



## **Minutes**

### **Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority Board of Directors**

Monday, April 28, 2025 at 5:30 PM

Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority, Administration, 8603 E. Eastridge Drive, Prescott Valley

#### **Present:**

Dave Dobbs, Gayle Pickett, Andy Reinhardt, Andrea Sansone, Lorette Stewart, Lee Barnes, Nicolas Cornelius, Susanne Dixson, John Feddema, Denise Krizo, Cody Rose, and Legal Counsel

#### **Absent:**

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS**

Clerk Pickett called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Chair Dobbs and Attorney Cornelius attended remotely.

#### **2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Clerk Pickett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **3. CORRESPONDENCE AND PRESENTATIONS**

- A. Letters from the Public and Board Recognition - Resident and BASIS School Letters

Chief Feddema mentioned that Engine 61 delivered a baby this morning, both mom and baby are doing well.

#### **4. REPORTS**

- A. Board Member Reports

There were no board member reports given.

B. Division Reports

Chief Feddema shared that we will start advertising for Firefighter recruitment in May, however the number of hires will not be determined until after the final budget is approved in June. He also mentioned that we will be using the request for proposal (RFP) process for our health care needs as well as for a mental health provider.

**5. CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Resident Lyn Anninos addressed the Board to express concerns about not having internet access, which has made it difficult for her to obtain important information—specifically regarding the district's first responding engine to her residence and Firewise program, both of which are relevant to her increasing insurance rates. She mentioned that she attempted to contact dispatch but did not receive a satisfactory response. The resident feels that those without internet access are being excluded from important district communications and resources. Additionally, she inquired about the availability of debris chippers and stated that she is here seeking information on these matters.

Community Relations Coordinator Goodman will provide the information requested.

**6. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approve Special Session Minutes - March 12, 2025
- B. Approve Special Executive Session Minutes - March 12, 2025
- C. Approve Regular Session Minutes - March 24, 2025
- D. Approve Joint Regular Session Minutes - March 24, 2025
- E. Approve Joint Executive Session Minutes - March 24, 2025
- F. Approve Joint Special Session Minutes - April 1, 2025
- G. Approve Budget Work Study Session Minutes - April 14, 2025
- H. Approve General Fund Financial Statements - March 31, 2025

- I. Approve Fire Protection Agreements: Baum-Rodriguez, General Development Group, Guethe, Osborne, Reese, and Santa Fe Investments LLC (2)
- J. Approve Policy Amendments: 401 Work Schedule, 402 Compensation, 405 Industrial Leave, 407 Retirement and Deferred Compensation Benefits, 500 Employee Assistance Program, and Policy 730 Procurement and Bidding  
Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

*Moved by:* Lorette Stewart

*Seconded by:* Andrea Sansone

**Yes** Dave Dobbs, Gayle Pickett, Andy Reinhardt,  
Andrea Sansone, and Lorette Stewart

**Passed 5-0**

**7. VOTE TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Executive session was waived.

**8. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- A. Legal Advice Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3) Regarding Civil Litigation Between CAFMA and AMR in Maricopa and Yavapai Counties

**9. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Civil Litigation Between CAFMA and AMR in Maricopa and Yavapai Counties

Attorney Cornelius provided an update regarding the case, which is before the court of appeals. Lifeline Ambulance (AMR) has filed an appeal. The parties named in the appeal, which includes CAFMA and the Attorney General's Office, are waiting on a response from AMR.

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Purchase of Aviat Microwave Equipment for Budgeted CAFMA Capital Network Infrastructure Improvements

Tech Manager Van Tuyl explained that this purchase was budgeted in this year's capital budget and will wrap up network upgrades from the last four (4) years. This will connect Station 54 and Glassford Hill, Station 54 to Sarah Jane Lane, referred to as Station 55, and Station 55 to our communications building. Board approval is needed due to the amount.

Motion to approve purchase of Aviat Microwave Equipment for budgeted CAFMA Capital Network Infrastructure Improvements.

