



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, May 27, 2026, 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 public will have physical access to the meeting place at 8:45 a.m. 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 Tony DeMaio called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS

- Director Pamela Perata, Clerk Sue Foster, Chairman Tony DeMaio, Director Gary Juneau and Director Connie Allen were present.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes for April 22, 2026
- B. Executive Session Meeting Minutes for April 22, 2026
 - Clerk Foster motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Director Perata 2nd. All in favor, motion carried unanimously.

5. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

- A. April 2026 Operational Report. (Chief Cunningham)
 - Chief Cunningham reported that there was a total of 284 calls; 24 fire and 174 EMS/rescue.
- 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)*
 - Pinning Ceremony – Firefighter Spencer Mudgett was sworn in by Battalion Chief Robert Arnold and pinned by his wife, Cheryl.
 - Properties – Chief Martin
 - Station 13 HVAC is leaking and needs to be replaced; it was serviced for now so the living quarters are cool but won't last long. Later this morning there will be quotes provided to the board for replacement of the unit.

- Station 13 and PSTC Ice machines are now back in service.
- Equipment – Chief Martin
 - Attack 115 transmission blew; Emergency Vehicle Repair took the transmission from Attack 135 and put into Attack 115
 - Attack 125 had front end work done at the Dodge dealership, thought it was under warranty, it is two months out of warranty due to Rebel purchasing it and the dealer automatically put it in service which is inaccurate. Chief Martin is currently trying to resolve the issue; the front-end work will be reimbursed by the dealership
- Meetings – Chief Martin
 - Mohave County Officers, Fire Marshals, and Prehospital Care meetings
- Training – Chief Cunningham
 - April training hours were 159.
- Projects in the works – Chief Cunningham
 - Tower is progressing
- Thank you
 - Received from Casey Kendel, thanked the crew for going above and beyond for him and his family. Chief Cunningham stated that this letter was provided to all involved; thanked the responders for their professionalism and he's proud of them
- Anniversaries
 - Engineer Scott Proudfoot 17 years, Battalion Chief Robert Arnold 16 years, and Firefighter Joseph McKinney 6 years.

6. 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: Review proposed rental rates for Golden Valley Christian Academy for use of the PSTC gym. (Administration)

- Assistant Sakusky addressed the board that staff has provided multiple options for billing that the Golden Valley Christian Academy is seeking to rent for their sports seasons. Staff only asks that the governing board chooses to bill monthly for the fees and for individual games. Chairman DeMaio briefed the board on his discussion with Comptroller Kindelberger. Chairman DeMaio is asking staff to bring back the fee schedule to the board to adjust the nonprofit rental fees. Chairman DeMaio presented his own recommendation to the board; \$25 per hour - four hour minimum for practices that also includes the kitchen; non-negotiable; monthly billing and bill games individually at the rate of \$82.52 (25% discount rate). Kayla Artz and Jamie Shelton addressed the board and answered questions, which lead to a lengthy discussion.
 - Chairman DeMaio motioned to set the rental agreement with the Golden Valley Christian Academy at \$25 flat rate per hour with a four-hour minimum for practices which includes the use of the kitchen billed monthly and also a flat fee of \$82.52 billable per game. Clerk Foster 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried unanimously. Jamie Shelton addressed the board again which led to a lengthy discussion.

