



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 17, 2023

Station 32, 8905 Koch Field Road, Flagstaff AZ

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Timney called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:08 pm.

2. **ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS / AFFIRMATION OF QUORUM**

Members Present: Chair Jim Timney, Board Members Robb Faus, and Jim Duskocil

Members Absent: Rick Parker, Scott Walton

Administration: Deputy Chiefs Mark Wilson, Chris Fennell, Vivian Fennema, Tammy Schieffer, Labor Rep C. Robinson Chief Gaillard was in Phoenix at the Baggers Conference

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

4. **CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

- a. **John Ruggles, 11731 N Copeland;** referenced ARS 38.431 statutes on Public "subject to reasonable time..." Board Handbook rule 7, no member of the board or public should be allowed to speak more than 5 minutes. He is not asking for 5 minutes, just 3.
- b. **Marilyn Ruggles, 11731 N Copeland;** Page 11, "Fire board chairman may define the length of time that the public may speak". She researched other districts' websites and some have links to the Fire Board Handbook. She recommends that we do the same, after some editing is done.

5. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Discussion and Approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of April 19, 2023.
- b. Approval of Reconciliations and Financial Reports for April 2023.

No questions from the board.

Board Member J. Duskocil motioned to approve item A and B on the agenda. Motion was seconded by R. Faus.

Vote Conducted. MOTION PAST ALL IN FAVOR

AYES: Duskocil, Timney, Faus

NAYES: None

6. **Current Events Summaries, Reports, and/or Correspondence**

- a. Monthly Run Report

DC Fennell reported:

- Run report for April 2023. Total of 107 calls, with 68 being emergent calls. District 31 ran 9 calls, District 32 ran 30, District 33 ran 9, and District 37 ran 6.
- Avg response times: Sta# 31 at 6.82 min, #32 at 5.84 mins (this station was manned), #33 at 8.25, #37 at 6.72 mins and GMT at 13.84.

- b. Monthly Chief Updates: Fennell and Wilson

DC Fennell:

- One of our 3 SFMD recruits was voted "Recruit of the Week", which he was very excited about.

- We will be having another Academy in September with probably 9-10 recruits in that. We are accepting applications through May 31st.
- The BC assessment center is scheduled for this coming Wednesday with 2 from Highlands and 3 from Summit.
- We have 2 people on Light Duty (Hernandez and M Gibbs) they have been working on the Flow MSP preplan program and ESO QA reporting.

Chief Wilson:

- We will be addressing the topic of “Public Comment” time to speak at the July Board Meeting.
- There will be a short video coming out to educate citizens on safe burning of yard debris. We had an incident where someone was burning weeds and caught the side of the house on fire.
- We will be working on the Program Budgets for next fiscal year here in the next few weeks.
- The administrative office will be closed on May 23rd so that Ms. Tammy and Ms. Viv can attend a training down in Prescott.

c. Local 1505 Update:

- Casey reported that we lost another employee. Rhyen Brown to a position with Daisy Mountain, down in the valley. Luckily, we have 3 recruits in the current academy.
- Fill the Boot was last week. This year we combined with all the GFR and covered more of the larger businesses in town.
- The Union hockey team took the Championship this year. It is rumored that Casey is the best player on the team! (for his age, that is)

d. Coconino County Updates: Viv reported that we had the PIO from the County scheduled to give an update on the Government Tank area, as it pertains to possible flooding, but he had to cancel at the last moment. He hopes to attend our next board meeting in June.

At this time, we would like to celebrate the promotion of Engineer Brandon Gia and Engineer Brandon Swatzell. Their families attended and, following tradition, performed the “Badge Pinning” on the newly promoted Engineers.

7. **NEW BUSINESS / ACTION ITEMS - Public Comment:** (item 8a on the agenda)

- a. Review, discuss, and possible action on FY 23-24 Chief’s Proposed Budget for 20-day postings for public comment.

Chief Wilson: This is the information we went over during the budget workshop, so we will just hit the highlights of the 23-24 Chief’s Proposed Budget. The first item is PAYROLL which shows a market increase of 6% across the board to try to get our folks closer to a competitive range that is out there. Our total EXPENSES for the year are \$7,606,719. We have anticipated total revenue of 7,666,411, which should put our Budget Stabilization account right at 1.2m at the end of the fiscal year. The budget does show placeholders for GRANTS and WILDLAND CALLOUT funding which has to be shown in your budget in case there are funds that come in for those areas. We are proposing that we move the Mill Rate from 3.25 to 3.50 for the upcoming year which will allow us to start building some capacity for future needs such as apparatus replacement and capital needs for possible station relocation which was identified as a need during the Eastside Restructure Project. We put together a 2-year budget but today you will be just voting on the first year. So our recommendation is that you propose to adopt the 2023-2024 Chief’s Proposed budget for the 20 days posting for public comment.

Board Member Faus made a motion to adopt the 2023-2024 Chief's proposed budget for the 20 days posting for public comment. Motion was seconded by Chair Timney.

Discussion: None

Vote conducted. MOTION CARRIED with a vote of 2 to 1 in support of the motion.

AYES: Timney and Faus

NAYES: Dorskocil

- a. Review, discuss, and possible action on FY 23-24 GO Bond Repayment Budget for 20-day postings for public comment. DC Wilson announced we have made our last payment to the County for the catch-up loan we had from them. Our assessed value for the district has gone up to \$160,081,662 so we were able to decrease our bond rate charged to property owners for the Bond portion of taxes from .1942 to .1347.

Board Member Dorskocil made a motion to adopt the FY 23-24 GO Bond Repayment Budget for the 20-day posting for public comment. Motion was seconded by Board Member Faus.

Discussion: None

Vote conducted. MOTION CARRIED unanimously by those in attendance.

AYES: Timney, Faus, and Dorskocil

NAYES: None

BOARD COMMENTS

JD: I appreciate the hard work by administration to put this together. The reason I voted no on the budget is after we lost a station/had to close a station, and with compensation up there, benefits are up there, and our services are reduced. Basically, we are paying more for less. I think we need to sharpen our pencils and we have a lot of work ahead of us, but I appreciate all the work admin has done. Thank you, Union.

RF: Thank you for you all being here. We appreciate your participation. It's uncanny how you guys ask for things and speak your mind, then low and behold things happen. Congrats to the hockey team. So my opinion, I am thinking way out in the future, I have 3-4 years on the board. This is a big thing to tackle, it won't be easy, but we will get it done in some way, shape, or form.

DC Wilson asked the Chairman if we could go back to item 8a on the agenda to get some clarification on something I am unsure of. We have a quorum of 3 which represents a majority of the board. Then we have a vote of 2/1 which is not a majority of the board, so I am not sure, and I want to confirm the vote on the budget. It was confirmed that a majority vote of 2 to 1 with a quorum of 3 does pass.

JT: I know it has been rough what we have had to go through with the community and closing of a station. But I think the bottom line here is if we can maintain our staff and not keep losing them. That is very important and until we get that under control we have to close a station.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Board Member Dorskocil, seconded by Board Member Faus.

Vote Conducted. MOTION PAST ALL IN FAVOR

AYES: Timney, Dorskocil, Faus

Board Meeting Adjourned at 6:48 pm

Respectfully submitted by:

Robb Faus, Board Clerk