

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
MESCAL-J6 FIRE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD
HELD WEDNESDAY, July 28, 2021 AT 6:30 PM**

The meeting was called to order at 1846 hours by Board Chair Mark Lee. Present at roll call were Board Members: *Mark Lee, Mary Bowen, Brian Hughes.*

Board Chair Lee noted that the Governing Board voted to reinstate a Call to the Public at the June 29th Regular Board Meeting, but the agenda item was inadvertently left off the July 28th agenda. He explained that one member of the public was attendance at the meeting specifically to address the board and he had an email from another resident who specifically requested it be read during the next Call to the Public, as a result Board Chair Lee opted to have a Call to the Public.

Local resident and past MJFD board member Owen Kieley voiced his continued concern that Mr. Bob Murray's position as a governing board member and his position as board member on the J6/Mescal Community Development Organization (CDO) created a conflict of interest because the CDO had been threatening to sue the Fire District. He stated that the Cochise County Board of Supervisors should have vetted Mr. Murray before they appointed him to the board. He added that he has lodged this complaint previously and he is wondering why it still has not been addressed.

Board Chair Lee then read an email from Mr. Bruce Andrews. Mr. Andrews requested that the letter be read in the Call to the Public, as he was unable to attend in person. Mr. Andrews email is attached to these minutes for reference.

Item 1: Minutes: Reviewed and discussed approval of the minutes of the June 29th, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Brian Hughes made a motion to approve the June 29th, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Mary Bowen seconded. Motion carries 3 – 0 with Mark Lee – yes, Mary Bowen – yes, and Brian Hughes – yes.

Reviewed and discussed approval of the minutes of the June 29th, 2021 Special Meeting & Public Hearing.

Mary Bowen made a motion to approve the June 29th, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Brian Hughes seconded. Motion carries 3 – 0 with Mark Lee – yes, Mary Bowen – yes, and Brian Hughes – yes.

Item 2: Financial Report: Ms. Natalie Galgano, Municipal Accounts & Consulting, provided a brief summary of the District's financial activities. The Board reviewed and discussed approval of the June 2021 financials as prepared by Ms. Galgano.

Item 3: Fire Chief Report: Fire Chief John Moran presented a summary of recent administrative and operational activities at MJFD, including information regarding incident response, training, vehicle and facility maintenance, legislative issues, and/or other relevant topics.

Item 4: Adjourn: Mary Bowen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Brian Hughes seconded the motion. Motion carries 3 – 0 with Mark Lee – yes, Mary Bowen – yes, and Brian Hughes – yes.

Mark Lee adjourned the meeting at 1917 hours.

Minutes compiled and submitted by:

Denise Serna Administrative Assistant

June 29th Revisions highlighted in yellow compiled and submitted by John Moran, Fire Chief

From: Mescal-J6 Fire District <myservicelifter@gmail.com>
Reply: bandrews1158@gmail.com <bandrews1158@gmail.com>
Date: July 13, 2021 at 5:00:34 PM
To: jmoran@mescalj6fd.com <jmoran@mescalj6fd.com>
Subject: New Message to the Mescal J6 Board Members

I am sending my comments via email as it looks like I will be out of town for the next Board Meeting. Please read my comments so it is part of the call to the public record.

Mr Lee,

During the last board meeting I was very troubled regarding the comments and obvious position of Board Member Ellis. As a past board member, we passed a process where taxpayers could send in comments via email to the Board as part of a call to the public process. Board Member Ellis went on record stating some emails should not be read. Is it the position of the Board or the individual members of the Board to SILENCE taxpayers? Does Board Member Ellis believe only those comments received that or in line with her views and/or the special interest group she appears to represent be the only comments read? Is the Board now going to censor the views of the people they are elected and/or appointed to represent? I find the comments of Board Member Ellis offensive and troubling. Based on the meeting conversation it appeared these were the FIRST emails received under this new process. I also point out that Ms Ellis stated some content was not part of the call to the public agenda item. Since these emails were part of that new call to the public process, is she allowed to even make this statement and/or comment in ANY way if she admits it was not part of the agenda?

I was also troubled by the silence of Board Member Murray in response to several questions asked. While I like Mr Murray personally, I believe remaining silent is not in the best interest of Mr Murray, the Board or the taxpayers he was appointed to represent.

Finally, I suggest the Board place these two issues on the next agenda. Taxpayers need to know what exactly is the position of the Board regarding censorship of email comments. Based on the prior meeting I believe the motion included email comments as part of the CTP would also continue. In addition, I believe taxpayers need to hear from Mr Murray regarding the numerous questions asked. I remain troubled that some members of this Board are representing a special interest group, as opposed to representing ALL taxpayers (emphasis added). Placing these two important matters on the next meeting agenda would help to clarify EXACTLY the position of this Board regarding representation. Will the loud voice of one or a few silence and TRUMP others? I'll be watching.

Respectfully,
Bruce Andrews

-Bruce G Andrews (bandrews1158@gmail.com)