

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Meeting Date:** Friday, September 25, 2020

**Meeting Time:** 8:00 AM

**Location:** 21021 E. Homestead Drive, Red Rock, AZ 85145

**RECORDING ON**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Castaneda called the meeting to order at 8:06 AM.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**3. ROLL CALL AND CONFIRMATION OF A QUORUM**

**Board Members in Attendance**

Chairman Castaneda

Clerk Neilson

Director Armendarez

Director Haffner

**Staff Members in Attendance**

Chief Delfs

Assistant Chief Klein

Lorrie Palmquist, by phone

**Others in Attendance**

Counsel Wencker, by phone

**Absent/Excused**

Vice-Chairman Bauer

**4. RECOGNITION OF PERSONNEL NONE**

**5. CALL TO THE PUBLIC NONE**

**6. ANNOUNCEMENTS, CURRENT EVENTS & CORRESPONDENCE**

Notice of cancellation of the January 2021 AFDA Conference

Mandatory Training classes will be offered at various times, with the closest event occurring December 10 in Tucson, place TBA

**7. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS FOR CONSENT:**

Minutes from the regular meeting August 28, 2020

Director Haffner motioned to approve the Minutes from the regular Board meeting held August 28, 2020.

Director Armendarez seconded. *Motion carried unanimously, 4:0.*

**8. CHIEF'S REPORT**

The Fire Chief may update the Board on items of interest relating to but not limited to the following: fire suppression, EMS and wildland services, response times, vehicles, facilities, labor relations, personnel, finance, grants, communications and/or training. Alternatively, the Fire Chief may provide written comments in the Board member's packets or by email. The Board members may ask clarifying questions and they may direct the Chief to place items on future agendas for further discussion or action.



The Chief highlighted the following items from his report:

Our District was awarded a SAFER Grant which will provide grant funding over a three-year period to cover the cost of 13 firefighters. In addition, Chief Klein was able to secure a change in the time period for the grant award. The District will be able to put the new staff in place in January 2021, rather than March 2021. Sincere congratulations to Chief Klein for his diligent efforts!

The District deployed one crew to California, and their deployment has been extended for another week.

Our new ambulance was placed in service, but taken out of service to address suspension problems. It will be placed back in service soon.

**9. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 2020 FINANCIAL REPORTS AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN AND CLERK TO SIGN THE CERTIFICATE OF REVIEW**

Clerk Neilson motioned to approve the August 2020 financial reports and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to sign the Certificate of Review. Director Haffner seconded. *Motion carried unanimously, 4:0.*

**10. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE ALS BASE HOSPITAL AFFILIATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN SMSJ TUCSON HOLDINGS, LLC, A DELAWARE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, DOING BUSINESS AS ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL AND AVRA VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT**

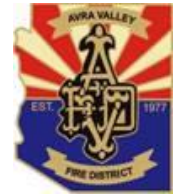
Chief Delfs respectfully requested that this item be tabled until next month. Our attorney has reviewed the contract and suggested a couple of changes which are being considered by St. Mary's Hospital. The Chief stated that Northwest Hospital has approached our District regarding serving as our base hospital, but that their base fee per year is \$11,000 for the same services.

**11. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO CONSIDER AND ACCEPT OR DENY THE FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2019 STAFFING FOR ADEQUATE FIRE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE (SAFER) GRANT FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,463,240.00 IN FEDERAL FUNDING.**

This grant will fund 13 firefighter or paramedic positions over a three-calendar year period. Chief Delfs reiterated that the SAFER Grant will pay for payroll and benefits, but not for extra items such as turnouts. The Chief reminded the Board that when the District hired under the last SAFER grant, we did ask the candidates to sign a statement prepared by Counsel Wencker stating that there was a possibility that employment would not continue after the grant period. This did not occur, and we were successfully able to retain all hires under that grant. We will issue the same statement to all candidates in conjunction with the current grant hiring process. Director Haffner motioned to accept the FY2019 SAFER Grant funding in the amount of \$2,463,240 to fund 13 firefighter or paramedic positions over a three-year period. Clerk Neilson seconded. *Motion carried unanimously, 4:0.*



**AVRA VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT**  
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 www.avfire.org



**12. REPORTS OF BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF**

The Board offered congratulations to Chief Klein and the District on the SAFER Grant award.

**13. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The Board may not discuss or take any action on topics presented for future agendas.  
 ALS Base Hospital Affiliation Agreement with St. Mary’s Hospital

**14. DATE OF NEXT BOARD MEETING**

The date of the next Board meeting will be October 22, 2020 at 4:00 PM

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

Director Haffner motioned to adjourn the meeting. Director Armendarez seconded.

*Motion carried unanimously, 4:0.* Meeting adjourned at 8:26 AM.

RECORDING OFF

*Eric Neilson*

10-22-20

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**SIGNED**

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**DATE**

**BOARD MEMBERS**

**LUIS CASTANEDA, JR. SARA BAUER THOMAS ARMENDAREZ ERIC NEILSON JAMES HAFFNER**

In accordance with the Federal law and the U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, Avra Valley Fire District is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202)720-6382 (TDD).