

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Elected Officials of  
Rio Rico Medical & Fire District held on December 30th, 2019 at Station #3, 822 Pendleton Dr., Rio Rico, AZ.

1. Meeting called to order by Mike Vohland at 5:30 p.m..
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Call to the public.
  - None
4. Roll call for board members
  - Present: Mike Vohland, Michael Carlson, Frank Bejarano and Brad Beach
  - Absent: Dean Davis
5. Approval of minutes for the District Meeting and Executive Sessions held on November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019
  - Motion to accept minutes of the District Meeting made by Brad Beach, second by Frank Bejarano
  - Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote
6. Fire Chief's Reports and Staff Reports:
  - a. Call Summary
    - Total calls for November 235 IFTS (118) 50%; 911's (70) 30%; Fire (5) 2%; Misc. (42) 18%
  - b. Operational Reports
    - i. Equipment, vehicle, station
      - Mike Vohland questioned the 360 degree lighting requirement on the Ford Transits-all manufacturers must meet requirements
    - ii. Training
      - Numerous training sessions held throughout November and December including EMS Training, Fire Rescue Specialty Refresher and Breath Down Drill
    - iii. Personnel
      - Hiring Process – 9 Interviewed; all top notch. 3 offered full time and 6 offered reserve position. Commended Rich Johnson and Eva Barreda for stepping up for this process
      - Driver Operator graduation held December 20<sup>th</sup> for Daniel Acedo, Adrian Demotica, Mike Fielder and Antonio Sanchez
      - Employee Recognition dinner scheduled for February 1<sup>st</sup> at Station 2
  - c. Chief and Labor Discussions
    - Talking regularly with President Mike Fielder. Working as a team; good relationship
  - d. Fire Marshal
    - i. Inspections and Plans
      - NFIRS from September, October and November have been uploaded. We are up to date!
      - Inspections conducted in Nogales and Rio Rico
      - Plan reviews done for Rio Rico and Nogales
      - Attended Fire & Life Safety Educator meeting and CRR Symposium at Tucson Fire
      - One fire investigation done
      - Senior Academy (fire safety for senior citizens) meeting being attended by Chief Amezaga and Fire Marshal Cluff for possible implementation at RRMFD
      - Risk Reduction – smoke alarms, carbon monoxide alarms and chimney information
    - ii. Community Events
      - Santa's Night Out held at the Community Center in conjunction with Rio Rico Community Center and Girl Scout Troop 520 – RRMFD took the lighted fire truck and firefighters Daniel Acedo, Zach Alvarez, Adriane Demotica and Luis Saenz helped with pictures with Santa and handing out gifts. Chief Amezaga would like to possibly make this an annual event with the District
      - Handed out bike helmets at the Rotary bike give away for children
7. Administrative Report:
  - a. Presentation of monthly Financial Reports up to November 30, 2019
    - Presented by Ana Holman
    - Less calls and billing

- Tax revenue higher (October was low)
- More wildland billing last year; less grant income
- Computer maintenance expense higher due to new software – EPCR and First Due
- Travel expense higher to due wildland – last few calls there were no rooms at the fire inns so hotels were used and per diem. Mark South suggested we break out wildland separately on the budget
- PSPRS Tiers 1 & 2 - no payment due as we are at 97.2% and will not increase our percentage next year. Payment sent for Tier 3. We are fully funded. This puts RRMFD in the top tier of fire districts in Arizona for having their pension funded

