



# Golden Valley Fire District

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[www.GoldenValleyFire.org](http://www.GoldenValleyFire.org)



## 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 **Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.** The meeting was 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

- Chair Foster called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m.

#### 2. ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS

- Director Gary Juneau, Director George Payntar, Chair Sue Foster, Clerk Tony DeMaio, and Director Jack Hommel were present.

#### 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

#### 4. PRAYER

- Pastor Mike Willis from Abundant Grace of Laughlin led the board meeting in prayer.

#### 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes of June 28, 2023.
  - Director Hommel motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Chairperson Foster 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motioned carried.

#### 6. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

- A. June 2023 Operational Report. (Chief Cunningham)
  - Chief Cunningham stated for the month of June there were 264 total calls: 154 were medical-related calls and 19 fire-related calls.
- 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)*
  - District properties
    - Station 12 both bay garage door motors have been replaced. HVAC unit needed refrigerate.
    - PSTC the HVAC unit in the FF classroom needed some repairs.
  - Equipment
    - Engine 121 was out of service for a fuel tank leak, also some AC issues were fixed. It is coming back from Phoenix to go back in service.
    - Engine 112 had an ignition issue that effected the fuel shut down solenoid, unit is now back in service.
    - Engine 131 had a tire replaced; it had a split in the sidewall. Also, there is a leak in the water tank, this tank is under warranty.

- Attack 115 is out of service for new brakes.
- Training
  - Currently doing in-house training.
- Meetings Attended
  - The Mohave County Fire Officers Meeting is tomorrow, current topic is the JPA.
  - Chief Cunningham attended the Fire Chief's Conference in Glendale and received a lot of good information.
- Projects in the works
  - We had an extrication tools demo with battery powered tools. These eliminate a lot of additional equipment like hoses and power units. We have looked at electric tools in the past, but the batteries didn't last very long. But the technology has advanced and are putting out really good tools. We still have some more demos than we will bring to the board. The approximate cost for three sets is \$100,000. Our extrication tools are 12 years old.
  - We are currently working on an Incident Management Systems Grant. This was brought to legislation last year as Senate Bill 1711. This is for a state funded 3-year grant for a system platform that is specifically designed for public safety, it helps aid us for incident management. This would also replace our scheduling program Aladtec and Active 911 which we currently pay for. This grants value to us is about \$160,000. After the first three years they are hoping to extend it three more years. The state has over 6 million in the budget for public safety, and we are hoping that the state will continue to pay for the system. If the grant doesn't extend past the first 3-years then we have a couple of options; we can buy the system at a discounted rate or cancel the service.
- Thank-you
  - Thank you to Pastor Mike for being here today with us.
- Anniversaries
  - Captain Chad Lewis ~ 16 years
  - Engineer Gus Alvarez ~ 13 years
  - Comptroller Mindy Kindelberger ~ 8 years
  - Engineer Hunter Davis ~ 7 years
  - Firefighter Bryar Travis ~ 2 years
  - Admin Assistant Bobbie Schott ~ 1 year Bobbie has tendered her resignation, her last day is tomorrow.

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

- A. Discussion and possible action regarding: Request by Golden Valley Events for a reduction or waiver of fees for their annual Community Christmas party at the Public Safety Training Center.
- Comptroller Kindelberger stated that Veronica Gutierrez and Elena Malaro from Golden Valley Events are present to speak to the board. Veronica passed out a handout to the board showing the events that Golden Valley Events host annually and all events are free to the public. We host the community Christmas party with about 300 attendees. We are asking for a fee waiver or reduction. Director Hommel asked about insurance and clean up. Kindelberger stated that they will supply their own insurance. Veronica stated that they will do all the cleanup. Chairperson Foster asked if the dinner is catered. Veronica replied that volunteers do all the cooking. Clerk DeMaio asked why they are not going back to the Landowners Building. Elena stated that the building was too small. Clerk DeMaio noted that the last time the event was held at PSTC the board reduced the fees by 50%.
    - Director DeMaio motioned to reduce the fees by 50%. Director Hommel 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor, motion carried.
- B. Discussion and possible action regarding: Approval of June 2023 financial reports. (Administration)
- Comptroller Kindelberger noted for the month of June 2023 the ending register balance for the warrant account at Wells Fargo Bank was \$1,088,407.17. Capital reserve account at Wells Fargo

Bank was \$201,122.87. Payroll account at National Bank of Arizona ending register balance \$100,003.04. Revenue \$176,315.92; Expenses \$282,635.72.

