

MINUTES

**Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority
Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority Board of Directors
CA Regular Meeting
Monday, September 23, 2019, 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority, Administration,
8603 E. Eastridge Drive, Prescott Valley, Arizona**

In Attendance

Darlene Packard; Dave Dobbs; Dave Tharp; Jeff Wasowicz; Julie Pettit;
Laura Mowrer; Matt Zurcher; Nicolas Cornelius; Scott A Freitag; Susanne
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NOTICE OF MEETING

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority Board of Directors and the general public that the **Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority** will hold a meeting open to the public on **Monday, September 23, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.** The meeting will be held at **Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority, Administration, 8603 E. Eastridge Drive, Prescott Valley, Arizona.** The Board may vote to go into Executive Session on any agenda item, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3) for discussion and consultation for legal advice with Authority's Attorney on matters as set forth in the agenda item. 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.

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS

Clerk Packard called the Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority Board of Directors' meeting to order on September 23, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. Chair Pettit, Director Dobbs, and Attorney Cornelius attended telephonically. Clerk Packard acted as Chair due to Chair Pettit attending telephonically.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Packard led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. PRESENTATIONS

A. Prescott Valley Town Council Report

Prescott Valley Town Council Member Don Packard shared that Lori Hunt has been appointed to the Town Council. He provided permit and construction updates including that YRMC is building a new imaging unit. Road extensions are being considered for Jasper Road to Stoneridge, Glassford Hill Road north of 89A to Viewpoint to allow for another exit, and they are working to extend Summit Trail to Watson Lake. He also stated that the Ocean Blue Car Wash is open at Highway 69 and Prescott East Highway. The new road by Maverick on Glassford Hill Road is almost complete so the construction for another car wash can start soon. He mentioned construction of one Circle K will begin the first of next month and the second will be breaking ground by end of year. Additionally,

Heights Church is also renovating the old Albertson's store.

B. Board Members' Reports

i. Prescott Regional Communications (PRCC)

Director Wasowicz stated that we had 1,120 calls last month at just under \$32 per call, and things are going well with the new director.

ii. Public Records Requests

Director Zurcher had nothing more to add.

iii. Legal Fees

Director Zurcher stated that there were legal fees related to the ACE lawsuit.

iv. Labor/Management

Director Dobbs had nothing to report.

C. Letters from the Public

Chief Freitag shared that we received a letter from Prescott National Forest thanking Tech Services members Dave Legge and Tony Frazier for their assistance with communications during on a recent fire.

D. Monthly Division Reports from the Fire Chief and staff in regard to current activities of the Fire Authority and the status and progress relating thereto. Any item discussed in the Division Reports is subject to discussion and direction by the Board; no action will be taken.

Chief Freitag updated the Board on the status of the Johnson Fire which is under the jurisdiction of the Prescott National Forest.

Chief Freitag explained that members of CAFMA and other fire agencies struggle with PTSD, and we do not have access to culturally competent clinicians in this area. He spoke with Dr. Sara Jahnke who is a researcher, and she is going to assist him with trying to obtain a grant for a study, to include finding a local clinician.

Chief Freitag mentioned that he will be meeting with members of PFFA and municipal elected officials to discuss the workers' compensation risk pool concept.

Director Wasowicz congratulated the newly elected Union President Ben Roche.

Chief Polacek stated that Fleet Maintenance is working on the rescue unit, and he will provide an update when more information is available.

Chief Freitag stated that he is unaware of any Agency firefighters experiencing cancer. We have a lot of processes in place to protect members, but we cannot eliminate all exposures. He expects station standards to be available next year for future planning. He also mentioned a few other areas where processes are in

place to reduce exposure while on the engines.

Chief Tharp informed the Board that he will make a PSPRS presentation for them next month after he attends the annual membership meeting. He shared some areas of what will be discussed at the PSPRS meeting including their negative amortization in which they are not even covering the interest that is accruing on the principal amounts of the unfunded liability, and they have no plan to deal with unrealized earnings. Additionally, PSPRS is considering increasing the mortality rates that they use. They are reviewing their projections for annual payroll increases, and will be discussing how they plan to mitigate the billions of dollars of unfunded liability. Chief Tharp explained the items that he will be presenting to the Board next month and stated that if we don't change the plan, there will be a huge balloon payment due in 18 years that we won't be able to afford. He also mentioned some changes that PSPRS has already made with their key players and that members of the Governor's office, the Department of Public Safety, City of Phoenix, and others attended the last meeting. Some of those agencies pay billions of dollars into the fund every year.

Chair Packard shared that she attended a League of Cities and Towns meeting in which she heard a PSPRS presentation; the two new members seemed optimistic and open.

Chief Tharp stated that the Tier changes will help; however, there is concern regarding the legacy costs.

Fire Marshal Chase introduced our new Fire Inspector Apprentice Jessica Hoyt. He thanked Firefighter Ryan Ferris for his great job of organizing the Fill the Boot event for Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) and encouraging people to volunteer. CAFMA collected \$18,200 between Chino Valley and Prescott Valley; the Union as a whole collected \$29,048 and there is another event planned toward the end of the month in which they are hoping to break the \$30,000 mark. Fire Marshal Chase also stated that the plan review turn around time is currently under two weeks.

Chief Polacek had nothing to add to his report.

Chief Bliss had nothing to add to his report.

Chair Packard thanked Chief Freitag and all members for helping with the Prescott Valley Healing Field including Erik Trujillo and Norm Rorick, Cody Rose and his wife Tammy, and Station 50 C-Shift crew.