B. Discussion and possible action regarding: Approval of April 2026 financial reports. (Administration)

- Assistant Sakusky noted for the month of April that the ending register balance for the warrant account at Wells Fargo was \$1,488,961.28; payroll account ending register balance at National Bank of Arizona was \$130,109.67; and the capital reserve account ending register balance at Wells Fargo was \$647,693.33. Revenue \$974,391.28 and Expenses \$572,788.03.
 - Director Perata motioned to approve the April 2026 financial reports as presented. Director Juneau 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried unanimously.
- C. Discussion and possible action regarding: Add check signer Connie Allen to National Bank of Arizona account ending #1439 and Wells Fargo Bank warrant account #6156590. (Administration)
 - Assistant Sakusky stated we have a new board member that needs to be added to the bank accounts as a signer.
 - Director Juneau motioned to approve adding Connie Allen as a check signer to the National Bank of Arizona account ending #1439 and Wells Fargo Bank warrant account #6156590. Clerk Foster 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried unanimously.
- D. Discussion and possible action regarding: Approval of IGA with Mohave County for Election Services; approval of resolution regarding same. (Administration)
 - Assistant Sakusky stated that staff received the requested fee schedules for the attached IGA for election services and it's ready for approval; the attorney has reviewed and approved.
 - Director Allen motioned to approve the IGA with Mohave County for Election Services and resolution regarding the same. Director Juneau 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried unanimously.
- E. Discussion and possible action regarding: Approval of the tentative budget for FY27, FY28 and FY29; also set public hearing for budget. (Cunningham)
 - Chief Cunningham met with all board members to review the budget in detail prior to this meeting; asked the board if they wanted him to go over the budget again at this time and reminded the board that this budget does include a 3% COLA. None of the board members wanted to go over the budget again.
 - Chairman DeMaio motioned to approve the tentative budget for fiscal years 27, 28, & 29 and set the public hearing for the next scheduled monthly meeting on June 24, 2026. Clerk Foster 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried unanimously.
- F. Discussion and possible action regarding: Approve 3% COLA increase for full-time employees wages effective June 30, 2026; approval of new pay scale. (Cunningham)
 - Chief Cunningham is proposing a 3% COLA increase to the wage scale. This would be for full-time employees only. The COLA is included in the tentative budget as stated before; we need to stay competitive with the surrounding districts.
 - Director Juneau motioned to approve the new wage scale with a 3% COLA for all full-time employees effective June 30, 2026. Director Allen 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried unanimously.
- G. Discussion and possible action regarding: Approval of addendum to the Fire Chief's contract for 3% COLA increase effective June 30, 2026. (Cunningham)
 - Chief Cunningham stated that he is not paid per the wage scale but is on a separate contract, this addendum would afford the same 3% COLA the full-time employees will be receiving. Director Juneau addressed Chief Cunningham about his current contract and the request of a COLA which led to a lengthy discussion.

- Director Allen motioned to approve the addendum to the fire chief's contract for a 3% COLA effective June 30, 2026. Chairman DeMaio 2nd the motion. Clerk Foster, Chairman DeMaio, Director Perata and Director Allen voted to approve motion; Director Juneau objected motion. Motion carried.
- H. Discussion and possible action regarding: Approval of the Pension Funding Policy per A.R.S §16-225(c). (Administration)
- Assistant Sakusky updated the board that as of June 30, 2025 Tier 1 and Tier 2 funding have decreased from 83.2% to 78.4% and Tier 3 is fully funded at 102.4%. Our pension plan with PSPRS is underfunded and we are currently on a 20-year amortization to bring the pension account to 100% funded. The goal is to be funded by 2036.
 - Chairman DeMaio motioned to approve the Pension Funding Policy. Director Juneau 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried unanimously.
- I. Discussion and possible action regarding: Approval of the Delegation Agreement between Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and the Golden Valley Fire District. (Martin)
- Chief Martin updated the board on the agreement between Golden Valley Fire District and AZ Department of Environmental Quality to delegate GVFD to issue burn permits on behalf of ADEQ.
 - Director Juneau motioned to approve the Delegation Agreement between Arizona Department of Environment Quality and the Golden Valley Fire District. Clerk Foster 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried unanimously.
- J. Discussion and possible action regarding: Approval of HVAC unit replacement at Station 13; exceeds Fire Chief spending limit. (Martin)
- Chief Martin stated that the HVAC unit is failing at Station 13 and needs to be replaced and presented bids from Greenway Heating and Cooling and Kramer's Air Conditioning LLC. There was a discussion on authorizing Chief Martin to reach out to A-Z Refrigeration for their bid and compare.
 - Director Juneau motioned to authorize Chief Martin to get a bid from A-Z Refrigeration and ask Greenway Heating and Cooling to match Kramer's Air Conditioning LLC bid of \$12,865 and authorize Chief Martin to proceed to replace the HVAC unit to not exceed \$12,865. Director Allen 2nd motion. All in favor, motion carried unanimously.
7. **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.*
- Director Juneau wanted to note that the cookies and coffee was not provided by the fire district; was provide by board members; no tax money was used.
8. **ADJOURNMENT**
- Chairman DeMaio motioned to adjourn the meeting. Clerk Foster 2nd, all in favor, motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

MINUTES prepared by: Tonia Sakusky
(This is a working draft until board approval)

Date: 05/28/2026

By: _____
Sue Foster, Board Clerk

Approved:

DRAFT