



# 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 **Wednesday, December 20, 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 George Payntar, Chair Sue Foster, and Clerk Tony DeMaio were present. Director Gary Juneau and Director Jack Hommel were absent.

#### 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

#### 4. PRAYER

- Pastor Mike Willis from Abundant Grace of Laughlin was unavailable for the meeting.

#### 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes of November 15, 2023
- B. Executive Meeting Minutes of November 15, 2023
- C. Special Meeting Minutes of December 6, 2023
  - Director Payntar motioned to approve all the minutes as presented. Clerk DeMaio 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motioned carried.

#### 6. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

- A. November 2023 Operational Report. (Chief Cunningham)
  - Chief Cunningham stated for the month of November there were 255 calls total: 163 medical-related calls and 12 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 – Chief Martin
    - Nothing to report.
  - Equipment – Chief Martin
    - Water Tender 138 steer tires were replaced.
    - Engine 131, back in service after water tank and valves were repaired.
  - Training
    - Nothing to report.

- Meetings Attended
  - Will be attending a JPA meeting this afternoon. They are still collecting information from other districts.
- Projects in the works
  - Working on the Yucca consolidation.
  - Working on the NAFD shared services IGA.
  - I told the board last meeting that I would research the additional cost of \$14k on the quote for the two new fire engines. We had made some requests for upgrades which included: Scene lights, air brake compressor, upgraded AC unit, front bumper cover for the hose well. That is about \$7k per fire engine.
- Thank you
  - None
- Anniversaries
  - Engineer Chris Beckes – 13 years
  - Engineer Tony DeAngelo – 8 years
  - Engineer Brian Abraham – 6 years.

## 7. 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 regarding possible Board action on Yucca Fire District Consolidation Resolution submitted to the Fire Board.
- Clerk DeMaio motioned to enter executive session. Director Payntar 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

The executive session began at approximately 9:09 a.m.

The public session reconvened at approximately 9:51 a.m.

## 8. 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: Election of Board Chairperson and Board Clerk. (Administration)
- Chairperson Foster stated that we will be moving this item to the end of the agenda due to documents having been prepared with the current Chairperson and Clerk's name and Director Juneau will be late.
- B. Discussion and possible action regarding: Pursuant to ARS §48-822 (C)(2), Yucca Fire District Consolidation Resolution; possible schedule for public hearing after notice to all residents of the District. (Cunningham)
- Clerk DeMaio motioned pursuant to ARS §48-822 to consider the Yucca Fire District resolution regarding possible consolidation of the Yucca Fire District into the Golden Valley Fire District and to authorize Board members to execute a resolution approving the consideration of same. Chairperson Foster 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- C. Discussion and possible action regarding: Approval of November 2023 financial reports. (Administration)
- Comptroller Kindelberger noted for the month of November 2023 the ending register balance for the warrant account at Wells Fargo Bank was \$1,369,706.34. Capital reserve account at Wells Fargo Bank was \$204,290.05. Payroll account at National Bank of Arizona ending register balance \$100,744.72. Revenue \$703,393.05; Expenses \$278,812.98.
  - Clerk DeMaio motioned to approve the financial report as presented. Director Payntar 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- D. Discussion only: Review records requests for the month of November. (Administration)
- Comptroller Kindelberger read the following:

11/27/23 Valerie Gomez, incident report and EMS report, ready 11/29/23, no charge.

