



BLUE RIDGE FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES OF PUBLIC BOARD WORK SESSION AT THE BLUE RIDGE FIRE STATION TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2021

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chairman Scott brought the Work Session to order at 4:31 PM

2. **ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS:**

Board Members present: Larry Lambert, Cindy Perelli and Shannon Scott. Judy Varns was absent and there is one Board vacancy. Brandon Sewell, from the Pension Board also attended.

3. **THE DISTRICT BOARD MET TO DISCUSS PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO THE BRFD 457B ALTERNATE PENSION AND BENEFIT PLAN.**

There was some discussion as to how we got here, then Board Members began working on a revision to the Document/By-Laws of the Plan as follows.

Article I: updated to clarify definitions of “Employee”, “Firefighter” and “Participant”. Update Page 1- to remove volunteers and employees. Page 4: update to clarify definition of “Retirement”, add definitions for Article 3: Plan and Article 4 Plan per AZ Revised Statutes, and “Transfers”.

Article III, 3.3: various updates for clarification.

Article V, 5.3: Vesting Schedule –updates were made for clarity and various scenarios were discussed for vesting changes. There was much discussion on the section and further discussions will be held to try and simplify the Vesting Schedule.

A paragraph in the document that was not in the original pertaining to the use of funds to “buy-back service in the Public Safety Retirement Plan” is removed.

Article VI: 6.5 and 6.6: clarification of “spouse” vs “beneficiary”

Article VII: Amendment to Vesting Schedule changes: Any modification should also be approved by the District Board.

Article VIII, 8.1: removed reference to “life insurance proceeds payable to Participant’s Account” which is not in original plan.

Article IX, 9.15: added “Accounts” to title.

Article XI: added “Transfers” to title; added new section to cover transfers to or from a “BRFD qualified 457 b plans”. This would include the Nationwide Plan.

Seeking Legal counsel review was also discussed

There was much discussion on Article V 5.3, and Board members agreed that there was more work to be done and a follow up meeting may be called.

4. **ADJOURNMENT**

There was no further discussions and Chairman Scott adjourned the Board Work Session at 5:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted: October 27, 2021

Cynthia Perelli
Clerk of the BRFD Board