

MINUTES

**Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority Board of Directors
Regular Meeting
Monday, September 25, 2023, 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority, Administration,
8603 E. Eastridge Dr., Prescott Valley**

In-Person Attendance

Denise Krizo; Gayle Pickett; Matt Zurcher; Rick Anderson; Scott A Freitag; Susanne Dixson

Remote Attendance

Nicolas Cornelius

Not In Attendance

Dave Dobbs; Lorette Stewart

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 25, 2023 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. Members may attend in person or via remote methods of communication.

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS

Chair Zurcher called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Director Pickett completed Roll Call in Director Dobbs absence.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Zurcher led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. CORRESPONDENCE AND PRESENTATIONS

A. County and Town Current Events Summaries

Town of Prescott Valley Council Member Brenda Dickenson provided information regarding current and upcoming road improvement projects, and stated that the Council has proposed upgrades to the roadway standards, including Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant guidelines. She also commented that they are utilizing a new vehicle equipped with technology that analyzes road conditions. She added that the Prescott Valley Public Library is currently undergoing renovations utilizing funds of approximately \$4.8 million received in a settlement for the poor design. Some of the upgrades include

removing and replacing the metal paneling on the exterior as well as weather proofing. She stated that the Healing Fields event at the Civic Center on September 11, 2023 was very successful, and offered information regarding some up coming events around town. The Town of Prescott Valley website has the information for these events and more scheduled in the upcoming months. She finished by sharing information regarding two new hires at the Town and said the Town of Prescott Valley is in a new election cycle with three (3) town council members up for re-election plus one vacancy that will occur, for a total of four (4) seats.

Chino Valley Vice Mayor Eric Granillo greeted the Board and reported that the Chino Valley Harvest Festival is scheduled for October 7, 2023, as well as the Chino Grand Prix on Saturday and Sunday that week. He added that the proposed Cedar Heights mining project is being monitored, but it is not within their jurisdiction. He stated that they are seeing a slow growth cycle, and they intend to do some good planning to guide development. He concluded with an update that the State Park is making progress; they are still raising funds to complete the project.

Chair Zurcher added that the Town of Chino Valley will be holding their National Night Out on October 3, 2023.

B. Letters from the Public and Board Recognition

The Board recognized Captain Nick Fournier, Jess Costa, and Kelsey Claire for their participation in the Dancing for the Stars charity event which raised more than \$57,000 for the Boys and Girls Club of Central Arizona.

Alex Heinemann, the Chief Executive Officer of the Boys and Girls Club of Central Arizona, noted that this year, for the first time, the team did not have a professional dancer. To raise more awareness of the Boys and Girls Club of Prescott Valley and the 130 kids that they serve, the team was nicknamed Team PV. He added that he appreciates all the time and effort Team PV put into their performance.

4. REPORTS

Reports are informational only. Any item articulated in the reports is subject to clarification, discussion, and direction by the Board; no action will be taken.

A. Board Member Reports

Chair Zurcher, on behalf of Director Stewart, reported that Dignity Health Yavapai Regional Medical Center is hosting an event for first responders. The First Responders Breakfast will be held on September 27, 2023 from 7:00 a.m. to 9 a.m. at either campus.

Chair Zurcher shared that he attended the 911 Ceremony held in the Town of Prescott Valley.

B. Division Reports

Chief Freitag reported that he has just returned from the Western Fire Chiefs Conference in Anchorage, AK. As previously communicated, we are seeing insurance companies beginning to cancel policies in our area, specifically citing wildfire risk. He noted how this is related to our ISO rating. Chief Freitag

added that we are meeting this week with the consultant for our Strategic Plan to review objectives and work on finalizing the draft. Lastly, the Assistant Chief of Administration position will be posted this week.

Labor Union President Ben Roche commented that they have met at State level with the Chiefs' Organization and the Professional Fire Fighters of Arizona to discuss plans and look at different alternatives for funding for Fire Districts. In regards to the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) GIS study, we are number 3 on their list for completion. The completion of this study will help with our accreditation process.

Captain Eric Merrill reported that our Recruit Academy began today, and that all ten (10) new recruits were in attendance.

At Attorney Cornelius' request, executive session was taken after item 4-B.

5. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

In accordance with A.R.S. §38-431.01(H) the Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority Board has decided to allow public comments as time permits. Those wishing to address the Board regarding an issue within the jurisdiction of this public body may do so by completing a *Call to the Public* form and submitting it to Staff. Speakers are limited to three (3) minutes, but may submit written comments for Board records. Call to the Public shall not exceed 30 minutes per meeting. Board members shall not discuss or take legal action on matters raised during an open call to the public, but may ask Staff to review a matter or may ask that a matter be placed on a future agenda.

Reconvened into Open Session at 5:56 p.m.

There were no public comments.

6. 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 28, 2023
- B. Approve Executive Session Minutes - August 28, 2023
- C. Approve Special Session Minutes - September 13, 2023
- D. Approve Executive Session Minutes - September 13, 2023
- E. Approve General Fund Financial Statements
- F. Approve Fire Protection Agreements: Dunham, Geiss, Geiss, Lambson, O'Neill, Ramirez, Torstenbo

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Move: Gayle Pickett Second: Rick Anderson Status: Passed

Yes: Matt Zurcher, Rick Anderson, Gayle Pickett

7. VOTE TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to go into Executive Session at 5:33 p.m.

Move: Gayle Pickett Second: Rick Anderson Status: Passed

Yes: Matt Zurcher, Rick Anderson, Gayle Pickett

- A. Legal Advice Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3) Regarding Ambulance Certificate of Necessity (CON)
- B. Legal Advice Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3) Regarding Lawsuit and Documents Received in Connection with Same as Filed by Alvin R. Yount
- C. Legal Advice Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3) Regarding CAFMA-AMR Litigation Matter and Status of Same

8. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Discussion Regarding Ambulance Certificate of Necessity (CON)

Chair Zurcher directed Attorney Cornelius to proceed as discussed pursuant to legal advice provided in executive session.

- B. Discussion Regarding Lawsuit and Documents Received in Connection with Same as Filed by Alvin R. Yount

Chair Zurcher directed Attorney Cornelius to proceed as discussed pursuant to legal advice provided in executive session.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discussion and Possible Instructions to Counsel Regarding CAFMA-AMR Litigation

Chair Zurcher directed Attorney Cornelius to proceed as discussed pursuant to legal advice provided in executive session.

- B. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Attorney Request for Increase in Hourly Rate Under the Fee Agreement

Attorney Cornelius stated that he cannot provide advice to the Board, as that would be a conflict of interest. He advised that due to an increase in overhead and cost of living, he is submitting a request to increase to a rate of \$285.00 per hour. Attorney Cornelius added that the last time he requested an increase in fees was in 2018.

Chair Zurcher replied that he understands the rate increase and it is justifiable due to inflation.

Motion to increase the hourly rate for legal services from \$225.00 to \$285.00 per hour under the Fee Agreement.

Move: Rick Anderson Second: Gayle Pickett Status: Passed

Yes: Matt Zurcher, Rick Anderson, Gayle Pickett

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 6:00 p.m.

Paq

Move: Gayle Pickett Second: Rick Anderson Status: Passed

Yes: Matt Zurcher, Rick Anderson, Gayle Pickett

Signature indicating approval on next page

Signature Page For: For Signature 2023 09 25 CEA Regular Meeting Minutes - Approved - Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority Board of Directors - CA Regular Meeting - 10/23/2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Dobbs', written over a horizontal line.

Dave Dobbs , Clerk 10/24/2023