## P.O. Box 1075, Mammoth, AZ 85618 Rod Prast, Fire Chief

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# **GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

November 11, 2016 – 1000 hrs.

Pursuant to A.R.S. §38.431.02, notice is hereby given to the general public that the Pinal Rural Fire Rescue & Medical District held a meeting Friday, November 11, 2016 at 1000 hrs. The meeting was held at Fire Station 625, Mammoth, Az. The Board may vote to go into executive session on any agenda item, pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03 (A) (3) for legal advice with the District's attorney on matters as set forth in the agenda item. Board Members or other participants (attorneys) may attend by telephonic conference. The following topics and any variables thereto, will be subject to Board consideration, discussion, approval, or other action. All Agenda items are set for possible action.

## **GENERAL SESSION MINUTES**

Call to Order

Board Chairman Steve Turcotte called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

- 2. <u>Roll Call of Board Members</u>: Roll Call showed Board Chairman Steve Turcotte, Board Clerk Tom Carlson, and Director Georgina Jacquez present. Staff present was Fire Chief Rod Prast.
- 3. Old Business

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Turcotte opens discussion/review of regular Board Meeting minutes of September 1, 2016. No further comments, so Chairman Turcotte moved to approve minutes. Motion by Clerk/Director Carlson, Seconded by Director Jacquez. Motion passes 3 votes.

#### 4. Call to the Public

a. Comments from the public were addressed by the Board.

Consideration and discussion of comments and complaints from the public. Those wishing to address the Pinal Rural Fire Rescue/Medical Board need to sign in prior to the start of the meeting and are given 3 min. to address the Board. The Fire District Board is not permitted to discuss or take action on any item raised in the call to the public. However, individual Board members may be permitted to respond to criticism directed to them. Otherwise, the Board may direct that staff review the matter or that the matter be placed on a future agenda. The Fire District Board cannot discuss or take legal action on any issue raised during the Call to the Public due to restrictions of the Open Meeting Law.

#### 5. New Business

- a. New business forum began at 1014 hrs. \*\*Resolution 23(BOD #2016-11-01)
  Discussion/action on Wells Fargo Bank requiring Board to confirm that spending limit will be under \$1 Million dollars in 2016-17 fiscal year. Motion: Second by Director Carlson; Action: Board unanimously approves Resolution.
- b. <u>Discussion/action on Elections results.</u> Chairman Turcotte briefed the Board on the current elections process and the results posted in a letter from Michelle Forney, Esq. and the Elections official for Pinal County. She notified all Districts/parties that the

County Board of Supervisors cancelled the elections for the respective Special Tax Districts at a BOS meeting 9/7/16 and recorded same day by the Clerk. Our Board is currently comprised/confirmed with 2 Board members who ran for office and the Board is researching for candidate(s) to be appointed; and has a 12/1/16 deadline.

c. <u>Discussion/info/update on Operations/Station facilities/Apparatus</u>. Chairman Turcotte outlined the ongoing activities that the Board and Chief/his staff are working on concert to create & improve infrastructure, operational capabilities, and improve facilities for the volunteer firefighters to live and work in. Chief Prast updated the Board on the North Station status—of which we've been looking at some properties, 2 of which have fallen thru. The Town of Mammoth continues not address the 2-yr sewer issue. Chief Prast spoke with former Mayor Don Jones some 2+ weeks ago, and was told that the Town knows where the sewer line is but has been unable to get the town council to approve the line to our property. They want to put a temporary measure in, not a permanent one. The owner of the property has been kept well-informed of the situation. And we have consulted with our legal expert on the matter.

We continue to be operational at nearly 100% of the time, BLS and partial ALS for the moment. We're upgrading our equipment to achieve 100% success. Recently, the District is making good on the promises to the District residents, and area communities with a purchase of a 'new' to us Type 1 engine that will help complement our fleet---and the Chief is constantly updating/upgrading our equipment; as funds can afford. Chief Prast reiterated that PRFRMD would be the last fire district formed in Az, and we have the unique fortune to be able to update most of our fleet with 1 grant/loan. We are working towards upgrading our fleet to 3 engines, 3 rescues, 1-2 tenders, 1 minipumper, and a Chief's vehicle.

Mr. Chairman and the Chief reiterated that our District is committed to ensuring our customers are getting the 'best services for the cost.' They also promised taxpayers that levy monies are being spent more wisely and efficiently than other fire districts. Chief Prast also stated this 1991 engine does meet the ISO minimum ratings, and will give us more dependable capabilities.

d. <u>Discussion/update on Grants/Loans</u>. Chairman Turcotte updated the Board on District financials, our tax base levies & FDAT funding. We currently have 4 grants in progress with 3 more being written. The District was graciously awarded a \$5,000 grant from Apache Gold Casino/SCAT to help purchase a newer stretcher for one of the ambulance rescues. Our abilities to apply for grants, and get awarded is "additive" in nature. Chief added that Improving our abilities to serve residents in our, and other fire districts will directly impact saving lives and reducing injury throughout the region. Chairman Turcotte reiterated that the grant awards are key for helping to pay for startup costs. Most of the tax monies are in, and informed the Board the that Districts need to operate on a cash flow basis from Nov-Nov, not July 1-June 30<sup>th</sup>. He stated in his training that many Fire Districts go in the red--get their money in the beginning of the year and spend it quickly—and then their left without any funds from June-November; and this District won't be operating like that. We will have cash reserves in place to get thru the lean months. Boards get their tax levies mainly during 3 cycles, as people pay their property taxes—Nov 1, Dec 31, and May 1. We have currently collected 58% of our budget monies.

- e. <u>Discussion/update on financials</u>. Chairman Turcotte discussed our current status and abilities, and our near-future plans for adding, and improving services—which includes additional manpower, more apparatus, improvement on our facilities and continuing improved communication/relationship with Town of Mammoth. He said he has a meeting with the County Treasury Department next week to discuss our specific financial categories and Industrial operations. With regards to our apparatus and equipment purchased, we have saved the taxpayers approx. \$9/every \$10, saving 90% in apparatus purchase costs—which is extremely-efficient.
- f. <u>Discussion/update on full Mission of service activation</u>. Chairman Turcotte briefed the Board on our Mission of services activation indicating that we are 100% of nearly all service delivery categories. Chief Prast has been extremely active and busy in vary areas—including operations, fire prevention, and strategic planning. It should be noted in the minutes that Chief Prast, who is currently able to achieve nearly a 40% success rate on grant procurement; and who sent a letter to both Dudleyville Fire District Chairman and a letter to Mammoth Fire District. Both agencies have not responded to our to offer for support or assistance with a Regional Grant. Chairperson Morales said "her Chief and her Board all voted no to accept our help."

<u>Chief's Report</u>. Fire Chief Rod Prast provided the Board Station information, Fleet apparatus report, the training report, District billing status, Grant progress report, and general Personnel report; Public Relations report, and Communications Report. No further Board discussion. **Motion**: No Motion/info only. **Action**: No action.

<u>Future Agenda Items:</u> No future items in discussion, other than Agenda items c, d, & f may require Staff to do research and report back to the Board.

<u>Adjournment</u>: There being no further agenda business, Chairman Turcotte moved that the meeting adjourn. Board Clerk Carlson Seconded motion at 10:41 a.m.

Executive session: was cancelled

These Board minutes report respectfully submitted by Tom Carlson, PRFRMD Board Clerk:

3. D. Jewato Date: Dec 1 2016