- Chair Foster motioned to approve the June 2023 financial report as presented. Director Hommel 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- C. Discussion and possible action regarding: Adoption of fiscal year 2023/2024 final budget, budget certification, and resolution. (Cunningham)
- Chief Cunningham stated that nothing has changed since the public hearing, there is a new form required by the State of Arizona. Director Payntar asked about the grant total in 2023 being \$87,694 and then jumps up to \$256,835. Comptroller Kindelberger explained that on this new form we list 2022 and 2023 actual numbers not the budgeted numbers. The \$87k is the amount we received in grants last year. Chief Cunningham added that we need to budget high just because we don't know what grants might come up and we might be awarded during the year. Also, we have to budget for the grant match share.
    - Clerk DeMaio motioned to adopt the budget for fiscal year 2023/2024, the budget certification and resolution. Director Hommel 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor, motion carried.
- D. Discussion only: Review records request for the month of June 2023. (Administration)
- Comptroller Kindelberger stated the following requests:
    - 6/8/23 Joe Kulik, permitting of tanks on properties owned by NexGen Cryogenic Solutions, no records. 6/13/23 Robert Hartwig, fire report, still in process. 6/29/23 Armand LaFond, fire report, still in process.
    - No Action
- E. Discussion and possible action regarding: Respond to The Mohave County Fire Officer's letter regarding inclusion in a feasibility study for a Joint Powers Authority. (Cunningham)
- Chief Cunningham informed the board that this JPA has been a topic for the last 5 years. We passed on the last JPA study 3 years ago. Since the failure of Prop 310, fire districts are looking for cost saving measures. Arizona Fire and Medical Authority is a good example of how it can be in the future for other fire districts that follow their lead. We would like to be included in the study to see what it would look like and what savings there would be. I recommend that we entertain the feasibility study, I don't know the cost because it depends on how many fire districts are involved in the study. The cost savings are not immediate, it will be more like 3 to 5 years out. These studies stay on the conservative side. This could give us good information of a consolidation or IGA with our neighboring districts if we chose not to enter the JPA. Director DeMaio stated that he has a lot of reservations. I have a lot of questions that I don't know if the study will answer all of them. Is it going to outline the power plan, succession plan, the structure. AZ Fire Medical Authority has done a great job but I have yet to see in writing how they did it, why they did it, where it gave positive benefit or where it gave negative benefit. This has been talked about for a long time, but I have yet to see a written document of what the plan is. I worry that some of the authority of this larger fire department would fall under the Board of Supervisors. Each fire district would turn over their assets to the fire authority. Rather than joining this JPA we could pool our resources without signing over all our assets to this large encompassing fire district. We already pooled our health care costs. Once we enter the JPA it is a legal, political mess to exit. Chairperson Foster asked how this is different than what we are doing with Yucca Fire. Chief Cunningham stated that we are consolidating with Yucca Fire. Yucca Fire becomes a part of Golden Valley Fire and there will be one board, budget, etc. With the JPA each fire district retains their own boards. DeMaio added that the JPA is a joining of forces to pool their assets. Chief Cunningham stated that the employees will all be employed by the Fire Authority which would keep employees from leaving from one district to another. We all would be under one employer. This step is to approve to be included in the study. When we find out the cost, we will bring it back to the board.
    - Clerk DeMaio motioned to express our interest in finding out what the feasibility study would cost and move forward with that. Director Hommel 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor, motion carried.
- F. Discussion and possible action regarding: Approval for audit services with Saunders Company. (Administration)

- Comptroller Kindelberger stated that our auditor reached out to staff last week and they are scheduling on-site visits. We need to have a signed agreement to get on their schedule. The agreement is for 3 years at \$9,400 per year plus expenses. This is a decrease of \$400 per year.
  - Clerk DeMaio motioned to approve. Director Juneau 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor, motion carried.

**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.*

- None

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

- Chairperson Foster adjourned the meeting at approximately 9: a.m.

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

**Date:** 07/26/2023

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Board Clerk, Tony DeMaio

Approved: