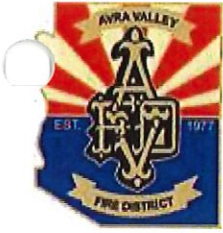


## MINUTES

### AVRA VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT

#### REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Meeting Date:** Friday, April 26, 2019

**Meeting Time:** 8:00 AM

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

#### Recording On.

##### 1) Call To Order

Chairman Castenada called the meeting to order at 8:05 AM.

##### 2) Pledge of Allegiance

The *Pledge of Allegiance* was recited by all present.

##### 3) Roll Call

Chairman Castaneda, Jr

Vice-Chairman Bauer, absent/excused

Clerk Neilson

Director Armendarez

Director Haffner

Ms. Palmquist called roll. In attendance:

Chief Delfs

Assistant Chief Klein

Lorrie Palmquist

Counsel Wencker (present by phone)

Several Firefighters were also in attendance

##### 4) Recognition of Personnel

**5 Year Pin - Firefighter Chris George:** Chief Delfs congratulated Firefighter Chris George on his outstanding service to the District.

**Unit Citation: Incident 1838240 December 2018, large scale motor vehicle accident on I10 involving 6 vehicles including 4 passenger cars, an RV, and a semi-trailer. Eight patients were involved and the incident lasted over 7 hours.**

Chief Delfs stated that Captain Velasquez and all the firefighters performed their duties in superior fashion. This incident in December 2018 was a full medical, multi-jurisdiction call which shut down I10 for 7 hours. The Chief expressed gratitude on behalf of the District for the outstanding performance and professionalism. We are so proud of our firefighters.

Captain Hemmings

Captain Velasquez

Paramedic Jelenc

Paramedic Roscoe

Paramedic Wellman

Firefighter George

Firefighter Koch

Firefighter Kreitner

Firefighter Marasa

Firefighter Rojas

##### 5) Call To The Public NONE.

##### 6) Announcements, Current Events & Correspondence

- Chief Delfs offered congratulations to families of Paramedic Cory Wellman and Firefighter Israel Martinez who both recently welcomed baby boys.

##### 7) Review, Discussion and possible Action regarding the following items for consent:

- Minutes from the regular session held March 22, 2019***

Clerk Neilson motioned to approve the Minutes from the regular Board meeting held March 22, 2019. Director Armendarez seconded. **Motion carried unanimously, 4:0.**

## 8) Chief's Report

The Chief directed the Board's attention to the outstanding job that Firefighters Rojas and Collings did on the refurbishment of the Type 6 wildland vehicle. The vehicle has a stunning new paint job. It is truly a testament to their commitment to the District.

## 9) Review, Discussion and possible Action to approve the March 2019 Financial Reports and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to sign the *Certificate of Review*.

Clerk Neilson motioned to approve the March 2019 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 approve Resolution 2019-01 authorizing the amendment of the Avra Valley Fire District's Boundaries to Include the Pinal Air Park property situated at the intersection of Trico Road and Pinal Air Park Road, Parcel numbers 410-08-007G, 410-14-003, 410-14-007J, and 410-14-007K.

Chief Delfs reported that the District has been working on this annexation for a long time. Over the last 5 years, our District has responded to 82 incidents at the Pinal Air Park. On April 3, the Pinal County Board of Supervisors approved the request of the airport manger and the public works director to annex the properties. Our District will receive a share of the business personal property taxes and will now have some liability coverage. Clerk Neilson motioned to approve Resolution 2019-01 authorizing the amendment of the District's boundaries to include the Pinal Air Park properties. Director Armendarez seconded. ***Motion carried unanimously, 4:0.***

## 11) Review, Discussion and possible Action to approve the Multi-Agency MOU for the Regional Grant Application for Radio Equipment.

