

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
MESCAL-J6 FIRE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD
HELD WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25TH, 2023 AT 6:30 PM**

The meeting was called to order at 1829 hours by Board Chair Phyllis Ellis. Present at roll call were Board Members: Phyllis Ellis, Dana Law, Debi Wise and JoAnne Ellsworth. A quorum existed.

Item 1: **Call to the Public:** This is the time for the public to comment. Members of the Board may not discuss items that are not specifically identified on the agenda. Therefore, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.01(H), action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter, responding to any criticism or scheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date."

No speakers present.

Item 2: **Minutes:** Review, discuss, and possible action to approve the Draft minutes of the December 15th 2022 Special Board meeting and the December 28th 2022 Regular Board meeting.

JoAnne Ellsworth made a motion to approve the December 15th 2022 Special Board meeting Draft minutes. Dana Law seconded. Motion carries 4 – 0 with Phyllis Ellis – yes, Dana Law – yes, Debi Wise – yes, and JoAnne Ellsworth – yes.

Dana Law made a motion to approve the December 28th 2022 Regular Board meeting Draft minutes, with corrections to line items 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7. Debi Wise seconded. Motion carries 4 – 0 with Phyllis Ellis – yes, Dana Law – yes, Debi Wise – yes, and JoAnne Ellsworth – yes.

Item 3: **Financial Report:** Natalie Galgano-Pinkley of Municipal Accounts & Consulting, will provide a brief summary of the District's recent financial activities. Board Members to review, discuss and possible board action to approve the December 2022 Financial Report, as prepared by Natalie Galgano-Pinkley of Municipal Accounts & Consulting.

Dana Law requested the master copy of the compliance sheet in the financial packet be updated to reflect current Board Clerk information.

JoAnne Ellsworth made a motion to accept as given the December 2022 Financial Report. Debi Wise seconded. Motion carries 4 – 0 with Phyllis Ellis – yes, Dana Law – yes, Debi Wise – yes, and JoAnne Ellsworth – yes.

Item 4: **Fire Chief Report:** Fire Chief John Moran’s report is included as an attachment in the District’s official minutes.

No board action taken.

Board Chair Phyllis Ellis explained, due to issues live streaming meetings on Facebook, we will be doing a backup recording that will be posted to Facebook after the meeting, within a reasonable amount of time, in the event live streaming fails.

Board member JoAnne Ellsworth asked for the tours Chief Moran gave board members around the facilities and district, to be added to the Chiefs report.

Item 5: **Work Session Schedule:** Review, discuss and possible action to schedule a work session related to District financial procedures.

Dana Law made a motion to have a work session on Monday, January 30th at 6:30pm. JoAnne Ellsworth seconded. Motion carries 4 – 0 with Phyllis Ellis – yes, Dana Law – yes, Debi Wise – yes, and JoAnne Ellsworth – yes.

Item 6: **Arizona Department of Health Services Water Testing Grant:** Review, discuss and possible action to apply for a free water testing grant via the Arizona Department of Health Services.

Board member JoAnne Ellsworth explained that the Arizona Department of Health Services received a Grant to test private wells for free but to access the service, you must go to a link online and initiate. Ellsworth added that while the fire station should have its wells tested, this should also be promoted to the public, as it is very important and a free service.

Chief replied that he will look into it and get the details available, posted to the website.

Board member Dana Law added that they may be back logged.

No Board action taken.

- Item 7:** **Personnel Records:** Review, discuss and possible action to determine, at the advice of the Districts legal counsel and the State of Arizona's Ombudsman's Office, what employee payroll information will be designated a public record and what will remain confidential.

Chief Moran explained our legal counsel is still awaiting further communication on the above matter from the State of Arizona's Ombudsman's Office. Chief added that he has reached out to the Ombudsman himself and has also not received a response.

Dana Law made a motion to table until a response is received from the State of Arizona's Ombudsman. Debi Wise seconded. Motion carries 4 – 0 with Phyllis Ellis – yes, Dana Law – yes, Debi Wise – yes, and JoAnne Ellsworth – yes.

- Item 8:** **Fire Chief's Bi-Annual Report:** Fire Chief John Moran will present a report summarizing District activities and notable events occurring over the previous six months.

Fire Chief Moran's Bi-Annual report is included as an attachment in the Districts official minutes.

Chief Moran noted that our water well static is 297 feet, its recovered after the past couple years since asking the county to stop using it, as it was starting to get drawn down.

Chief Moran also noted that landscaping would be nice, as discussed previously for future, if we maybe could entertain an Agenda item for next month or the following month, when it warms up.

Chief Moran added that while the HAAS driver alert system is now operational, he did have difficulty getting promised PR materials but they have finally been received in email today and they will be out in the next couple days.

Board member JoAnne Ellsworth mentioned that since the station does a lot of community engagement, to include a few of those we participated in, in the report. Chief Moran responded, sure.

JoAnne Ellsworth made a motion to accept Fire Chief's Bi-Annual Report. Debi Wise seconded. Motion carries 4 – 0 with Phyllis Ellis – yes, Dana Law – yes, Debi Wise – yes, and JoAnne Ellsworth – yes.

Item 9: **Adjourn:** Dana Law made a motion to adjourn the meeting. JoAnne Ellsworth seconded the motion. Motion carries 4 - 0 with Phyllis Ellis – yes, Dana Law – yes, Debi Wise – yes, and JoAnne Ellsworth – yes.

Phyllis Ellis adjourned the meeting at 1921 hours.

Minutes compiled and submitted by:
Denise Serna
Office Administrator