



MEETING MINUTES

The Fire Board of the Rio Rico Medical and Fire District (RRMFD) met in regular session August 25, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. at Rio Rico Medical and Fire District Administrative Office, 822 Pendleton Drive, Rio Rico, AZ.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

- Meeting called to order by Frank Bejarano at 5:30 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS

- Present: Frank Bejarano, Michael Carlson, Dean Davis and Dora Urias
- Absent: Brad Beach

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

- None

5. CONSENT AGENDA

a. Approval of minutes

i. Regular Session of June 30, 2021 and Adjourned Session of July 28, 2021

- Motion to approve regular session of June 30, 2021 and adjourned session of July 28, 2021 minutes made by Michael Carlson, second by Dora Urias
- Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote

6. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

a. Fire Chief's report

i. Emergency calls summary: 227 Total Calls 56 911/EMS 101 IFTs 1 Fire 69 Others

ii. Operational

1. Personnel Badge Pinning

- Jorge Hernandez Captain badge presented by DC Johnson

2. Equipment, vehicle, station

- 4 Sprinters inspected by AZDHS – all units passed inspection
- Rain brought on the weeds – weedeater on backorder, looking at possibly contracting out work; Mark South has volunteered time cutting weeds
- Hydrant at Station 2 needs to be repaired/replaced. Liberty Water working with RRMFD. Dean Davis noted a hydrant on Coatimundi by Desert Dawn needs to be checked

3. Training

- Fire/Rescue training 8-3-21, 8-17-21 and 8-31-21
- DPS/IED training 8-10-21
- ACLS & PALS recertification 8-17-21
- BLS CPR recertification 8-25-21
- CPR Instructor training class next month

4. Operations

5. Personnel

- Dixie Fire: EB Azukas, EB trainee Moffitt, FF Saenz and Forest Service Garrett Alfillisch
- Antelope Fire: EB Sheldon, FF Ugarte, FF Cota and FF Valencia back from assignment

6. COVID-19 Update
 - One operations person out with COVID
 - Transports are increasing
 - Delta variant numbers on the rise filling ICU beds
 - Government officials asking those not vaccinated to get vaccinated; more organizations requiring personnel to become vaccinated.
 - Educational forums scheduled with Drs. Williams and Pereira to educate RRMFD personnel regarding COVID vaccinations
 - Labor meeting with Captain Fielder. Captain Fielder noted the IAFF is against mandatory vaccination but highly encourages vaccinations; not in favor of people losing their jobs, understand the possibility of mandate but to also look for accommodations
7. Legislative Update
 - Listing of items passed by the House and Senate with effective dates of September 29, 2021 through December 31, 2021 which concern our department. Information distributed to staff members for respective areas
- b. Fire Marshal Report
 - NFIRS updated through June, 2021
 - COVID positive and negative updated through July 2021
 - Participated in 11 webinars, trainings or meetings
 - Stage 2 fire restrictions for southeastern Arizona were lifted
 - 3 Burn permits issued
 - 18 plan reviews/inspections completed
 - 7 Fire Calls
 - Citizen complaint-propane truck parked in residential area
 - Public notice on Facebook and Webpage "Turn Around, Don't Drown"
 - Active shooter training being scheduled. Firefighter Demotica taking the lead
 - Participated in the school blitz at Calabasas School
 - Sand and sandbags made available to the public outside Station 3
 - "No Annexation" banners being placed throughout the area
- c. Fire Board Report
 - i. House Bill 2381 amendments and additions relating to Public Retirement Systems (PSPRS)
 - Update presented by Michael Carlson – law passed affecting local boards for retirement/disability applications and processing. PSPRS Board required to attend open meeting law training – PSPRS putting together training. PSPRS given additional authority for enforcement of Local Board requirements. Local boards can now consolidate; PSPRS may now engage attorney to report to PSPRS Board-Mr. Carlson will contact our attorney if he can support PSPRS and the District and also contact PSPRS regarding requirements. Changes effective December 31, 2021
- d. Financial Report
 - i. Presentation of Financial Reports up to June 30, 2021
 - Presented by Ana Holman
 - June financial report revised to include additional year end information
 - Very solid at fiscal year end
 - 43% of revenue comes from ambulance billing and 9% from Wildland; tax revenue is 45% less than half of revenue income. Without additional revenue, services provided to residents would not be possible
 - Station 2 bond has been paid in full
 - Financial Audit will be remote and in person September 27, 2021 through October 1st.
 - Billing Audit completed – awaiting final report from audit company
 - Marijuana sales revenue received, \$14,485; next payment due December 29, 2021 which should be more than received in June

