

Regular Meeting of Pinetop Fire Board

**March 16, 2027**

Pinetop Fire District Station 12

Video & Conference Available

1845 S. Pine Lake Rd, Pinetop AZ 85935

Call the meeting to Order: John Rowlinson called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm

**Roll Call of Board Members, Present - John Rowlinson, Edith Webber, Ben Borrego, Steve Voldal, Marcus Harding via telephone.**

Administration Attending: Chief Jim Morgan, Asst Chief Richard Wallace, Karen Robbins. Attorney Thomas Montoya and Gabe Buldra (JVG) attended virtually.

**1. Call the Public**

Former Asst. Chief Stuart Bishop commented about the new station ten build and the public wanting the minutes added to our website. He said that he had numerous people asking him when we would break ground. His suggestion was to update the minutes on the website and keep the Public more informed.

Allison Moseley Commented about the Retirement Party for Chief Morgan, hoping to have it at the Lion's Den on May 7, 2026, around 5pm to 10pm. Save the date.

***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.*

Approval of meeting minutes for February 2026

Approval of Warrants paid February 2026

Edi Webber made the motion to approve the February 2025 Consent agenda as presented. Second by Ben Borrego. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

**IV. Board Business**

**1. Discussion/Consideration/Possible Approval re; Presentation and approval of February 2026 financial reports**

Gabe Buldra from JVG is here to present the financial reports.  
All reports are included in the board Packet.

Navajo County Revenue for February is under budget \$52,816.

Non-Levy Revenue is over budget by \$39,885.

Ambulance service is under \$44,030.

Grant Revenue is over budget by \$44,076.

Interest income is over budget by \$32,090.

Total Expenses were under budget by \$42,167.

Travel and training, grant and managerial expenses were over budget, and Grant Expenses were under budget due to timing of grant awards.

Year to date Revenue was over budget by over budget by \$1,682,890.

FDAT Revenue was under budget by \$201,307.

Wildland Revenue was over budget by \$1,602,325.  
Interest income is over budget by about \$250,000.  
Property tax revenue is under \$152,604.  
Fuels Reduction was over by about \$119,303.  
Ambulances are under \$174,826.

Year to date Expenses were over budget by \$613,786 - driven by additional wildland deployments, Zions Debt payment and increase in Salaries and Wages which are also over, due to Salaries and wages.

Total Cash less the bond is \$2,821,352 which is down 507,500 from this time last year.

Percentage was 79% personnel, 13% ops 5% admin and 3% communications.

Please refer to the board reports, any questions or concerns should be directed to Gabe Buldra or Sara Simonton, from the James Vincent Group.

Ben Borrego made the motion to accept the 2026 January financial reports as presented. Seconded by Steve Voldal. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

2. **Discussion/Consideration/Possible Approval re; 2026/2027 Budget Process.**

Chief Morgan: Discussion on budget planning process and if a board member would like to be present at the committee meetings. We would need to plan so we can have an agenda and minutes taken at the meeting. There was discussion about who it would be, and the board decided they would like to have two people present and decided on Edi Webber and Steve Voldal – one or both would attend the committee budgeting meetings.

This is informational only, no board action.

3. **Discussion/Consideration/Possible Approval re; Station 10 construction updates.**

Chief Morgan: We have been working with Perlman on getting to a solid price on our building. We have received the preliminary cost to proceed, and we are looking at about 12.9 million not including FFE. We have design changes and all were presented to Core construction for a new estimate. We are expecting soil studies for the rough site work. We are looking at a square footage of about 147,800 from the original 32,000. Chief mentioned several grants that maybe would help us get to our goal and get the station built. The Fire and “Wildland Station price is sitting at about 16.9 or about four million short. Once we get the soil and engineering report which is being revised and will be available shortly, then we can proceed.

Groundbreaking would be in June or July. Chief Morgan also mentioned he was awarded the grant for the radio tower and possibly mobile and handheld radios. He will put in for a congressional spending grant worth about 6.25 million to finance the balance of the station. We are on track and working hard to break ground.

Informational only – no board action.

4. **Discussion/Consideration/Possible Approval re; Fire chief Hiring and application process**

Chief Morgan – discussion about the process and how it was proceeding. He said we had approximately eight applications that looked good. Possibly four from Arizona and four from national, with six qualified for the assessment center. There was a rundown of the process and dates for the committee meeting and meet and greet for the board members. Labor and

Chiefs group should have the selection by 4-14-26. The meet and greet would be the 16<sup>th</sup> with the board interviews. We are looking at possibly the end of May so the candidate can notify any employer or whatever he needs to do to be employed by the district. Chief mentioned the salary may be an issue, we are a smaller district, and we may need to consider this if our pool does not complete the process. We could always start over if we are not satisfied with the list as it is.

This is informational only – no board action.

**V. Summary of Current Events**

***Fire Chief Report –***

**VI. Announcements.**

If anyone has anything for the agenda, please send your request to Chief Morgan

The next Board Meeting is April 20, 2026

Meeting adjourned at 5:52 pm

Respectfully Submitted

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Karen Robbins