



# Golden Valley Fire District

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## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOLDEN VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD

The Governing Board of the Golden Valley Fire District met in regular session on **September 28, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.** The meeting will be held at the Golden Valley Fire District Public Safety Training Center, located at 423 South Colorado Road, Golden Valley, AZ 86413. The Board may vote to go into executive session on any agenda item, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A) (3) for legal advice with the District's attorney on matters as set forth in the agenda item. Board members or other participants may attend by telephonic conference. The following topics and any variables thereto, will be subject to Board consideration, discussion, approval, or other action. All items are set for possible action.

### MINUTES

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER.

- Chairman Gorham called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.

#### 2. ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS.

- Director Bill McCarter; Director Gary Juneau; Chairman Paul Gorham; Director Randy Osborn were present. Clerk Jack Hommel was absent.

#### 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

#### 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Consent Agenda

##### A. Regular Meeting of August 24, 2017

Comptroller Kindelberger informed the board that there was a correction on the minutes on page 3, the word trail should have been trial.

- Director Osborn moved to accept the minutes with the noted correction. Director McCarter 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor, motion carried.

#### 5. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE.

##### A. August 2017 Operational Report. (Yeager)

- Chief Yeager informed the Board that the image trend printout is different as we've had a big upgrade and staff is in the process of learning, at this time we could only pull the total calls of the District. For the month of August there were 192 calls; 10 fire calls, 92 EMS, 1 Hazardous, 23 Service call, 25 Good Intent, 11 False Alarms and 30 reports not completed.

##### B. Fire Chief's Report. *The governing body may not propose, discuss, deliberate or take legal action on this matter unless the specific matter is described in detail. Therefore, action taken as a result of the Chief's report will be limited to directing staff to study the matter or scheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date. (A.R.S. 38-431.02.K.)*

- **Fire District properties**

- Insurance claim completed for damage at Station 12 from the lightning strike. We received from VFIS total of \$7,434.69.

- **Equipment**

- Attack 125 out of service with oil issue
- Engine 121 back in service, pump was repaired

- **Meetings attended**

- Image Trend training due to updates
- Mohave County Fire Officer Association
- Regional Dispatch/911 Center
- Emergency Management Communication Meeting
- KRMC Pre-Hospital Care Meeting

- AMR Continued Service Improvement Meeting
- **Projects in the works**
  - Rehab unit
  - Communications tower PSTC
  - Technical rescue vehicle
- **Incidents and Items of note**
  - Wildland crews back home
  - Golden Valley fall festival parade/booth
  - Anniversaries:
    - Engineer Childers – 9 years
    - Engineer Gifford– 6 years

## 6. VOTE TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. The Board of Directors may vote to go into Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3) for legal advice and A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(4) instructions to legal counsel regarding possible Open Meeting violation allegation.
  - No action taken

## 7. BUSINESS. *Public wishing to speak on agenda items must complete a speaker card and present to the Board prior to the start of the meeting.*

- A. Discussion and possible action regarding: Direction to or from legal counsel regarding possible Open Meeting violation allegation. (Gorham)
  - No action taken
- B. Discussion and possible action regarding: August 2017 Financial Report. (Administration)
  - Comptroller Kindelberger noted for the month of August the ending register balance for the warrant account at Wells Fargo Bank was \$398,769.45. Payroll account at National Bank of Arizona ending register balance \$79,971.86. August Income \$133,433.67; August Expenses \$416,835.03. The reason that is so high is because we did the PSPRS contribution refunds to the employees which total \$159,000.00 and Wildland overtime was \$43,000.00. Take out these two items we are at our average of \$214,000.00; we have already incurred credit memos against the \$159,000 of \$62,390.00
    - Director McCarter motioned to accept the financial report, Director Juneau 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor, motion carried.
- C. Discussion and possible action regarding: Request by citizen Dolly Mauk for waiver of fees for the use of the Public Safety Training Center on December 16, 2017 for the community Christmas party. (Administration)
  - Dolly Mauk spoke to the Board and asked that they would like to have the Community Christmas party at the training center again. They serve the children of Golden Valley also the shut ins and older people, this is for the community and children. The children get nice gifts and everyone gets to interact and get to know each other. Chairman Gorham asked how many children were at last year's Christmas party. Ms. Mauk informed the Board that the first year roughly 30, last year there was approximately 250 people a little more than 100 were children. Comptroller Kindelberger informed the Board that the first year they waived the fees, last year the Board voted to charge \$22.41 for utilities. Director Osborn asked how long the event usually lasts. Ms. Mauk stated they usually come in around noon to set up then the event starts about 5:00p.m. and out by 8:00 p.m. Comptroller Kindelberger informed the Board that based on the fee schedule at the four-hour minimum the fee would be \$140.00. Director Osborn asked if we have anything scheduled, Board was informed we did not. Chairman Gorham stated that last year two Board members paid the utility fee. Director Osborn stated that he thinks we should do the same this year. Chairman Gorham stated that Chief Yeager informed him that he has a citizen that will pay the utility fee but wants to stay anonymous.
    - Director Osborn made a motion to charge the utility fee of \$22.41. Director McCarter 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor, motion carried.