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

In accordance with A.R.S. §38-431.01(H) and as a matter of policy, the Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority Board has decided to allow public comments as time permits. Therefore, those wishing to address the Board regarding an issue within the jurisdiction of this public body may do so in an orderly manner that includes completing a Call to the Public Form and submitting it to staff for the record. If a written statement is being read, please provide a copy to ensure it is entered into the record accurately. Individuals will be limited to speak for three (3) minutes and Call to the Public shall not exceed 30 minutes per meeting.

There were no public comments.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under consent agenda are considered to be routine by the Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority Board and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items. Any item may be removed by a Board member and will be considered separately for motion, discussion and action.

- A. Approve Regular Session Minutes - August 26, 2019
- B. Approve General Fund Financial Statements
- C. Approve Fire Protection Agreements: Bailey/Loven, Kelly, Marin, Staggs
- D. Approve Policy Amendments - Policy 400 Wages and Benefits Economic Action Plan

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda items A. through G.

Move: Jeff Wasowicz Second: Matt Zurcher Status: Passed

Yes: Dave Dobbs, Darlene Packard, Julie Pettit, Jeff Wasowicz, Matt Zurcher

6. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discussion Regarding Ambulance Update

Chief Freitag advised the Board that Scott Kyle, an AMR supervisor, is in attendance and thanked him for attending meetings and staying involved. Chief Freitag asked the public to contact their legislators and express concern with the current response time standards that were set 30-40 years ago. These standards are not acceptable for the quad city area. Chief Freitag read a portion of the 1999 report including CON requirements, out-of-date response standards, and that performance reviews are not conducted for CON renewals. He also mentioned that there has been no response from the State regarding the negative response time complaints that the Agency filed. Chief Freitag suggested that standards be reviewed every three years. The Professional Firefighters of Arizona (PFFA), Arizona Fire Chiefs Association, and the Arizona Fire Districts Association (AFDA) are taking the lead on this issue, and we are providing documentation.

Chief Freitag explained that Chair Pettit and Attorney Cornelius have been involved in State level meetings. He will develop a white paper including the 1999 report and recommendations, and it can be forwarded to the legislators after the Board approves it. He has meet with Senate President Fann; however, not with Representatives Campbell or Pierce. He also mentioned that the Bureau has distributed a statewide survey.

- B. Motion, Discussion, and Action Regarding Approval to Upgrade Microsoft Exchange, Office, and Remote Desktop Services Not to Exceed \$67,447.45

Technical Services Manager Van Tuyl informed the Board that this software is nearing end of life. These items were budgeted in the capital process; however, there is a small amount that will need to be utilized from the operating budget line item for licensing. He also provided an updated cost analysis to the Board.

Motion to approve the Microsoft licensing upgrade for \$67,447.45.

Move: Matt Zurcher Second: Jeff Wasowicz Status: Passed

Yes: Dave Dobbs, Darlene Packard, Julie Pettit, Jeff Wasowicz, Matt Zurcher

- C. Motion, Discussion, and Action Regarding Approval to Purchase SCOTT SCBAs for \$1,248,512.25 from Capital Reserve Fund

Chief Polacek explained that this process began 1.5 years ago with the SCBA bottles expiring. The new 2018 Standard is expected to be complete by November. The funds were budgeted last year and rolled to this fiscal year. We are receiving reduced pricing by partnering with Golder Ranch. We are utilizing the State purchasing contract and our fleet mechanics are SCOTT certified repair technicians so servicing and testing can be performed in-house. City of Prescott also has switched to SCOTT to allow for interchangeable equipment while working a joint incident. We expect delivery in November, but there is no guarantee. Chief Polacek asked for approval to expend funds when the bottles are available. Chief Polacek explained that each person will be assigned a new mask and the bottles are on the engines. We are receiving a \$60,000 credit for returning worn out items and our quote is less than the government contract; we use the same process to purchase apparatus. Chief Polacek stated that these packs have cancer prevention standards built in, including that the harnesses can be removed and cleaned.

Chief Tharp explained that the purchases may be staggered with an initial down payment and then a final payment when all equipment is received.

Director Zurcher thanked Chief Polacek and staff for all their work.

Motion to approve purchase SCOTT SCBAs for \$1,248,512.25 from Capital Reserve Fund.

Move: Matt Zurcher Second: Jeff Wasowicz Status: Passed

Yes: Dave Dobbs, Darlene Packard, Julie Pettit, Jeff Wasowicz, Matt Zurcher

- D. Discussion and Possible Direction to Staff Regarding Processing Fire Protection Agreements

Chief Tharp explained that the Board approved the standard agreement for fire protection agreements and they could approve a resolution authorizing the Chief Freitag or his designee to sign the agreements. This would allow for a more efficient processing of agreements. If there are any changes to the agreements that would be brought back to the Board.

Attorney Cornelius advised for the Board's direction whether they would want Chief Freitag to sign new agreements or only renewals. He explained that the agreement does have protection built in with with regard to property access, hazards, etc.

Chief Polacek explained the process in which the property is inspected to verify

that coverage can be provided prior to submitting the agreement to the Board. If the property owner is told that we cannot provide coverage, they can file an appeal with the Board; except in cases of appeal, the Board only sees contracts that meet our criteria for coverage.

Director Zurcher suggested a future executive session be held to discuss this matter and Director Wasowicz was in agreement to make sure the Board is not passing on its obligation.

Attorney Cornelius asked the Board members to forward their concerns to him only via email, to avoid a quorum, so that he may provide advice.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 5:59 p.m.

Move: Matt Zurcher Second: Jeff Wasowicz Status: Passed

Yes: Dave Dobbs, Darlene Packard, Julie Pettit, Jeff Wasowicz, Matt Zurcher

Clerk / Date