

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
MESCAL-J6 FIRE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD
HELD WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26th, 2022 AT 6:30 PM**

The meeting was called to order at 1830 hours by Board Chair Mark Lee. Present at roll call were Board Members: Mark Lee, Mary Bowen, Phyllis Ellis, and Robert Murray. Brian Hughes attended via phone.

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."

Dana Law, owner of Sundance Fire Protection, thanked an expressed appreciation to the board members who will be leaving in November, for their terms of service.

Mary McCool, chair of J6/Mescal CDO presented the board members with paperwork (included as an attachment in the District's official minutes) of questions/ concerns relating to amendment of policy on how long a minute recording should be kept in the event of live-streaming video interruption, a request for adjustment to the August 31st Approved minutes and an internal review regarding why the Heli pad renovations were delayed.

Item 2: **Minutes:** Reviewed, discussed, and possible action to approve the Draft minutes of the September 28th 2022, Regular Board Meeting minutes.

Phyllis Ellis made a motion to approve the September 28th, 2022 Regular Board minutes. Motion seconded by Mary Bowen. Motion carried 4 – 0 with Mark Lee – yes, Phyllis Ellis – yes and Robert Murray – yes. Mary Bowen – yes. Brian Hughes – abstain.

Item 3: **Financial Report:** Natalie Galgano of Municipal Accounts & Consulting, provided a brief summary of the District's recent financial activities. Board Members reviewed, discussed and possible board action to approve the September 2022 Financial Report, as prepared by Natalie Galgano of Municipal Accounts & Consulting.

Phyllis Ellis made a motion to accept as given the September 2022 Financial Report. Mary Bowen seconded. Motion carries 4 – 0 with Mark Lee – yes, Mary Bowen – yes, Phyllis Ellis – yes, and Robert Murray – yes. Brain Hughes – abstain.

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.

Item 5: **HAAS Driver Alert System:** Reviewed, discussed and possible action to approve the purchase of equipment and associated subscription for the HAAS Driver Alert System.

Per the presentation given by Aleksandra Snesareva, Fleet Sales Account Executive, on the HAAS Diver Alert System, several board members raised questions and concerns regarding length of contract/ 5-year commitment, progression of technology, usefulness, and accessibility of the app. The board opted to try the service for 1 year in 4 vehicles instead of committing to a 5-year contract.

Mary Bowen made a motion to approve purchase for 1 year in 4 vehicles. Robert Murray seconded. Motion carries 3 – 2 with Mark Lee – yes, Mary Bowen – yes, Brain Hughes – no, Phyllis Ellis – no, and Robert Murray – yes.

Item 6: **National Bank Access:** Reviewed, discussed and possible action to update the list of authorized check signers, authorized account maintainers and those authorized to open accounts, and removal of any board members who will no longer be associated with the District.

Fire Chief John Moran explained that in order to change authorizers on NBA accounts, new members of the board must also be present at the meeting hence, this agenda item is an announcement and will be revisited for action during the next meeting.

No Board action taken.

Item 7: **2011 Ford 550:** Reviewed, discussed and possible action related to the current operational status of and use of the vehicle, as well the future use of this unit, including a review the recommendations of the October 24th, 2022 Work Session.

Fire Chief John Moran recommend that the apparatus in question remain in use as we have it today. Chief Moran further stated, he is not opposed to posting the apparatus for sale to gage monetary value but he does not anticipate that to be successful.

Board Chair, Mr. Mark Lee stated his position is that we have a responsibility to the taxpayers to make this decision in a business manner, based on economics and the apparatus should be offered for sale, per a long history of repairs and issues that may continue.

Board member, Mr. Robert Murray stated that he thinks we should consider what the Chief wants. Mr. Murray went on to explain that with the warranty covering 2 years, we should at least run it for that long and then possibly after the warranty expires, put it up for sale to see what we can get for it.

Board member, Mrs. Phyllis Ellis stated, to say we can expect to have problems after putting in the new engine, to the public, is false since the engine is now new and the old engine was the primary issue.

Mr. Mark Lee stated Mr. Dana Law, owner of Sundance Fire Protection, has expressed an interest in being on the board. Mr. Lee went on to explain, he fully expects Mr. Law to be on the board and with Mr. Laws extensive knowledge of fire equipment, Mr. Lee recommended this decision be deferred to the new board.

Mr. Law stated, he buys and sells equipment constantly and right now the market is not there for fire equipment. Mr. Law went on to state that now is not the time to advertise the apparatus for sale as the district is already upside down financially on the apparatus, and with sale trends being what they are, Mr. Law does not see getting a return at this point and time.

Board member Brian Hughes stated, we can go around in circles with this all day about getting more money than it's worth to us but at what point is it going to be advantageous for us to keep doing stuff with.

Mary Bowen made a motion to postpone until after the new board takes over. Phyllis Ellis seconded. Motion carries 5 – 0 with Mark Lee – yes, Mary Bowen- yes Brain Hughes – yes, Phyllis Ellis – yes, and Robert Murray – yes.

Item 8: Reserve Fund Expenditure: Reviewed, discussed and possible action to approve a reserve fund expenditure in the amount of \$2,782.03 for corrugated metal piping to be installed at Station 171.

Fire Chief John Moran stated while this is within his approval limit, this expenditure is part of the 5-year plan and has to have board approval.

Mary Bowen made a motion to approve the expenditure for payment in the amount of \$2,782.03 from the reserve account. Phyllis Ellis seconded. Motion carries 5 – 0 with Mark Lee – yes, Mary Bowen- yes Brain Hughes – yes, Phyllis Ellis – yes, and Robert Murray – yes.

Mary Bowen made a motion to go into Executive Session for Chief Moran's performance review. Phyllis Ellis seconded the motion. Motion carries 5 - 0 with Mark Lee – yes, Mary Bowen – yes, Brain Hughes – yes, Phyllis Ellis – yes, and Robert Murray – yes.

Recessed from Regular Board meeting to go into Executive Session at 2016 hours for Chief Moran's performance review.

Mr. Mark Lee resumed the Regular Board meeting at 2034 hours.

Item 9: Performance Review: In accordance with Arizona Revised Statute §38- 431.03(A)(1) The Governing Board will vote to enter into an Executive Session for the purpose of conducting a performance review for Fire Chief John Moran. Possible Board action may include adjustments to salary and/or benefits.

Mr. Mark Lee stated the board has reviewed Chief Moran's performance and he has met all the goals outlined last year for him, that were within his control. Some were outside of his control. That said, Mr. Lee stated it is the board's opinion that Chief Moran has made an effort to accomplish the things that he even had limited control of and the board's opinion is that the Chief's performance has been more than satisfactory to continue his contract.

No Board action taken.

Item 10: Adjourn: Mary Bowen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Phyllis Ellis seconded the motion. Motion carries 5 - 0 with Mark Lee – yes, Mary Bowen – yes, Brain Hughes – yes, Phyllis Ellis – yes, and Robert Murray – yes.

Mark Lee adjourned the meeting at 2035 hours.

Minutes compiled and submitted by:

Denise Serna

Office Administrator