8. Old Business

9. New Business:

- a. Discussion and possible action to approve monthly financial reports.
  - Motion to approve monthly financials made by Michael Carlson, second by Brad Beach
  - Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote
- b. Discussion and possible action to elect new Chair and Clerk of the Board for one year terms
  - Mike Vohland felt Michael Carlson would be next in line for Chair position – Board members concurred. Mike Vohland volunteered for the Clerk position
- c. Discussion and possible action to enter into a trial agreement with FirstNet/Built with AT&T for Services and Devices
  - FirstNet, works with AT&T to provide better service with first responders, working with Banner University for telemedicine. They provide all equipment at no cost for trial agreement, 35 days.
  - Motion to enter into a trial agreement with FirstNet/Built with AT&T for Services and Devices Made by Frank Bejarano, second by Michael Carlson
  - Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote
- d. Discussion and possible action to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between US Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Border Patrol, Tucson Sector and RRMFD for ride-a-longs
  - This has always been done – agreement up for renewal
  - Motion to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between US Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Border Patrol, Tucson Sector and RRMFD for ride-a-longs made by Michael Carlson, Second by Brad Beach
  - Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote
- e. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Fire Chief to negotiate the purchase of Ford Transit ambulances and cancel order of the Ford Transit Ambulance approved August 22, 2019.
  - Received info from vendor/seller, ordered more chassis' than needed and have an excess in stock at a substantial savings. Originally went to the Board for \$84,500. for the Ford Transit. Previously sprinter cost \$109,000 in 2016; cost savings in purchase as well as fuel (these are gas engines not diesel). Frank Granados researched and suggested to the Chief the long term savings would be very beneficial. Quote went from \$81,000 down to \$66,000. Three brand new ready now at approximately \$134,000 more plus paint of \$4,500. each versus buying one at a time with a possible price increase and extended date for arrival.
  - Firefighter committee felt this was the best choice for the District
  - Frank Granados presented research information; current units are all diesel; look at selling units with high maintenance costs; Frank feels we will get 6 years out of each; will follow up on extended warranty information and cost
  - Michael Carlson discussed funding. The Board had approved the purchase of an additional fire truck in the amount of \$60,000. This truck was never purchased, so those funds are available and we do have a contingency fund; however, for future scenarios, we should consider setting up a replacement fund within the new budget cycle.
  - Motion to authorize Chief Amezaga to negotiate the purchase of 3 Ford Transit ambulances and cancel the order of the Ford Transit ambulance approved August 22, 2019 in the amount up to \$151,000 in addition to the \$84,500.00 approved August 22, 2019, which may or may not include extended warranty, made by Frank Bejarano, second by Brad Beach
  - Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote
- f. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Fire Chief to work with the Nogales Suburban Fire

District Fire Chief and staff on formulating a response to the City of Nogales annexation efforts.

- NSFD Board invited RRMFD Board to hear concerns with annexation process. Chief Amezaga, Mike Vohland and Michael Carlson attended.
  - NSFD does not believe the City of Nogales has addressed the impact the annexation would have on the NSFD residents in the Kino, Patagonia, Duquesne areas; Nogales has no solution. The annexation would affect areas of our District, causing loss of revenue. NSFD Board has given their Chief authorization to work with RRMFD to fight the annexation process. Union working to fight annexation as well.
  - Frank Bejarano either way it will affect our District and the additional areas we currently assist NSFD
  - Chief Amezaga stated NSFD would lose 60% of their budget leaving 40% to work with. No plans set in place. No time frame for the City to provide services to the annexed areas (up to 10 years)
  - Motion to authorize the Fire Chief to work with the Nogales Suburban Fire District Fire Chief and staff on formulating a response to the City of Nogales annexation efforts made by Brad Beach, second by Frank Bejarano
  - Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote
- g. Discussion and possible action to hire Beach Fleischman to conduct a cost benefit analysis for either an IGA, JPA or Merger/Consolidation between Rio Rico Medical & Fire District and the Nogales Suburban Fire District
- Chief Amezaga addressed the Board with concerns from NSFD regarding RRMFD absorbing NSFD and taking over their area of service. Before we look at an IGA, JPA, merger/consolidation, he feels we should do a cost analysis to determine debt load, how much do they owe do an overall benefit analysis. Beach Fleischman has helped RRMFD with cost analysis in the past.
  - Frank Bejarano feels if we do a merger with NSFD we will need to service their areas as discussed prior need to be considered. Revenue is an issue as it's not that high; can we absorb and continue.
  - Mike Vohland requested the cost benefit be done with and without the annexation
  - Motion to hire Beach Fleischman to conduct a cost benefit analysis for either an IGA, JPA or merger/consolidation between RRMFD and NSFD, with and without annexation, made by Michael Carlson, second by Brad Beach
  - Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote
10. Upcoming meeting discussion:
- a. Monthly Board Meeting to be held January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020
11. Adjournment:
- Motion to adjourn made by Brad Beach, second by Frank Bejarano
  - Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote
  - Adjourned at p.m. 6:48 p.m.

Dated this 28<sup>th</sup> day of JANUARY, 2020

Rio Rico Medical & Fire District Elected Official

Michael Carlson,



Clerk of the Board