Chief Delfs explained that this MOU pertains to a regional grant application for radio communications for all districts which are a part of Northwest Consortium. Because hand-held radios would cost approximately \$7,000 each, the Consortium has applied for assistance on behalf of all the member Districts with the intent of obtaining equipment at a lower cost. Each district would pay their share of the cost if the equipment is awarded. Clerk Neilson motioned to approve the Multi-Agency MOU for the regional grant application for radio equipment. Director Armendarez seconded. ***Motion carried unanimously, 4:0.***

## 12) Review, Discussion and Approval/Disapproval to authorize the Fire Chief to purchase a ladder tender vehicle from the City of Tucson Fire Department for use as an equipment utility vehicle.

Chief Delfs stated that the City of Tucson has asked \$17,000 for the vehicle. The District would also incur some cost to equip the vehicle. Our mechanic has inspected the vehicle and reports that it is in excellent condition and could be put into service immediately. Director Haffner motioned to purchase the vehicle for a maximum price of \$18,000. Clerk Neilson seconded. ***Motion carried unanimously, 4:0.***

## 13) Review, Discussion and possible Action to authorize the Fire Chief to sign off on the FY20 benefit renewal package to be accompanied by a new internal policy allowing employees to sell back PTO/PSL at 100% of base pay.

*\*Employees who are enrolled in the District's employer sponsored medical insurance plan may sell back a portion of accrued PTO/PSL as long as they maintain a minimum of 120 hours for shift personnel or 40 hours for non-shift personnel for the reimbursement of large out-of-pocket costs associated with individual or family annual maximum out-of-pocket expenses in excess of \$500 per covered event. The payout for this benefit shall be made at 100% of the value. This benefit will reimburse employees for*



treatments to which large out-of-pocket maximums apply such as radiological imaging, out-patient surgery or hospital admittance. A copy of the medical invoice or the explanation of benefits must be provided to the fire chief for approval. The sell back of PTO/PSL shall not exceed the amount of the employee costs that are listed on the invoice or explanation of benefits.

Chief Delfs reminded the Board that 80% of the fiscal year budget is for employee related expenditures. We were excited that our FY20 medical insurance premium was quoted at an increase of only 2.2% which is the lowest increase our brokers have seen for this renewal period. Also, our current fiscal year is the first year the District asked every employee (not just employees with families) to share a portion of the cost. However, one of the changes in the insurance was that the out-of-pocket maximums increased. Although this is standard across all industries, we began looking at ideas to help mitigate the expense to our employees. After meeting with our brokers and the Union, we suggested the possibility of a PTO sellback allowing our employees to sell back their unused PTO at 100% in the event they incur an out-of-pocket expense of \$500 or more. The idea was very popular, and in fact, has now been recommended to other entities. Director Armendarez motioned to authorize the Chief to sign off on the FY20 benefit renewal package to be accompanied by a new internal policy allowing employees to sell back PTO at 100% of base pay in the event of a large out-of-pocket medical expense. Director Haffner seconded.

**Motion carried unanimously, 4:0.**

#### **14) Reports of Board Members and Staff**

- Directors Neilson, Armendarez and Haffner attended the Marana State of the Town address and Luncheon. It was very informative.
- Chief Delfs attended the Pinal County Special Districts meeting. He commented that Pinal County is really taking off economically.
- Director Neilson stated that the owner of one of the Titan Missile properties recently contacted a producer about a reality TV show. The show would provide historical information about the area.

#### **15) Future Agenda Items** Public Hearings on the FY20 Budget in June.

#### **16) Date of Next Board Meeting is Friday, May 24, 2019**

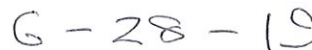
#### **17) Adjournment**

Director Haffner motioned to adjourn the meeting. Director Armendarez seconded. Motion carried unanimously, 4:0. **Meeting adjourned at 8:46 AM.**

**Recording Off.**



**SIGNED**



**DATE**

#### **Board Members**

**Luis Castaneda, Jr.   Sara Bauer   Eric Neilson   Thomas Armendarez   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).*