ii. Presentation of Financial Reports up to July 31, 2021

- Presented by Ana Holman
- Items added to presentation –
Reportable to SCC BOS. Line of credit limit. RRMFD has no line of credit amount in use Chart of Operational and Contingency Accounts Cash Basis Cash Flow by month
- NSFD leases noted for buildings (paid twice a year) and one vehicle (one payment remaining)

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. Discussion and possible action re: Covid vaccinations for RRMFD employees

i. This is a continuation of previous discussion related to COVID vaccinations for RRMFD employees

- Michael Carlson originally addressed the Board regarding mandatory COVID vaccinations for RRMFD employees in April. The Board chose to readdress the issue in three months.
- One vaccine now has full approval; increase in COVID cases due to new Delta variant; RRMFD Base hospital now requiring all personnel to be vaccinated, some companies charging employees for not being vaccinated to cover additional insurance premiums. Mr. Carlson believes the Board needs to address the situation to protect our community/customers. ADA allows for exceptions for medical or religious reasons; consideration of alternative work accommodations; contact with legal counsel for advice; other districts as well as businesses now mandating
- Dora Urias noted she would like to wait until after the educational forums are presented to make decision. Dr. Bejarano agreed suggesting employees be allowed to receive and process information; receive feedback from the employees, look at number of cases and come to an agreement for everyone.
- Dr. Bejarano recommends tabling this item until the next Board meeting

b. Update and discussion regarding Fire Station 1 building and funding

i. This is a continuation of previous discussion related to Fire Station 1 building and funding

- Chief Amezaga met with Mike of the Stifel Group. RRMFD is at 1.3 million of the 2.4 million bond capacity we can tap into (full value available in 2023). Enough funds are not available; Mike will research and present alternative ideas and options to the Board next month. Still looking for grants however, there are no Federal grants for the building of stations. Attempting to locate contact information for Jeff Bezos' ex-wife who donates to public safety. Chief Amezag will be taking a course to educate himself on fire station construction. Estimate of cost by square footage, type of materials and required guidelines for fire station construction is 5.5 million.

c. Discussion and possible action re: Amend previously approved Stryker ProCare Services three-year service contract to add \$2,164.25 for an updated amount of \$62,432.33, payable annually in the amount of \$20,810.78

- i. This is an amendment to previous motion approved in the amount of \$60,268.08, payable annually in the amount of \$20,089.36
- Original quote approved; additional equipment added giving RRMFD a larger discount of 25% from 20% and increasing the contract value by \$2,164.25
 - Motion to amend previously approved Stryker ProCare Service three year service contract to add \$2,164.25 for an updated amount of \$62,432.22 payable annually in the amount of \$20,810.78 made by Michael Carlson, second by Dean Davis
 - Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote

MOVING TO NEW BUSINESS TO ALLOW FOR COMPLETION OF BUSINESS PRIOR TO ENTERING EXECUTIVE SESSIONS ALLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO BE EXCUSED FOLLOWING REGULAR BUSINESS WHO ARE NOT ENTERING INTO THE EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

d. Discussion and possible action re: Executive Session – The Fire Board may vote to go into executive session pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03.(A) (1) for personnel matter.

i. This is a continuation of previous discussion related to Chief Amezaga's annual evaluation.

