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, July 22, 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 DeMaio called the meeting to order at approximately 9:01 a.m.

2. **ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS**
   - Chairman Tony DeMaio, Clerk Sue Foster, Director Gary Juneau and Director Connie Allen were present. Director Pamela Perata was absent.

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
   - The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

   A. Regular Meeting Minutes for June 24, 2026
      - Director Juneau motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Director Allen 2nd. All in favor, motion carried unanimously.

5. **REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

   A. June 2026 Operational Report. (Chief Cunningham)
      - Chief Cunningham reported that there was a total of 315 calls; 43 fire and 231 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)*
      - Properties – Chief Martin
        - Properties are good currently; in the near future will be looking at two more swamp coolers at Station 11 and replacing the swamp coolers at the PSTC possibly with mini split unit.

- Equipment – Chief Martin
  - Engine 131 is out of service due to a throttle response issue and cab lift motor failed. Due to the age of engine, it's harder to come across parts, however, the mechanic was able to get the parts needed.
  - Engine 121 was put back into service and had issues so now is out of service again.
- Training – Chief Cunningham
  - June training hours were 81 and three firefighters are set to attend fire school in September.
- Projects in the works – Chief Cunningham
  - The 2.5 acres that was priorly donated to the GVFD out by Griffith was surveyed by GVFD and will be receiving the paperwork shortly, once received Chief will take to the county. This property is a great site for a future station.
- Anniversaries – Chief Cunningham
  - Battalion Chief Chad Lewis 19 years, Comptroller Mindy Kindelberger 11 years and Engineer Bryar Travis 5 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: Adoption of fiscal years 26/27, 27/28, 28/29 final budget, certification and resolution. (Cunningham)
- Chief Cunningham stated the Northern Arizona Fire District contract was removed, Comptroller Kindelberger balanced out the cash account so the total budget was reduced by $15,371.00.
  - Director Juneau motioned to approve to approve the FY 26/27, 27/28, 28/29 final budget, certification and resolution. Director Allen 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried unanimously.

B. Discussion and possible action regarding: Approval of May 2026 financial reports. (Administration)
- Comptroller Kindelberger noted for the month of June that the ending register balance for the warrant account at Wells Fargo was $1,094,517.49; payroll account ending register balance at National Bank of Arizona was $130,000.62; and the capital reserve account ending register balance at Wells Fargo was $650,678.50. Revenue $202,079.78 and Expenses $422,242.64.
  - Clerk Foster motioned to approve the June 2026 financial reports as presented. Director Juneau 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried unanimously.

C. Discussion and possible action regarding: Revision of fee schedule and resolution of the same. (Administration)
- Comptroller Kindelberger stated that the Fire Marshal had a few changes that were not discussed at the last meeting and presented a redline copy of potential changes. The only other item not discussed was the requested daily rate by the Arizona Department of Forestry for use of the PSTC for their wildland crews. The board reviewed the document provided. Chief Martin stated that some review/plan fees may need to come back to the board for special items on plan reviews; also discussed the Forestry's use of facility during wildland deployments in the area, they camp out in the PSTC typically only here around twelve hours. When they have been here, they've done maintenance and various things for the district. Our recommendation is for a daily rate would be $200 per day. Chairman DeMaio stated in reviewing the rates there is a discrepancy in the discount rates for

nonprofit. Comptroller Kindelberger stated that the gym was a 40% discount and the classroom only came to 19% discount, that's the discrepancy, it should be consistent. There was a brief discussion.

   - Chairman DeMaio motioned to approve the new fee schedule with the 40% across the board for non-profit and add the daily rate for the Arizona Department of Forestry be $200 per day and the resolution.
     Clerk Foster 2nd motion. All in favor, motion carried unanimously.

D. Discussion only: Dissolve the Volunteer Firefighters program and Volunteer Firefighters Pension Plan. (Cunningham)

- Chief Cunningham stated that due to low participation in our volunteer program he'd like to get input from the board on dissolving the volunteer program along with the pension plan. The pension plan was a requirement to having a volunteer program back in the 1990's when the pension was set up. The requirement is no longer in place. We struggle to get board members for the board. The battalion chief spends a lot of time hiring volunteers and then they don't show up. Admin puts in a lot of work to process and there is an expense for each volunteer hired. Comptroller Kindelberger will reach out to other districts to see how they do their volunteer program if there are any. Chairman DeMaio asked how many volunteers we currently have, Chief stated two currently on the list; Bruce Tennant is the one that usually participates. Chairman DeMaio asks what happens to Mr. Tennant once the program is done, Mr. Tennant asked to speak to the board which was granted by Chairman DeMaio. Mr. Tennant addressed the board about what he's been volunteering his time doing, which lead to a lengthy conversation. Comptroller Kindelberger stated that back in the 1990's it was required for an alternate plan to the PSPRS which makes it exempt from paying social security; volunteer support technically does not qualify, plan was set up for firefighters. The distribution of funds takes 60 days and we currently have four people with funds in the plan. The suspension account has $79,000 in it and can come back to GVFD but can only be spent on pension expenses. It could be sent to the PSPRS pension against our underfunding. Chairman DeMaio stated that we have a lot to think about and discuss; we will probably have to bring this program to an end but it doesn't stop us from circling back and hopefully looking to see it on another agenda at another time.
   - No action.

E. Discussion and possible action: Review quotes for HVAC replacement at station 13 and possible approval. (Cunningham)

- Chief Cunningham turned this over to Chief Martin. Chief Martin stated that he got a third quote from A-Z Refrigeration at $9,211.15, which Director Juneau stated it was beneficial going there. The unit is a different model than the other quotes. Chief Martin would like to move forward with the new bid before the unit stops working.
   - Chairman DeMaio motioned to approve the bid from A-Z Refrigeration for the replacement of the unit at station 13. Clerk Foster 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.

8. ADJOURNMENT

- Chairman DeMaio adjourned meeting at 9:37 a.m.

MINUTES prepared by: Tonia Sakusky **Date**: 07/22/2026
(This is a working draft until board approval)

By: ______________________________________ Approved:
Sue Foster, Board Clerk