

# ORACLE FIRE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 3, 2014 / Approved 8/05/2014

Meeting was officially called to order at 6:15pm, Tuesday June 3, 2014 at 1475 W. American Ave., Oracle, AZ.

## **CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL:**

Members Present: Chairman Navarro, Clerk Brown, OFDBMs Bristow, Doran and McMurry. Staff Present: Chief Southard and Admin. Chief Acosta

- 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**
- 2. ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Chairman Navarro asked if anyone had any corrections or additions to the May minutes. There were none.

Clerk Brown made a motion to accept the minutes from May 6, 2014. OFDBM McMurry seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Clerk Brown made a motion to accept the minutes from May 10, 2014. OFDBM McMurry seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.

- 3. CALL TO PUBLIC.** No public response.

## **4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A PROPOSAL FROM CPA JENNIFER PHILLIPS TO PERFORM THE ANNUAL FIRE DISTRICT FINANCIAL REVIEW.**

Chief Southard reminded the Board that Arizona State Statute requires an annual financial review of the Fire District. Ms. Phillip's proposal is the same fee as last years, \$3,000.00, plus incidental expenses, such as gas, not to exceed \$300.00. Chief also informed the Board members that new legislation may require an annual audit, instead of a review, which would cost about \$7,000.00 more per year.

OFDBM Doran made a motion to accept the proposal submitted by Jennifer Phillips, to perform the fiscal year 2013/2014 annual review at a cost of \$3,000.00, plus incidental expenses. OFDBM McMurry seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.

## **5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO ACCEPT THE RESOLUTION AND WARRANT SIGNATURE DOCUMENTS FROM THE PINAL COUNTY TREASURER.**

After a brief explanation of the documents required from the Pinal County Treasurer, to handle the OFD bank accounts, OFDBM Doran made a motion to

accept the resolution as presented. Clerk Brown seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.

All Board members were present to sign the warrant signature document.

#### **6. CHIEF'S REPORT – see end of document**

Also attached: May 2014 Financial Reports and Call Load Report.

#### **7. DETERMINE A DATE FOR A PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED VERIZON CELL TOWER PLACEMENT ON OFD PROPERTY.**

Prior to setting a date, Chairman Navarro asked Chief Southard about his statement at the last meeting, that there was not any room on OFD property for the 10' x 12' building that would be necessary to house the batteries and generator for the proposed cell tower. Chief confirmed that he could not find enough room for the building on our property. Consequently, OFD Board members determined that there was no reason to hold a public meeting due to staff recommendation that there is not any room on OFD property. There was no action taken on this item. A date will not be determined.

Also included in the Board packets was the registration information for the upcoming Arizona Fire District's Association (ADFA) conference, in Tucson, on Friday and Saturday June 27th & 28th. Discussion regarding classes recommended for Board members ensued. Chairman Navarro and OFDBMs Bristow and McMurry will attend.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

OFDBM Doran made a motion for the meeting to adjourn. Clerk Brown seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned 7:25 pm.

**Next Board Meeting: Tuesday July 8, 2014 at 6pm.**

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Tina Acosta – Administrative Chief

Reviewed by OFD Board Clerk Ellie Brown

#### **CHIEF'S REPORT – June 3, 2014:**

**Financial, Budget & Account Balances Report:** Documents will be presented by Chief Acosta. The 2014/2015 Operations Budget was adopted by the Fire Board on May 10. The new budget will go into effect on July 1, 2014.

**Staff Report:** We are still working on a Captain exam. Testing should begin during the month of June. Staffing levels are still low but we are looking at ways to bring in several additional Reserve Firefighters.

**Vehicle Report:** All vehicles are currently in service.

**Fire Station & Equip Report:** All equipment is currently in service.

**Fire District:** Chief Southard met with Seymour Gruber of the Pinal County Attorney's Office to find out how several recent laws are going to affect fire districts. A "Call for Election" has been submitted to Pinal County Elections Department for two Fire Board seats on November 4, 2014. Fire Chief's from Oracle, San Manuel and Mammoth Fire Districts are in currently looking into the possibility of bringing our boundaries closer together. The Arizona Fire District Association Conference will be held on June 27 and 28. Fire Board members are encouraged to attend.

**Events:** It has been decided that the annual July Family Picnic will be moved to October when the likelihood of Monsoons and hot weather has passed.

**Current Fire Conditions:** Fire conditions are currently at VERY HIGH and they are not expected to downgrade until after the monsoon begins. Coronado National Forest went into Stage One Fire Restrictions on May 1.

**Wildland Fire Report:** Our Type 6 Brush Truck is still at the top of the rotation list for deployment. Our Type 3 Engine is currently at the bottom of the list but it could move up quickly as Arizona starts calling for wildland resources.

**Grant Report:** The WFHF 2013 Grant is progressing well. Many gaps in our community fuel break are being closed up. We still have lots of work left to do, but we can only move forward as funds and the DOC crew is available.

**CERT/ Firewise Report:** We held a CERT/Firewise Appreciation event on May 5. About 34 attended the dinner at the Oracle Inn where many attendees were recognized for their volunteer participation throughout the year. A Fire Hazard Sign has been purchased and installed by the Oracle Firewise Board. It is located at the Mount Lemmon and East American Avenue turnoff.

**Training Report:** A CPR class was held on May 27.

**Brush Dump Report:** Weather conditions have not been favorable for burning brush and with the Burn Ban still in effect, we'll continue to stockpile brush until during or after the Monsoon.

**Call Load Report:** See website under Public Information.