



Golden Valley Fire District

749 S. Egar Road, Golden Valley, Arizona 86413

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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, September 23, 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

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

2. ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS

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

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting Minutes for August 26, 2026

- Director Juneau motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Director Allen 2nd. All in favor, motion carried unanimously.

5. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

A. September 2026 Operational Report

- Chief Cunningham reported that there was a total of 297 calls; 27 fire and 297 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
 - Station 13 – Installed new water heater
 - Station 11 – Replace HVAC capacitor
 - Station 16 – Accident with apparatus. Damaged the bottom two door panels which were replaced yesterday. Minor scratches to the truck hood and sheared off the marker lights on the top of the cab.
- Equipment – Chief Martin

- Attack 135 at the mechanics for electrical issues that will be covered under warranty.
- Engine 121 at the mechanics for air conditioning issues.
- Attack 125 which is currently in place of Attack 135 had a bent rim, which was repairable and six tires that were down to the wear bars were replaced.
- Training – Chief Cunningham
 - August training hours were 62
- Thank you
 - Many people to thank for their help on the Community Risk Reduction Event, Tony DeAngelo for putting it together, our firefighters for helping out. The public that showed up. Leon Montgomery for the DJ stuff and Great American Pizza for the food. It turned out to be a good event and the weather was nice.
 - I would like to thank Gary Juneau and the people that helped get the 1943 Chevy fire truck running. It is the oldest piece of equipment in the department.
 - Chief Martin thanked the Mohave County Road Department for their work to fill in the hole at the training center and then all the dirt grading they did.
- Anniversaries
 - Engineer James Childers - 18 years.

Note: Agenda items were taken out of order.

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.*

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

- Comptroller Kindelberger noted for the month of August that the ending register balance for the warrant account at Wells Fargo was \$571,211.67; payroll account ending register balance at National Bank of Arizona was \$16,799.03; and the capital reserve account ending register balance at Wells Fargo was \$655,395.88. Revenue \$79,331.04 and Expenses \$361,791.11.
 - Chair Pro-Tem Foster motioned to approve the August 2026 financial reports as presented. Director Perata 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried unanimously.

C. Discussion and possible action regarding: Revoke the 30-Day letter of intent to terminate the Golden Valley Fire District Volunteer Firefighter Alternative Pension & Benefit Plan and discussion of revising the plan document; send 30-day notices to the Board of Trustees and Participants of revisions and possible termination. (Cunningham)

- Comptroller Kindelberger informed the board that the 30-day notice was not presented to the board of trustees because staff discovered in the plan document that a 30-day notice to the participants is also required. Also, the plan limits what the board of trustees can use the suspense funds for, currently the plan document states that upon termination of the plan the suspense funds must be used for the retirement benefits for volunteer firefighters. The current balance is approximately \$80k and there are only two active volunteers. So, the plan would have be amended to remove the word 'volunteer' in order to send the funds to the Public Safety Pension and Retirement System to pay down our underfunding. Staff is recommending the amendment which requires a resolution to come back to the board in November after the 30-day notices are sent.

Note: Chairman DeMaio joined the meeting at 9:14 am and took control of the meeting.

- Director Juneau motioned to revoke the 30-day notice and send a new 30-day notice to all participants and the board of trustees that the board intends to revise the plan document and terminate the plan. Clerk Foster 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried unanimously.
- D. Discussion and possible action regarding: Surplus items at Station 12. (Juneau)
 - Director Juneau stated that he has been at station 12 working on the 1943 Chevy fire truck and is noticing the need to clean up all the scrap metal, batteries, tires, etc. There are retired trucks, utility beds, trailers, oxygen bottles. Maybe we can have an onsite sale. Clerk Foster asked where the money would go. Comptroller Kindelberger replied that it would go to the income line item for surplus. Chairman DeMaio asked for the Chief's input. Chief Cunningham noted that in the past the board has directed to post surplus items on the public auction website with a reserve set by the fire chief, if the item does not sell it can be re-listed with no reserve and then if it does not sell the item can be given away or thrown away. The public auction gives everyone an opportunity to bid. I think Director Juneau is talking about an auction here onsite, which we could do. The fire chief can surplus any item with a value of less than \$250.00, everything else will need a resolution from the board with direction of how to surplus. Regarding the scrap metal, I called KAR recycling center, they would bring out a dumpster for us to fill. There would be no cost to the district, they would pay us for the scrap metal. I also spoke to the prison about getting some inmate labor to help with the cleanup. Chairman DeMaio suggested that staff find out if we can have an auction on site and what the legal ramifications would be. Also, draft resolutions to surplus items at 749 S. Egar Road and resolution to surplus the vehicles to public auction. Chief Martin added that all the lights and sirens need to be removed if sold to the public.
 - Chairman DeMaio directed staff to draft a resolution to surplus vehicles to the public auction site; and staff will determine how to dispose of all other items at 749 S. Egar Road. Clerk Foster 2nd motion. All in favor, motion carried unanimously.

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)(1) for personnel matters, Fire Chief's performance evaluation and review of the evaluation form. (Foster)
 - Chairman DeMaio motioned to enter executive session. Clerk Foster 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried unanimously.

The executive session began at approximately 9:35 am

The public session reconvened at approximately 9:53 am

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: Fire Chief's performance evaluation and evaluation form. (Foster)
 - Chairman DeMaio motioned to take no action at this time. Direct staff to review and revise the chief's performance evaluation form. Clerk Foster 2nd. All in favor, motion carried unanimously.

5. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

B. Fire Chief's Report

- Chairman DeMaio stated that Chief Cunningham would like to do introductions of the fire crews to the board members now that they are all here. Chief Martin introduced the Battalion Chief of A shift, Chad Lewis. Chad Lewis introduced each firefighter to the board.
Battalion Chief – Chad Lewis – Paramedic – 19 years, started as a volunteer
Engineer Chris Beckes – Paramedic - 15 years, 19 years in the fire service
Engineer Tony DeAngelo – Absent – Paramedic – 10 years, 26 years of fire service
Engineer Jeremy Celsi – EMT – 7 years, started as volunteer in 2011, 10 years
Firefighter Ethan Martin – EMT – 1.5 years
Firefighter Matt Kleiner – EMT – 2 years, 6 years of fire service
Firefighter Leon Montgomery – Paramedic - 2 years, 32 years of fire service
Firefighter POC Stephanie Root – EMT – Was full time for 3 years, now part time. 12 years of fire service.

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.*

- Director Gary Juneau wants to thank Pam and Connie and everyone that helped with the car show this last Saturday.

9. ADJOURNMENT

- Chairman DeMaio adjourned meeting at 10:07 a.m.

MINUTES prepared by: Mindy Kindelberger
(This is a working draft until board approval)

Date: 09/23/2026

By: _____
Sue Foster, Board Clerk

Approved: