NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING AND BUDGET HEARING
OF THE MESCAL-J6 FIRE DISTRICT BOARD
Wednesday, June 25, 2025, at 6:30 pm
98 N. Oak Drive Benson, AZ 85602
Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: 6:32 pm

ROLL CALL:
DEBI WISE Present
DANA LAW Present
SONI SALCIDO Present
WADE TEMPLE Present
MIKE NERVIK Present
CHIEF NIED Present
KATHY TRAYWICK Present

A QUORUM IS PRESENT.

ITEM 1: **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

ITEM 2: **CALL TO THE PUBLIC:**
Mary McCool of the CDO submitted her request to speak on the sign-up sheet and addressed the board.
Bob Murray submitted his request to speak on the sign-up sheet and addressed the board.

ITEM 3: **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
No existing documents matched agenda item descriptions.
Existing draft minutes will be on July's agenda.

No action taken

ITEM 4: **APPROVED FINANCIAL REPORT:**
Elizabeth Riopel of Municipal Accounts & Consulting presenting.

Motion to approve made by Debi Wise; Seconded Wade Temple.
No discussion.
Voting: Debi Wise Yes, Dana Law Yes, Soni Salcido Yes, Wade Temple Yes, Mike Nervik Yes.

Regular meeting closed at 7:07 pm
Public Forum opened at 7:08 pm

ITEM 5: **PUBLIC HEARING-FY2025-2026 MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS BUDGET; FY2025-2026 RESERVE BUDGET; AND FY2025-2026 5-YEAR PLAN**

The Board Chair Dana Law opened the public hearing and accept comments regarding the FY2025/2026 Operations and Maintenance Budget, the FY2025/2026 Reserve Budget, and the FY2025/2026 Five-Year Plan.

Mike Nervik objected to the format of the hearing. Chairman Law attempted to address the objection. Ms. Traywick stated it was an acceptable format. Chief Nied stated he was given direction that this format was an acceptable streamlined option. Ms.Traywick explained that there is no need for hours to be expended on public comment, or the Forum turned into a bully pulpit, due to the fact nothing will change the base numbers that are in the budget as presented in the Public Forum, and that the Board members are making the decisions they are elected to do.

Mary McCool of the CDO submitted her request to speak on the sign-up sheet and addressed the board.
Mike Nervik interrupted the public speaking to ask a question of the Chief.
Chief Nied and Elizabeth addressed the question.
Bruce Andrews spoke from the public seating area.
Elizabeth Riopel clarified.
Bruce Andrews spoke again from the public seating area.
Ms. Traywick provided clarification.
Mary McCool resumed her address to the board.
Chief Nied provided clarification on adjustments being made on the budget up to the day of the meeting.
Kathy Traywick again clarified that the total budget is the total budget, and that the taxes that were just paid were 2024 taxes, and that the documents were not created by the board or the Chief. That is why the documents presented are draft until the Board approves them.
Bob Murray submitted his request to speak on the sign-up sheet and addressed the board.
Owen Kiley submitted his request to speak on the sign-up sheet and addressed the board.
Bruce Andrews spoke from the public seating area.
Chief Nied clarified that the document was a draft, but the total budget was accurate, and until it is approved and signed by the Chair and the Clerk, it was a draft.
Chief Nied presented the budget.
Bruce Andrews interrupted the Chief's presentation.
Chief Nied and Ms. Traywick attempted to provide clarification.
Chief Nied resumed his presentation of the budget.
Chief Nied called for questions.
Chief Nied and Ms. Traywick provided clarification for any questions.

Public Forum closed at 8:26 pm
Regular Meeting opened at 8:27 pm.

ITEM 6: ADOPTION OF FINAL FY2025/2026 OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE BUDGET

Motion to approve: Debi Wise; Seconded by Wade Temple
No discussion.
Voting: Debi Wise Yes, Dana Law Yes, Soni Salcido Yes, Wade Temple Yes, Mike Nervik No.
Clerk Debi Wise asked the reason for the no vote as per board training, Mr. Nervik refused to give any explanation as to why he voted no, which is common practice so other board members may understand and maybe, having not thought about an issue that way, might vote differently. Mr. Nervik then went on to state he was voting "no" because he was not included in the process that was assigned to a consultant. Mr. Nervik went on to state various assumptions that were not based in facts. Chief explained to Mr. Nervik, that Mr. Nervik's assumptions were not based in facts, and gave Mr. Nervik the facts of what has, and has not transpired. These concerns had not been addressed to Chief prior to the meeting.

ITEM 7: ADOPTION OF FINAL FY2025/2026 RESERVE BUDGET

Motion to approve made by Debi Wise; Seconded Soni Salcido.
No discussion.
Voting: Debi Wise Yes, Dana Law Yes, Soni Salcido Yes, Wade Temple Yes, Mike Nervik No.

ITEM 8: ADOPTION OF FINAL FY2025/2026 5-YR PLAN

Motion to approve made by Debi Wise; Seconded Mike Nervik.
Discussion:
Clerk Wise read a prepared thank you to Chief Nied, Ms. Traywick, Natalie and Elizabeth of at Municipal Accounts & Consulting, the consulting team(s) responsible for the 5-year plan, and other planning structures:

"I would like to personally thank our wonderful team of knowledgeable and dedicated professionals; who's valuable input and skills have helped the Mescal J6 Fire District level up to accommodate the growing population in our area.

Your work on the budget and future planning, has proven to be exactly what our District needed, and has provided a clear path forward to accomplish our goals of being a highly efficient, functioning, and equipped Fire District."

Voting: Debi Wise Yes, Dana Law Yes, Soni Salcido Yes, Wade Temple Yes, Mike Nervik Yes.

ITEM 9: CHIEF'S REPORT:
Chief Nied chose not to present his report due to the amount of time spent on the Budget Hearing. If there are any questions, please contact the Chief.

No action taken.

Item 10: **PRESENTATION:**

Presentation by FF Darren Markley, Social Media Coordinator.
The presentation was skipped due to the amount of time spent on the Budget Hearing.
No action taken.

ITEM 11: **FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE:**
July 30, 2025

No action taken.

ITEM 12: **FUTURE AGENDA ITEM(S):**
None.

No action taken.

ITEM 13: **ADJOURN: 8:37 pm**
Motion to adjourn: Debi Wise; Seconded Wade Temple
Voting: Debi Wise Yes, Dana Law Yes, Soni Salcido Yes, Wade Temple Yes, Mike Nervik Yes.

Minutes compiled and submitted by
Deborah Wise
Mescal-J6 Fire District Board Clerk