



Desert Hills Fire District

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Desert Hills Fire District Board Meeting Minutes Regular Meeting June 21, 2017

1. Call to order

Chairman of the Board John Hayes called to order the Desert Hills Fire District Board meeting at **9:01 a.m. on Wednesday, June 21, 2017, at** the Desert Hills Fire Station Si Mock Room located at 3983 London Bridge Road, Lake Havasu City, AZ.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance commenced by Clerk of the Board Brad Shelton

3. Roll Call

The following Board Members were present:

Brad Shelton
Mathew Espinoza
Dolores Moscou

Via Phone: John Hayes

Also in attendance:

Fire Chief Pat Dennen
Administrative Specialist Lisa Harrison

4. Call to the Public: None

5. Approval of Regular Meeting minutes for May 17, 2017 and Budget Work Session Meeting minutes for May 31, 2017: Motioned by Board Member Espinoza to accept the May 17, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes and the May 31, 2017 Budget Work Session Meeting Minutes seconded by Board Member Moscou; all in favor.

6. Reports:

a.) **Financial Report-May 2017:** Administrative Specialist Lisa Harrison stated that cash in the Grant Savings Account is \$86,852.36, Payroll Account \$9,761.29, Petty Cash \$100, Special Revenue Checking Account \$28,328.23, Special Revenue Savings Account \$52,102.33, Warrant Account \$444,121.72, with a total balance of \$621,265.93. Approval of Financial Report motioned by Board Member Shelton, seconded by Board Member Moscou; all in favor.

b.) **Chief's Report:**

- Chief Dennen started out with compliments to the Fire Captains for covering while he was out of the office and their good decision making skills.
- There are still 2 employees out on work related injuries and both still appear to be long term. As a result of that some of the SAFER Grant requirements and because of the vacancies we brought back 3 of the 4 SAFER Grant employees, as 1 has not committed yet, to help off-set the 2 employees that are out and to fulfill the current grant requirements.
- There are still 2 employees at the Highline Fire.
- Engine 1511R has an electronic throttle issue and we had to send it to Fire Trucks Unlimited in Henderson, NV for repair.

- The Engineer practical exams have been completed and moving on towards the Engineer promotions. There is still 1 employee that has not finished the practical due to his job related injuries and will complete that down the road.

c.) DHFD Wildland Report:

- Captain Stanec reported that there are 2 employees that were sent out on the Highland Fire, we sent a ALS/BLS unit out there.
- Payment has been received from the Sawmill Fire in the Tucson area; we sent 2 personnel and our type 6 engine along with one of Yucca's Engine Boss trainees. Our payment from the State was just under \$11,000.
- The bill for the Baca Fire has been submitted; we had sent 3 of our guys to this fire. The total of that bill submitted was \$28,401. The bill has been accepted and we should be seeing payment soon.
- The total year to date from July 1 to current is \$116,848.03 which is included everything that was reimbursable.
- The VFA Grant needed to be completed in order to get hose by the end of the fiscal year. The hose should be coming in by the end of the week.

d.) DHFD Auxiliary Report:

- Dee Moscou reported that the DHFD Auxiliary will be holding their 1st meeting either the 3rd or 4th week of September.

e.) Correspondence: None

7. New Business:

- a.** Discussion and possible action for approval of the WireFree Contract. Chief Dennen explained that since he has been working for the Desert Hills Fire District there has been nothing but problems with the connectivity issues with the internet and several times the department comes to a standstill. Research with SuddenLink, Frontier, and WireFree has been completed. WireFree is a locally owned and operated company and what they are offering is a partnership with us. They would like to put a microwave receiver on top of our tower at both stations. This is a direct signal which is based on a fiber optic line that goes to the mountain top and to receive their signal directly in to the fire station in exchange to letting them put a transformer that would transmit to a majority of this community; which in turn would allow them to enhance the service. We will get a reduced rate being the host of their antenna site, but at the same time we get the benefit of being the direct link. Motion by Board Member Shelton to approve contract with WireFree as our internet provider, seconded by Board Member Moscou; all in favor.
- b.** Discussion and possible action for Public Safety Personnel Retirement System payback. Administrative Specialist Lisa Harrison explained to the board that they have received notification of who gets payback and how much with a total of \$112,276.95 plus interest. She further explained that the PSPRS will only give us a credit for the funds owed; so each pay period the money we would owe for contributions will be applied to the credit which means there will be no out of pocket costs to the district. She gave the board 3 proposals for repayment of this money: 1.) pay the lump sum back to everyone using our reserves; 2.) pay each of the 16 personnel \$1,500 per month; 3.) select 2-3 personnel to pay in full each month. Chief Dennen recommendation to the board is lump sum payout to personnel. Let the record show that PSPRS has not yet set a timeframe for payment. Motion by Board Member Shelton to approve the PSPRS payback in lump sum, seconded by Board Member Moscou; all in favor. Board Member Espinosa abstained himself.
- c.** Discussion and possible action to approve Notice of Regular Meeting dates for FY 17/18. Lisa Harrison stated that she has not received the schedule from the Desert Hills Fire District Auxiliary for their meetings, but she is certain that the dates are correct. Motion by Board Member Hayes to approve the Notice of Regular Meeting dates for FY 17/18, seconded by Board Member Moscou; all in favor.

- d. Discussion and possible action to approve the budget for FY 17/18. Chief Dennen opened up the item with informing the board that we had a company meeting and talked about the budget and has gone through and created a bullet list on all of the options that were presented for the budget. Chief Dennen stated that there were 2 options the board was most interested in. Chief Dennen recommends Option #2. Board Member Shelton is for option #3. Board Member Espinoza is for option #2 or 4. Board Member Hayes is for option #2. Board Member Moscou motioned to approve Budget option #2 for the FY 17/18, seconded by Board Member Hayes; Three Board Members in favor, Board Member Shelton opposed.

8. Board Member Comments:

- a. New business to be considered on future agendas: Board Member Espinoza would like to discuss vacation time, with caps, accruals and cash outs.
- b. Comments: Board Member Hayes would like to thank the board, staff and fire fighters for their input and all their hard work on the budget. For a fire department of our size, our firefighters do a wonderful job. Shelton also would like to thank everyone for their hard work through the budget process.

9. Call to the Public: Matt Martin stated it's a difficult decision to make on the budget and everyone is doing a good job.

10. Adjourn: Motion by Board Member Hayes to adjourn, seconded by Board Member Shelton; all in favor. Adjourned at 10:17 a.m.