

MINUTES

**Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority
Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority Board of Directors
CA Regular Meeting
Monday, August 26, 2024, 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority, Administration, 8603 E. Eastridge Drive,
Prescott Valley**

In Attendance

Cody Rose; Dave Dobbs; Denise Krizo; Gayle Pickett; Lee Barnes; Lorette
Stewart; Matt Zurcher; Nicolas Cornelius; Rick Anderson; Scott A Freitag;
Susanne Dixon

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, August 26, 2024 at 4:00 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 4:00 p.m.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Zurcher led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **CORRESPONDENCE AND PRESENTATIONS**

A. Letters from the Public and Board Recognition

Certificate of Appreciation - Geoff Garrett, Jacobs Water Distribution Operator

Chair Zurcher presented a certificate of appreciation to Geoff Garrett, a Jacobs Water Distribution Operator, for his action on a July 15, 2024 shed fire.

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 shared that he was elected to the Prescott Valley Town Council on July 30, but will serve the remainder of his term on this board.

B. Division Reports

No additional comments were given.

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.

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 - July 22, 2024
- B. Approve General Fund Financial Statements
- C. Approve Fire Protection Agreements: Barker, Hunt, and Jeffries
- D. Approve Health Information Exchange Participation, Services & Funding Agreement with Contexture

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Move: Rick Anderson Second: Dave Dobbs Status: Passed

Yes: Dave Dobbs, Matt Zurcher, Lorette Stewart, Rick Anderson, Gayle Pickett

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Discussion and Possible Approval to Hire an HR Specialist in FY 2024-2025

Chief Barnes explained that this position has been approved for the next fiscal year, but due to current workload and a scheduled Human Resources maternity leave, he is asking permission to move hiring the position to this year. He added that we have some salary savings and it should not have any impact on the budget.

Motion to approve hiring a Human Resources Specialist in FY 2024-2025.

Move: Rick Anderson Second: Lorette Stewart Status: Passed

Yes: Dave Dobbs, Matt Zurcher, Lorette Stewart, Rick Anderson, Gayle Pickett

- B. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Affordable Housing Project in Cooperation with Chino Valley School District

Chief Barnes shared that we were approached by the Chino Valley School District; the school district is pursuing grant funding, and is reaching out to us and the Town of Chino Valley. The grant would fund building duplex units, Chief Freitag stated there would be a lottery system to determine who could rent. The grant would require a 10% match, which would be split between the participating agencies.

Chair Zurcher inquired as to whether a formal IGA will be required; Chief Barnes confirmed, saying he will move forward and bring the IGA back for board approval at a later date.

8. VOTE TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to go into Executive Session at 4:09 p.m.

Move: Gayle Pickett Second: Rick Anderson Status: Passed

Yes: Dave Dobbs, Matt Zurcher, Lorette Stewart, Rick Anderson, Gayle Pickett

- A. Legal Advice Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431-03(A)(3) Regarding Lawsuit filed by Alvin R. Yount
- B. Legal Advice Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431-03(A)(3) Regarding Civil Litigation Between CAFMA and AMR in Maricopa and Yavapai Counties
- C. Legal Advice Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431-03(A)(3) Regarding CAFMA Complaint Against PSCS
- D. Legal Advice Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3) Regarding Potential Improper Disclosure of Authority Confidential Information (Kairos Data Breach)
- E. Legal Advice Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3) Regarding PFFA Cease and Desist Letter
- F. Legal Advice Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431-03(A)(3) Regarding IAFF Cease and Desist Letter
- G. Legal Advice Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431-03(A)(3) Regarding Alleged Grievance filed by Local 3066
- H. Legal Advice Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431-03(A)(3) Regarding Internal Investigation into Claims of Hostile Work Environment and Infringement of First Amendment Rights
- I. Legal Advice Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(1) Regarding Fire Chief's Evaluation

9. OLD BUSINESS

Open session reconvened at 6:03 p.m.

- A. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Lawsuit Filed by Alvin R. Yount
Attorney Cornelius advised that we have filed a motion to dismiss, Mr. Yount has filed his own motion to dismiss. We are now waiting for the final order from the court.
- B. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Civil Litigation Between CAFMA and AMR in Maricopa

Attorney Cornelius said the court has issued a form of Minute Entry Order. The status of the case was that CAFMA, the Attorney General (AG), and the Director of the Department of Health Services (DHS) were named, however the court found no basis for keeping the AG and DHS in the matter. There was on-going discussion about transferring the case to Yavapai County, it looks likely that it will happen. This case has been going on for months; we have not argued the facts of the case yet, we have only been arguing about where the case should be heard.

C. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding CAFMA Complaint Against PSCS

Attorney Cornelius stated that a complaint was made to the Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners. Instruction from the Board is to continue pursuing.

D. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Potential Improper Disclosure of Authority Confidential Information (Kairos Data Breach)

Attorney Cornelius shared that the outside party conducting the investigation is nearly done. We should have this matter wrapped up in the next week or so.

E. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding PFFA Cease and Desist Letter

Attorney Cornelius noted that there has been no response to our initial letter.

F. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding IAFF Cease and Desist Letter

Items 9-F and 10-A were addressed together.

Attorney Cornelius stated the internal investigation regarding allegations that were made is close to being completed. Outside counsel, Attorney Toppel, has overseen the investigation conducted by Chief Rose & Human Resources Manager Chute. They have concluded the interviews and documentation, now the report is being reviewed and finalized. Attorney Cornelius said that we expect to have the final report done in the next one to two weeks.

G. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Alleged Grievance filed by Local 3066

Attorney Cornelius explained that grievances filed regarding the 48/96 schedule, PFFA Healthcare Trust and in an anonymous letter received are being addressed. He conveyed, for the record, that was not the proper way to communicate, however, we will address the substantive issues within the complaints. Attorney Toppel is working through the process and we will receive those results as well.

H. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Fire Chief's Evaluation

As the investigations have an impact on the Chief's evaluation, Attorney Cornelius noted that this item will continue to the September meeting. This item should have been on the July agenda and then continued until the results of the investigation are received so the board has all the facts. He advised the Board to get the completed reports, discuss the results with all three Boards present in a special meeting or at the September meeting, then set a date for an evaluation.

10. **NEW BUSINESS, CONTINUED**

- A. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Internal Investigation into Claims of Hostile Work Environment and Infringement of First Amendment Rights

This item was addressed in Item 9-F.

Attorney Cornelius advised that he will be receiving documents from board members regarding the investigation.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn at 6:12 p.m.

Move: Rick Anderson Second: Lorette Stewart Status: Passed

Yes: Dave Dobbs, Matt Zurcher, Lorette Stewart, Rick Anderson, Gayle Pickett

Disabled persons needing reasonable accommodations should call 928-772-7711 prior to the scheduled meeting.

Signature indicating approval on next page.

Signature Page For: FOR SIGNATURE 2024 08 26 CEA Regular Minutes - Approved - Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority Board of Directors - CA Regular Meeting - 9/23/2024

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

Dave Dobbs , Clerk 09/24/2024