1. Note: Executive Sessions are confidential pursuant to A.R.S. section 38-431.03 (C).
Anything discussed within an Executive Session is to remain within Executive Session.
Violation could lead to civil penalties pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.07(A)

2. Note: No action is taken during an Executive Session. Any action taken by the Board will take place during an open meeting.
 - Motion to enter Executive Session made by Michael Carlson, second by Dora Urias
 - Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote
 - Entered Executive Session at 7:54 p.m.
 - Returned from Executive Session at 8:19 p.m.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discussion and possible action re: Approval of financial reports for June and July 2021.
 - Motion to approve financial reports for June and July 2021 made by Michael Carlson, second by Dora Urias
 - Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote
- b. Discussion and possible action re: Executive Session – The Fire Board may vote to go into executive session pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03 (A) (3) for discussion or consultation for legal advice with attorney for RRMFD
 - i. Note: Executive sessions are confidential pursuant to A.R.S. section 38-431.03 (C).
Anything discussed within an Executive Session is to remain within Executive Session.
Violation could lead to civil penalties pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.07(A)
 - ii. Note: No action is taken during an executive session. Any action taken by the Board will take place during an open meeting.
 - Motion to enter executive session pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03 (A)(3) for discussion with our attorney made by Michael Carlson, second by Dora Urias
 - Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote
 - Entered Executive Session at 7:07 p.m.
 - Returned from Executive Session at 7:48 p.m.

MOVING TO ITEM 7d EXECUTIVE SESSION

- c. Discussion and possible action re: Purchase and installation of a Dell PowerEdge R340 Server in the amount of \$20,228.21 as per Nextrio quote.
 - Current server will go out of warranty January, 2022; upgrade to new server with software, installation, user licenses, labor and decommissioning of old server included
 - Motion to approve Nextrio quote in the amount of \$20,228.21 for a new server made by Dean Davis, second by Dora Urias
 - Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote
- d. Discussion and possible action re: Going Green – Solar usage
 - i. Update on discussion from previous meeting, recommendation from Chairman Frank Bejarano
 - Chief Amezaga requested tabling this item as he has reached out to Tesla and is awaiting response; Ken Larriva placing solar at NSFD Station 1 and will contact that company as well
- e. Discussion and possible action re: Services to elderly community members for heat related issues
 - i. Update on discussion from previous meeting, recommendation from Chairman Frank Bejarano
 - Carl Maré working on media, resources available-a work in progress
 - Dr. Bejarano commented many people using swamp coolers; elderly at risk due to humidity, heat and dehydration. Where can these individuals go – fire department, temporary cooling sights, services available.
 - Dr. Bejarano recommended tabling to research for resources
- f. Discussion and possible action re: Stryker Cardiac Monitors 1st sale agreement payment not to be reimbursed from Capital Reserve account to Operational Warrant account due to liquidity in Operational warrant account.
 - Ana Holman commented when the District purchased the monitors it was approved to be paid from the Capital Reserve account. Due to liquidity of funds, excess funds would have been transferred from the Operational account to the Capital Reserve account, payment was made from the Operational account; checks cannot be written from Capital Reserve, funds would be transferred from Capital Reserve to the Operational account. Asking Board for approval to pay direct from Operational account
 - Michael Carlson noted he has no objection, however, direction of the Board was not followed
 - Motion made by Michael Carlson to approve the payment for the Stryker Cardiac Monitors from the Operational account rather than the Capital Reserve account as previously noted, second by Dora Urias

- Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote
- g. Discussion and possible action re: Approval of BeachFleischman FY20-21 Audit Engagement Letter for an estimated fee, excluding expenses, of \$15,400
 - Motion to approve \$15,400 commitment to BeachFleischman for FY20-21 Audit Engagement made by Dean Davis, second by Michael Carlson
 - Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote
- h. Discussion and possible action re: Approval/adoption of Resolution #2022-01, Acceptance of Grant Award for Arizona's 2022 Highway Safety Plan in the amount of \$30,000 to be used toward the purchase of extrication equipment.
 - Motion to approve Resolution 2022-01, Acceptance of Grant Award for Arizona's 2022 Highway Safety Plan in the amount of \$30,000 toward the purchase of extrication equipment with Chief Amezaga as the conduit for this grant made by Michael Carlson, second by Dean Davis
 - Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote

MOVING TO ITEM 8b EXECUTIVE SESSION

9. FUTURE MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

- Next Board meeting September 29, 2021
- Services for elderly community members
- COVID vaccinations for RRMFD personnel
- Chief Amezaga's contract and evaluation

10. ADJOURNMENT

- Motion to adjourn made by Dora Urias, second by Dean Davis
- Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote
- Meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Dated this 29 day of September, 2021.

Rio Rico Medical & Fire District Elected Official

Brad Beach,



Clerk of the Board