- D. Discussion and possible action regarding: Request by Mohave County Public Works for waiver of fees for the use of the Public Safety Training Center on November 02, 2017 for a Public Meeting. (Yeager)
- Chief Yeager informed the Board that Mohave County asked the fees to be waived because this is for the public to discuss the water increase. Director Juneau asked if they have used our facility in the past. Chief Yeager stated that yes, they have used it with no fees. We conduct meetings at the County offices for our meetings at no charge.
    - Director Osborn motioned to waive fees and charge the \$22.41 utility cost. Director Juneau 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor, motion carried.
- E. Discussion and possible action regarding: Change Board meeting times and discussion of staff hours and administration office hours. (Gorham)
- Chairman Gorham stated we discussed this at the last meeting and asked Admin to come back with their suggestion. Comptroller Kindelberger stated that admin staff felt that the suggestion of 5:30pm works best. It allows the office to stay open until 5 and gives staff 30 minutes to get to the training center and saves 30 minutes of comp time.
    - Director McCarter motioned to change the meetings to 5:30 pm starting on the next meeting. Director Juneau 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor, motion carried.
- F. Discussion and possible action regarding: Budget line, Legal Fees account number 705.01, total cost this fiscal year and last fiscal year and use of attorney. (Osborn)
- Director Osborn stated that he asked admin to put together all the attorney bills. I see a lot of these have Lovelle Barnett name attached. I don't know why the taxpayers are paying her legal fees when she has complaints about the fire department. Last year she cost the taxpayer \$1,466.00, this year so far \$2,156.00 in legal fees. She complains about us throwing money away but she continues to cost the taxpayer's money. We need to find a way to recoup our money from her. She complains to the Attorney General and then we must defend ourselves. Chairman Gorham stated that she has recently submitted two more complaints to the Attorney General's office which will cost us thousands of dollars, and they will find in our favor but we still have to pay the attorney fees. Director Osborn stated we can not continue to pay her legal fees when she is not knowledgeable enough to figure out what she is complaining about. I would like to get the public's input. Chief Yeager stated that by law when a citizen makes a complaint it automatically goes to our attorney, we don't even get to see it first. Our attorney reviews it and determines if there is a violation and if we have to act on it. This is the system; the citizen has a right to make a complaint. Chairman Gorman stated that it costs anywhere from \$1,500 to \$2,500 dollars per complaint. Since I've been on this Board we have had five complains and only one stuck. That was a violation by a Board Member that turned herself in. There is not anything the Board can do. Director Juneau asked if we can make it known to the public what is going on. Chairman Gorham stated that we can publish in the minutes but how many people read the minutes. Director Osborn stated he would like to inform the public monthly what the attorney fees cost.
    - Director Osborn motioned to have an agenda item each meeting going forward to discuss the attorney fees for the current month. Director McCarter 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor, motion carried.
- G. Discussion and possible action regarding: Move November Board Meeting from November 23, 2017 to November 16, 2017 due to Thanksgiving holiday. (Administration)
- Director Osborn motioned to move November meeting one week earlier. Director Juneau 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor, motion carried.
- H. Discussion and possible action regarding: Move December Board Meeting from December 28, 2017 to December 21, 2017 due to the Christmas holiday. (Administration)

- o Director McCarter motioned to move December meeting one week earlier. Director Osborn 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor, motion carried.