- No Action

- E. Discussion and possible action regarding: Request from Embark Truck Driving School to store semi-trucks on district property and renegotiate the rental fee. (Cunningham)
- Chief Cunningham stated that prior trucking companies have stored trucks here and we were charging them \$950 a month. Currently Embark is paying \$500 per month. The trucks are not in an area that will affect GVFD's use of the training center.
    - Clerk DeMaio motioned to allow Embark Truck Driving School to park their semi-trucks at the training center and increase the monthly rent to \$950 effective January 1, 2024. Chairperson Foster 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- F. Discussion and possible action regarding: Implement accounting policy regarding Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncement 87. Limitation for inclusion under the lease standards of GASB 87 will be leases in excess of \$20,000: approval of resolution regarding same. (Administration)
- Comptroller Kindelberger stated that during the annual audit our CPA recommended implementing this change. This will exclude small leases from the audit process. This is a change that is allowed under GASB 87.
    - Chairperson Foster motioned the governing board to implement accounting policy regarding leases under GASB 87 and approve the resolution. Clerk DeMaio 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- G. Discussion and possible action regarding: Approval of service agreements with Griffith Energy LLC effective January 1, 2024. (Cunningham)
- Chief Cunningham stated that our agreements with Griffith Energy will expire on December 31, 2023. These agreements are for four years with an increase each year of 3%. The suppression agreement is \$300,499.92 per year and the inspection agreement is for \$7,994.49 per year. Griffith Energy has already signed the agreements.
    - Clerk DeMaio motioned to approve the service agreements with Griffith Energy, LLC as presented. Director Payntar 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- H. Discussion and possible action regarding: Review facilities lease agreement with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints prepared by our legal counsel. (Cunningham)
- Chief Cunningham stated that legal counsel has prepared the lease agreement for a term of one year and increased the security deposit to \$1,000. The rental fee of \$2,300 per month was based on our current fee schedule.
    - Director Payntar moved the governing board to approve the lease agreement as written by legal counsel. Chairperson Foster 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- I. Discussion and possible action regarding: Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Northern Arizona Fire District for shared services; approval of resolution regarding same. (Cunningham)
- Chief Cunningham stated that we just received this last night and NAFD has not seen it yet. If it is approved, we will send it over for NAFD to take to their board. They may have changes that would come back to this board. We are not signing the agreement today, just approval to send to NAFD. Director Payntar asked the Chief if he felt this is going to benefit GVFD. The Chief replied that this is what fire districts should be doing. Instead of two fire chiefs, two assistant fire chiefs, two fire marshals, two admin assistants, we can share that expense. The cost savings are approximately 50k for GVFD and 28k for NAFD. One thing I did not include on the NAFD side is that the office manager that just left was making 20k more than the new office manager coming in. I think this is a good thing for both districts. If it doesn't work out for either district, we can cancel it. I think it is worth

trying. Clerk DeMaio asked about the wages, it looks like everyone is getting a pay increase except Chief Martin. Chief Cunningham stated that Chief Martin just got an increase July 1<sup>st</sup> when the pay scale was revised and his position was given steps, so he is not topped out. But the board can revisit his wages. I was trying to bring up the assistant chief pay at NAFD to be closer to what Chief Martin is making. I could bring Chief Martin to the next step, but we would need to recalculate the numbers. Comptroller Kindelberger let the board know that there is not a separate resolution to approve as the attorney wrote the resolution into the IGA document.

- Clerk DeMaio motioned the governing board to approve the IGA for shared employment services with the GVFD and NAFD. Chairperson Foster 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Revisit agenda item 8A.

A. Discussion and possible action regarding: Election of Board Chairperson and Board Clerk.

(Administration)

- Comptroller Kindelberger informed that board that the board can proceed with only three board members, or the board can table this until the next meeting. The board discussed and decided to move forward with the election. Clerk DeMaio asked for nominations for the position for the Chair. Chairperson Foster nominated Tony DeMaio, DeMaio accepted. Chairperson Foster nominated Gary Juneau, Comptroller Kindelberger stated that Gary Juneau indicated he was interested in being the Chairman. No discussion.
  - Chairperson Foster motioned to accept Tony DeMaio as Chairperson. Director Payntar 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- Chairman DeMaio asked for nominations for the position of Board Clerk. DeMaio nominated Sue Foster, Sue Foster accepted. No discussion.
  - Director Payntar motioned to accept Sue Foster as Board Clerk. Chairman DeMaio 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

**9. 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

## 10. ADJOURNMENT

- Chairman DeMaio adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:23 a.m.

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

**Date:** 12/20/2023

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Board Clerk, Sue Foster

Approved: