountain Fire Fighter Association (WMFFA Local Union) Representative Louis Mirabelli introduced himself and told the board he had just taken Allison Moseley's position and hoped to continue working hand in hand with the board and the labor group.

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 July 2023 Meeting Minutes
- 2) Approval of Warrants paid in July 2023

Carla Bowen made the motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Seconded by Wayne Booher. Motion passed unanimously 5-0

III. Board Business

- 1. Discussion/Consideration/Possible Approval re; Presentation of the June 23 Financial Reports**

Gabe Buldra gave a summary of the July 23 financial reports. All reports were included in the board packet. Some highlights were;

Navajo County Revenue was under budget for the month of July by \$16,690.

Non-Levy revenue, and grants were all under budget for July by about \$95,000.

Wildland was actually under budget by \$115,093-- but Grant Revenue was over by \$21,527 and Donations were also over by \$21,046

Expenses for July were over budget by \$23,000 due to wildland fire assignments, personnel, vehicles and equipment.

Total cash for the year was more than this time last year by about \$134,000.

Percentages were; Personnel 81%, Ops 11%, Admin 6%, and Communication 2%.

Chief Morgan told them we have several deployments out currently. The season had a slower start but we are staying busy on deployments.

Ben Borrego made the motion to accept the July 2023 Financial Reports as presented. Seconded by Edie Webber. Motion passed unanimously 5-0

2. **Discussion/Consideration/Possible Approval re; Larson Family Trust Land Purchase**

Chief Morgan gave a summary of the purchase process. Starting with the Waste Management property, the Martinez property and finally the Larson Family Trust property, he explained the reasons the first two deals fell through and gave a brief history on the latest purchase with the Larson Family Trust.

All documents included in the packet. We have received the title commitment from the title company and can move forward with the schedule. Haley Aldrich Survey found nothing in the phase 1 survey and therefore we would not need a second survey. The ALTA survey will be completed by the end of August, Mr. Booher signed the Survey and we are moving forward in the process.

Chief Morgan is not anticipating any adverse problems and the deal should be moving along accordingly. We should have more information at the next meeting. He explained that senator Kelly's office called and we were preliminarily selected in the Grant process for our wildland facility, he is confident in the process.

There were some concerns and questions about the Well on the property and Chief told them we probably will close it up and get on city water – Arizona Water Co. There was discussion about the size of the water main, chief told them it would probably be an 8.

There was a question about the creek and if there was any worry for flooding, Chief Morgan told them it was very unlikely according to historical records.

No further questions- informational only

3. **Discussion/Consideration/Possible Approval re; Wildland Fire and Forest Conditions**

Documents included in packet. Discussion about the rain and latest wildland fire update. We are currently at a PL2 and nationally we are at a 4. The Lahaina tragedy was brought up and Chief addressed the current status of a plan currently in the works. Chief told them we have to mitigate and educate. Mrs. Bowen's concern was that the Lahaina fire reportedly burned a mile a minute - if that kind of hot fire hit here in the Pinetop area, we would be in similar situations with the highway limitations and number of vehicles that would be using them. Chief assured them it was all being studied as part of one our grant programs.

Ms. Webber asked if the district works with Navopache Electric to mitigate property around the electrical lines. Chief told them yes.

Informational only – no board action

IV. Summary of Current Events

1. Chief Report

The report is included in packet –

Chief Morgan told them we were able to get our Type 6 vehicle repaired sooner than later. In reply to Mr. Rowlinson concerning our fleet, all vehicles are operable and ready for deployment and or use

2. Board Chair Report

Chief Morgan was chosen for the Arizona Firefighter Hall of Fame, Congratulations – it is a great honor for himself and the district.

V. *Future Meeting Dates: September 18, 2023*

VI. Announcements

Chief Wallace; if anyone wants to go to the ceremony for Chief Morgan, get in touch with him and he will help with arrangements.

Note: Chief Morgan brought to the board's attention; — motions, seconds and votes for financial reports only - were accidently left off of minutes for February and March 2023, they were voted on and passed unanimously at the meetings but were not included in minutes. Carla Bowen made the motions - Wayne Booher seconded March minutes, Ben Borrego Seconded February Minutes - both passed unanimously. They have both been amended to include the motions and will be in next month's packet for ratifying.

VII. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:52 pm

Respectfully Submitted

Karen Robbins