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GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 1, 2016 – 1100 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 Thursday, September 1, 2016 at 1100 hrs. The meeting was held at Fire Station 625, Mammoth, Az. with Chairman Turcotte present and other board members. 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

1. **Call to Order**

Board Chairman Steve Turcotte called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m.

2. **Roll Call of Board Members:** Roll Call showed Board Chairman Steve Turcotte, Board Clerk Tom Carlson, and Director Georgina Jacquez present. Staff present were Fire Chief Rod Prast, Maintenance Supervisor Dave Plummer, 2 mechanics, and several firefighters.

3. **Old Business**

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Turcotte opens discussion/review of regular Board Meeting minutes of July 8, 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 1110 hrs. **Discussion/info/update on ISO Certification.** Chief Prast began discussion with informing the Board that he was contacted by the Az ISO Office inquiring and requesting to initiate a survey and site visit. Chief outlined the Fire District history and our operational status; and suggested we'd be in a better position for evaluation once additional infrastructure were in place. Chairman Turcotte added that having a good ISO rating, even as a beginning District, will impact District residents in reducing their Insurance rates in the long run. 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 supported the statements by adding that all of our current apparatus do not meet the ISO minimum ratings, so that's why we're looking at additional apparatus that is newer, dependable, and can meet ISO ratings. And he also stated that this will improve our ability to meet/exceed OSHA guidelines.

- b. Discussion/update on Grants/Line of Credit. Chairman Turcotte updated District residents about the 5 Grants that are currently active—and in progress. The GOHS grant is nearly in it's closeout stage, with the appreciation that we were awarded monies to purchase the latest Extrication Tools that are battery-operated. This will give us abilities to support and assist other fire districts in traffic accidents, etc. 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, as a new fire district, we've had tremendous difficulty in establishing credit, etc. on our own without tax levies for 1.5 yrs., but we're happy to announce that we've established a \$10,000 line of credit (LOC) through the same banking structure that the County uses, Wells Fargo. This LOC will be utilized for emergency purchases or repairs, and required to be paid back by FY June 30th. Board also discussed the requirement from the Bank to pass a resolution that limits Board spending under \$1 Million dollars.

****Resolution 22(BOD #2016-09-01)** Discussion/action on Wells Fargo Bank requiring Board to confirm that spending limit will be under \$1 Million dollars in a fiscal year. Chairman Turcotte outlines directive by Wells Fargo Bank in order to approve \$10,000 LOC. **Motion:** Second by Director Carlson; **Action:** Board unanimously approves Resolution.

- c. Discussion/update on infrastructure. 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. We're looking at placing a 2nd fire station in the Northern District to serve the North District and Aravaipa Canyon residents, which will reduce response times and improve service delivery. We currently have 3 sites for standpipes in the District (2 in the Canyon & 1 in district residence), and working to improve our water-carrying capabilities. Our goal is to move from an all volunteer force, to a 'combination' group, which will include paying firefighters and paramedics stipends and travel monies for services. We're currently establishing standards for fire training, medical training, and will be offering an EMR class to our folks. The Chief has stated that we can offer that class thru his Training Center to other agencies as well.
- d. Discussion/update on equipment testing. Chief Prast updated the Board: The Fire District has just had the SCBA air packs and masks tested, and several firefighters have completed mask fit testing; all required and in compliance with OSHA requirements. The packs were new in 2013 and purchased through a FEMA grant.
- e. Discussion/update on Mission of service activation. Chairman Turcotte briefed the Board on our Mission of services activation indicating that we are in partial activation of all services; which is approx. 2-3 days/week. We expect to go nearly full-activation by

mid-late September. Our mission has always been to fill in the gaps where no fire or medical care/Services were present; as well as support our other District partners with additional fire/medical equipment and apparatus that is sorely needed here in the Tri-City region. Our goal is to be a major partner in the area to support the increased needs for services. We recognize that we need to bring in skilled labor from the metro-Tucson and metro-Phx/Mesa areas, as finding this specialized trained/experienced labor in our immediate region is difficult. We plan to schedule services with the 48/96 shift schedule, and keep upgraded firefighters who have advanced training---EMTs, Paramedics, and Firefighter I/II certifications. Also note that we sent 7 firefighters to Az State Fire School, which is a record for the region (to receive specialized training).

6. Chief's Report. Fire Chief Rod Prast provided the Board the Station information report, Fleet apparatus report; Also included was the training report, District billing status, Grant progress report ; Personnel report, Public Relations report, and Communications Report. No further Board discussion. **Motion:** No Motion/info only. **Action:** No action.
7. Future Agenda Items: No future items in discussion

Adjournment: There being no further agenda business, Chairman Turcotte moved that the meeting adjourn. Board Clerk Carlson Seconded motion at 11:39 a.m.

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

_____ Date: _____