I. Discussion only regarding: Review of Records Requests from July, August and September 2017. (Gorham)

- Chairman Gorham stated that the people of Golden Valley need to know how their money is spent. Citizens have a right to request record request, unless they ask for them to be printed there is no cost. The office staff spends a lot of time to fill these requests. I asked for this quarters' request and going forward we are going to read these each meeting. Chairman Gorham read the following:

Date	By	Item	Pages	Ready on	Picked up	Fees
07/03/17	Lovelle Barnett	June 2017 Payroll Check stubs for Kindelberger, Fleischmann, Sutherland, Arnold	12	7/11/2017	7/14/2017	View Only
07/03/17	Lovelle Barnett	June 2017 Profit and Loss Statement and Balance Sheet	4	07/18/17 - had to wait for the Mohave County Bank Statement	Not Picked up Yet	
07/03/17	Lovelle Barnett	View retirement policy on non-suppression employees	1	7/11/2017	7/14/2017	View Only
07/10/17	Lovelle Barnett	June 2017 Check Register	7	7/11/2017	7/14/2017	View Only
07/18/17	Lovelle Barnett	June 2017 Checkbook Register	3	7/18/2017	Not Picked up Yet	
07/18/17	Lovelle Barnett	Compete Public Records Requests, emails, log sheets from Jan 2017 to present	16	7/24/2017	Not Picked up Yet	
07/25/17	Lovelle Barnett	Jan 2017 to July 2017 Visa Card Statements	36	7/27/2017	Not Picked up Yet	
07/25/17	Lovelle Barnett	Income Statement vs budget July 2016 to June 30, 2017 and the Balance Sheet for July 2016 to June, 30 2017.		Not Filled. Would not answer email question if she wanted monthly reports or one YTD report.		
08/06/17	Lovelle Barnett	Invoice for hours and parts billed to LMRFD for Mechanical work		Document does not exist.		
08/18/17	Lovelle Barnett	Invoice to LMRFD for vacation backfill		Document does not exist.		
08/31/17	Lovelle Barnett	Article 62 Before and after board approval on August 23, 2017	2	9/6/2017	Not Picked up Yet	
08/31/17	Lovelle Barnett	District's HIPPA policy	2	9/6/2017	Not Picked up Yet	
09/09/17	Joanne Issel	Copy of complaints by Lovelle Barnett		No Documents exists, verbal complaints by citizen		
09/11/17	Peter VanVeen	Fire Report for his residence	9	9/22/2017	9/22/2017	\$0.00
09/11/17	Eva Scott	Cost of fuel for shop and mileage for Mechanic for 2016 and 2017	2	9/21/2017	Not Picked up Yet	
09/12/17	Joanne Issel	Comp Time Records for Kindelberger, Fleishmann and Sutherland for Jan 2017 to July 12, 2017 (correction Sept 12)	3	9/21/2017	9/22/2017	\$1.50

Chairman Gorham also noted that the payroll check stubs and the comp time records were posted on Facebook. This is what our money is spent on, we are not technically advanced where we just access these files electronically and press a button. Staff must find and pull files and make copies to get this done. We can't charge for the time to process these requests. These expenses can damage a budget. I am not saying that this is going to put the District in bankruptcy. I, as the Chairman have a responsibility to watch our budget every month. If I see the District moving to an unstable situation

I have to notify the County. Then the County will step in and take any action they think is necessary to correct the situation. The first thing the County will do is appoint an administrator. That administrator will do whatever he sees necessary. In my option he would start shuttering fire stations. We are not in this position, but this is what can happen if expenses get out of hand. We are going to do this every month so the public knows what we are spending our money on. Director Juneau stated that it seems like just one person, twelve requests and six not picked up. Seems like harassment.

- No Action

**8. CALL TO THE PUBLIC.** *Consideration and discussion of comments and complaints from the public. Those wishing to address the Golden Valley 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, unless the item is specifically noticed for discussion or legal action. 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 that is not on the Agenda due to restrictions of the Open Meeting Law.*

- Citizen Eva Scott addressed the Board with the following prepared statement:

My question is for the Board, how many of you are PHD's or PA's. If not, how can you sit up on the Board and give your diagnosis of a citizen and slander that person in a public meeting stating that she is mentally imbalanced and publicize that in your minutes. Also, two years ago this Board had a Chairperson who had also slandered me and my business online media with your mechanic and now you are attacking citizens by calling them mentally imbalanced. To me and a lot of others in this community and your lack of credentials to start calling citizens mentally imbalanced is appalling and unethical. I did make a records request, I also emailed and told them my car was broke down so here is your dollar for my copies (threw the bag of coins on the counter). I don't appreciate you speaking as if it is only one person requesting this. Lovelle Barnett does a lot of information for a lot of people in this community. They cannot get to these meetings, they do not have computers to go online to read everything. I haven't been here in a long time but I feel the need it's time to start bringing the citizens back in here again if this is what we have to listen to.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT.**

- Director Gorham adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:45p.m.

**MINUTES prepared by: JoAnn Fleischmann / Mindy Kindelberger**  
*(This is a working draft, until Board approval)*

**Date:** 10/03/2017