

MINUTES, ARIVACA FIRE DISTRICT

February 23, 2012

The Arivaca Fire District governing Board met Thursday February 23, 2012 at the Arivaca Fire Station, 16091 West Universal Ranch Road, Arivaca, Arizona.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Omar Rood called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM

2. ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS

Present: Mark Dresang
Kathleen Wishnick
Jim Meade
Omar Rood
Absent: Terry Tompkins

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Regular session of January 19, 2012
- B. Special session of January 19, 2012
- C. Special session of January 27, 2012
- D. Special session of February 12, 2012
- E. Special session of February 20, 2012

Kathleen made a motion to accept all minutes as read and Jim seconded. Omar called for a vote. Motion carried 3-0 with Mark abstaining.

5. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

- A. A written report was submitted by Acting Fire Chief Claire Wood and read by EMS Captain, Bryan Cohn.
 - Personnel Update
There are 22 responders currently active on the roster
 - Administrative
Board interviewed for new chief position
 - Red Shirt Program
1 member at this time.
 - Ordering of Supplies
A new printer for the office was ordered and medical supplies for BLS ordered to restock.
 - Fire Calls
3 fire calls, two were illegal burns and a brush fire
 - EMS Calls
15 EMS calls, 1 was a vehicle rollover with patient going into Border Patrol custody after refusal of services and 1 was a vehicle accident with patient refusal.
 - Trucks/Equipment Status/Maintenance/Repairs
All vehicles were in quarters and in service for the month of January.
 - Grant
No grants were applied for in the month of January; donations received from Gadsden's Coffee Shop for \$20.00
 - Training

January training was on Fire Fighter safety given by Matthew Crane, there were 12 people that showed up.

B. Fire Board Chairman's Report

Omar commented that the board had been doing interviews and selecting a new fire chief. He commented that it was a hard decision with some well qualified applicants.

C. Treasurer's report from Kathleen Wishnick

She went over the financial reports.

Kathleen made a motion to approve the reports and Jim seconded it. Omar called for a vote, the motion carried 4-0.

BUSINESS

A. Discussion and update from operations on formation of emergency disaster plan committee.

There has been no update on this. This has been tabled until the March meeting.

B. Report from Web Committee.

Mark commented that there was no update.

C. Discussion/motion on Mutual Aid Agreement with Three Points

Patti Jent commented that the agreement had been received; it was signed and had been sent to Three Points. Patti also commented that Terry had just informed her that the agreement had Arivaca Fire Department, not Arivaca Fire District. Omar asked Patti to contact Three Points and to get them to change Department to District, initial it and send it back to us for our signers to initial.

D. Fees outside the district area

Omar suggested tabling this until April. Mark suggested tabling it until March. Kathleen suggested tabling it until April so Terry will have time to get everything together.

Mark made a motion to table this until April and Jim seconded. Omar called for a vote. The motion carried 4-0.

E. Discussion on the Policy and Procedure Manual

Omar commented that this needed major revisions. Kathleen commented that the board had a lot of issues to cover. Kathleen suggested that the board members bring their concerns, revisions, etc. to the March meeting and then discuss them in the April meeting.

Kathleen made a motion to bring concerns to the March meeting and then to discuss the items in the April meeting. Mark seconded. Omar called for a vote. Motion carried 4-0.

F. Report from the radio committee.

Patti Jent commented that as per conversation with Terry there was no update.

G. Update on the audit

Kathleen commented that she had been in touch with the auditor and we should have the report in March. Patti Jent commented that the annual report was due in a few days and she had not received anything from Katie. Kathleen stated she would get in touch with Katie regarding the annual report.

H. Public Discussion on the Review of the 5-year plan as stated on the impact statement

This item has been tabled until the regular March, 2012 meeting.

I. Public discussion/motion/action on Scott's amended budget for 2011-2012 and proposed budgets for 2012-2013 and 2013-2014.

Omar asked Fire Chief Elect Scott Van Boerum for an overview as to why we needed to change the budget and his expectations.

Fire Chief Elect Scott Van Boerum commented that he had done a lot of research on the Arivaca Fire District. He stated the priority is for ALS service. When he was offered the position, he found improvement of service since becoming a district. Scott commented that he had reviewed the ALS committee report. He stated he would agree to a payroll of \$1,000 a month so his monies could go toward hiring ALS people. Scott commented that the vehicles in service have an average age of 20 years old and the newest is 12 years old. This will be an issue going forward as at this point there is nothing for a capital fund to replace the vehicles.