*Moved by:* Andrea Sansone

*Seconded by:* Andy Reinhardt

**Yes** Dave Dobbs, Gayle Pickett, Andy Reinhardt,  
Andrea Sansone, and Lorette Stewart

**Passed 5-0**

B. Discussion Regarding FY 2024 and FY 2025 Legal Fees

Chief Feddema explained that Director Dobbs had requested this information at a previous meeting. He pointed out the totals for the Certificate of Necessity (CON) process and noted that while it seems like a large amount, it is not in comparison to what some other agencies have paid. Our CON has been renewed for one more year; billing started October 2024 and we are starting to see revenue coming in. Some other items include outside legal charges related to investigations due to some of the challenges of the last year.

Attorney Cornelius added that the amounts for AMR are related to the previous item, their use of our paramedics; the outstanding balance is around \$800,000 to \$900,000. Mr. Topples investigations were broken out, routine legal

expenses related to Attorney Cornelius went up due to personnel issues.

C. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Selection of a General Contractor for the Apparatus Storage Building at Station 59

Chief Barnes explained this project is in the capital budget for this year. Facilities has reviewed all proposals; staff recommends selecting the proposal from B's Contractors. Chief Feddema added that due to our previous experience with this contractor and our good working relationship with them at this point plus they are the lowest bid.

Motion to accept B's Contracting not to exceed \$806,608.

*Moved by:* Andrea Sansone

*Seconded by:* Lorette Stewart

**Yes** Dave Dobbs, Gayle Pickett, Andy Reinhardt,  
Andrea Sansone, and Lorette Stewart

**Passed 5-0**

D. Discussion and Possible Approval of the New Fleet Shop Foreman Job Description and Wage Scale

Chief Barnes explained that we have been looking at way to improve operational deficiencies. Moving an existing master mechanic into this position will streamline processes as he can supervise day-to-day operations.

Director Reinhardt asked for clarification regarding the new position, and how the wage scale was determined. Chief Barnes explained that a comparative analysis of other agencies, along with an assessment of the Fleet Manager's responsibilities and role expectations, was used to determine a median wage. He added that the position responsibilities allow for them to still work as a mechanic as time allows. Chief Rose said currently, each mechanic handles some computer tasks after completing a project, but skill levels vary. Mechanic Kohler, one of our master mechanics, has

taken the lead in this area to ensure consistency in the information sent to crews and staff. When we began discussing this two (2) years ago, establishing that consistency was a key goal.

Motion to approve the Shop Foreman job description and wage scale.

*Moved by:* Andy Reinhardt

*Seconded by:* Andrea Sansone

**Yes** Dave Dobbs, Gayle Pickett, Andy Reinhardt,  
Andrea Sansone, and Lorette Stewart

**Passed 5-0**

E. Discussion and Possible Approval of the New Assistant Finance Manager Job Description and Wage Scale

Chief Rose explained that similar to the shop foreman role, we currently have six (6) finance staff and may add another in the future due to increased billing demands from our CON. Right now, Finance Specialist Reeves is handling responsibilities more aligned with an assistant finance manager, though she's classified as a Finance Specialist III. By creating an assistant manager position, we could reduce the span of control for both Finance Manager Mauldin and Finance Specialist Reeves. This change would not add a new position but would promote someone internally if the workload increases further.

Motion to approve the new Assistant Finance Manager job description and wage scale.

*Moved by:* Andrea Sansone

*Seconded by:* Lorette Stewart

**Yes** Dave Dobbs, Gayle Pickett, Andy Reinhardt,  
Andrea Sansone, and Lorette Stewart

**Passed 5-0**

F. Discussion and Possible Direction to Staff Regarding FY 2025-2026 Budget Process and Draft Budget Update

Chief Feddema stated that we will present the "not to exceed" budget at the May board meeting. If the board has any feedback or direction for staff, please let us know before then. The final budget will be submitted for approval in June.

Director Sansone asked if there have been any unexpected changes or additions since the last meeting. Chief Feddema answered in the negative.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:59 p.m.

*Moved by:* Andy Reinhardt

*Seconded by:* Andrea Sansone

**Yes** Dave Dobbs, Gayle Pickett, Andy Reinhardt,  
Andrea Sansone, and Lorette Stewart

**Passed 5-0**

Approved on: 05/23/2025 12:29AM UTC

*Gayle Pickett*

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Clerk

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Participants

1. Susanne Dixson (sdixson@cazfire.gov)
2. Gayle Pickett (gpickett@cazfire.gov)

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