Scott wants to provide ALS service 24/7 so they can respond within 8 minutes. Staying at the Fire Station the people can respond faster. He stated that based on conversations with

the Department of Health, the reasons the Fire Department was turned down for a CON when they applied a few years ago was because the District had not been formed, there were no certified people, and coverage was sporadic

Scott commented on his Capital plan. He would like to purchase an ALS intercept vehicle. He did not think it made any sense to get an ambulance at this time because of the cost. He did recommend getting a defibulator, a heart monitor, and a chief vehicle. He stated that based on his plan, all vehicles would be replaced in 12 years.

Kathleen asked why we would need a new ambulance. Scott commented that it is approximately 70 miles one way to the hospital and our ambulances already had high mileage. With the traveling to and from the hospital, our ambulances would not last long.

Scott presented a revised budget for current fiscal year 2011-2012. The major changes would be payroll. This was in order to hire paramedics and a volunteer Coordinator.

Scott indicated he already had an engine boss lined up for wildland fire season. He also stated that he expected the engine boss to do shifts here just like the volunteers.

Maggie Milinovitch asked what the starting pay was for a paramedic. Scott responded that Tubac paramedics were paid \$14.00/hr and EMS personnel were paid \$11.00/hr.

Scott also commented that he is a certified state inspector so we could even start training here at the station.

Omar commented that when Scott presented the revised budget and proposed budgets that it was quite a shock as it was all new. He does believe it will work.

Scott commented that the 2013-2014 budget included the Fire District getting a CON.

Omar commented that we had the right to amend the current fiscal year budget and it would be sent to the county.

Kathleen made a motion to adopt the budget amendment for 2011-2012 and Jim seconded. Omar called for a vote. Motion carried 4-0.

J. Public Discussion/motion/action on having a Meet the New Fire Chief function

Kathleen suggested the District have a function to meet and greet the new Fire Chief. She stated people could ask him questions and that way Scott could find out what the community needs are.

Susan Ramsey suggested this be done at the annual Chili Cook-off scheduled for March 17, 2012. He could intermingle with the community and then maybe have him at the Old Schoolhouse for an hour.

The board decided to let Scott meet and greet the community at the Chili Cook-off and that would be sponsored by the Arivaca Fire District Auxiliary.

K. Discussion on hiring paramedics and the application procedure.

Scott stated the paramedics would be called shift supervisors. He indicated the paramedic would be required to have Firefighter I and II. He would place an ad in the Connection, the Green Valley News and various web pages. The procedure would require a written and physical test and an interview. It would be done based on point values with preference given to locals.

L. Discussion/motion/action on transporting patients.

Kathleen commented that the volunteers should not be transporting patients.

Scott indicated he had been in touch with the Department of Health and with Search and Rescue. He said there was no exemption for rescue to transport a patient. However, A.R.S. §36-2208(B) indicated we were allowed to transport with approval from the hospital. He stated then we call bill for health services rendered, a flat charge, not like we would bill if we had a CON.

Scott commented that he did not advise transporting patients until he had time to talk with the base hospital and Southwest to make sure they agree with what he has researched.

M. Discussion/motion/action on the Safer Grants.

Scott presented the Narrative for one of two grants and briefly went over them. He stated he is asking for Volunteer Recruit and Retention and that grant is 100%. The second grant he is applying for is for payroll in order to hire 3 firefighters. He indicated the second grant may have a cost to us and we would have to keep them on payroll for 1 year after the grant ran out.

Kathleen made a motion to submit the Recruitment and Retention Grant and the grant for the 3 Firefighters and Mark seconded. Omar called for a vote. Motion carried 4-0.

N. Signing of the Fire Chief Contract

The board went over the contract and after a few changes Mark made a motion to accept the Fire Chief contract with the corrections and Jim seconded. Omar called for a vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Scott signed the contract.

6. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Consideration and discussion of comments and complaints from the public. Those wishing to address the Arivaca Fire District Board need not request permission in advance. 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.

Jim Conklin thanked the board for their time and decision and congratulated Scott. He also thanked Scott for all he has already done.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Kathleen made a motion to adjourn and Jim seconded. Unanimously approved by all.

Omar adjourned the meeting at 8:40 PM

Approved March 15, 2012

Omar Rood

Terry Tompkins