REGULAR MEETING
OF THE MESCAL-J6 FIRE DISTRICT BOARD
Wednesday, November 18, 2026, 6:30 PM
98 N. Oak Drive Benson, AZ 85602
Minutes

Call to Order 6:32 pm

Roll Call:

Chairman Dana Law Present
Clerk Debi Wise Present
Cynthia Drummond Present
Wade Temple Present
William Clowers Present
Chief Nied Present

A quorum is present.

Item 1: **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**
Any public questions, comments, or concerns may be submitted in writing to the info@mescalj6fd.gov email so the Board may review them at a later date.

Item 2: **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 28, 2026 made by William Clowers; seconded by Debi Wise.

No discussion.

Vote:
Wade Temple Yes
Cynthia Drummond Yes
William Clowers Yes
Debi Wise Yes
Dana Law Yes

Approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 28, 2026.

Item 3: **FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Motion to approve the October 2026 Financial Reports made by Cynthia Drummond; seconded by William Clowers.

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Discussion:
Steven Rodriquez of the James-Vincent Group presented the October 2026 budget-to-actual and year-to-date reports. He stated that tax revenue for October was below the monthly budget, which he attributed to the timing of county collections, and that he expects it to catch up in November and December. He stated that the James-Vincent Group reduced its November bill by $1,500 and will continue to evaluate its fee.

Debi Wise stated she prefers the summarized format of the report. Mr. Rodriquez stated the full bank reconciliation will be provided to Chief Nied with the financials. Chief Nied stated the full report will be sent to board members ahead of the meeting, with one complete copy for the Chair. Chairman Law raised the certificate of compliance; Chief Nied stated it is now on District letterhead and is signed by the Chair and the Clerk to confirm the Board has reviewed the report. Each board member stated they had no questions.

Vote:
Wade Temple Yes
Cynthia Drummond Yes
William Clowers Yes
Debi Wise Yes
Dana Law Yes

Approved the October 2026 Financial Reports prepared by the James-Vincent Group.

Item 4: **RECOGNITION OF BOARD MEMBERS:**

Chairman Law recognized Wade Temple and Debi Wise, who are leaving the Board, and thanked them for their service: Wade Temple for his IT work for the District, and Debi Wise for her work as Clerk and, before that, as a board member.
No action taken.

Item 5: **WEBSITE ACCESSIBILITY (ADA) PRESENTATION:**

Cooper Munson of The Board Secretary attended by video conference. The video could not be shown because of audio problems with the screen share. Chief Nied stated the video was made for the District to show how the website works for a person with a disability and how documents are made accessible on request.

Mr. Munson stated the District is ahead of the deadline and will not be required to comply until 2028, that files and changes to the website will be checked against ADA standards before they are posted, and that a request for any earlier document can be processed so the file is searchable, has proper headings and titles, and reads properly with a screen reader or without a mouse. Chief Nied stated the video will be shown at the next meeting.
No action taken.

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Item 6: **BYLAW AMENDMENT – ARTICLE 2 (INDIVIDUAL AUTHORITY & EXTERNAL CONTACTS):**

Motion to approve the proposed amendment to Article 2 – Governance and Authority of the District Bylaws concerning individual Board member authority and external contacts, and the correction of the citation in Article 2, Fire Chief's Role, Paragraph 5, from A.R.S. 48-805 (B)(2) to A.R.S. 48-805 (A)(3).
Made by Dana Law; seconded by William Clowers.

Discussion:
Debi Wise read the new section aloud and stated it was provided by the District's attorney. She stated the section provides that no individual board member may exercise the powers of the Board, bind the District, direct District employees or vendors, or authorize expenditures without authorization from the Board, and that official communications with outside parties are coordinated through the Board Chairman, the Fire Chief or another person the Board designates. She noted the added wording is shown in blue and the corrected citation in red in the copies provided to the Board. Each board member stated they had no further discussion.

Vote:
Wade Temple Yes
Cynthia Drummond Yes
William Clowers Yes
Debi Wise Yes
Dana Law Yes

Approved the amendment to Article 2 – Governance and Authority of the District Bylaws concerning individual Board member authority and external contacts, and the correction of the citation in Article 2, Fire Chief's Role, Paragraph 5, from A.R.S. 48-805 (B)(2) to A.R.S. 48-805 (A)(3).

Item 7: **ACCEPTANCE OF THE COUNTY ELECTION CANVASS REPORTS:**

Motion to accept and approve the Official Canvass of the November 3, 2026 election results, Fire District Board Election, declare the elected members, and authorize submission of a certified copy of the canvass to the Cochise and Pima County Board of Supervisors pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-642(B).
Made by Dana Law; seconded by Wade Temple.

Discussion:
Chairman Law reported the totals for the top three candidates: Dana Law 642, Mike Nervik 580 and Bruce Andrews 546. He stated Mr. Nervik and Mr. Andrews will be new board members next month. No further discussion.

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Vote:
Wade Temple Yes
Cynthia Drummond Yes
William Clowers Yes
Debi Wise Yes
Dana Law Yes

Approved the Official Canvass of the November 3, 2026 election results, Fire District Board Election, declared the elected members, and authorized submission of a certified copy of the canvass to the Cochise and Pima County Board of Supervisors pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-642(B).

Item 8: **RESOLUTION 2026-3 – ARIZONA STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM:**

Motion to approve Resolution 2026-3, entering into the Arizona State Retirement System, made by Debi Wise; seconded by Cynthia Drummond.

Discussion:
Debi Wise stated the resolution is required so the District can be set up in the system, at no cost to the District. Chief Nied stated that joining allows the District's personnel to take part, and that the Arizona State Retirement System will work with each member on their accounts. Each board member stated they had no questions.

Vote:
Wade Temple Yes
Cynthia Drummond Yes
William Clowers Yes
Debi Wise Yes
Dana Law Yes

Approved Resolution 2026-3, entering into the Arizona State Retirement System.

Item 9: **SALE OF RESERVE BRUSH TRUCK 172:**

Motion to approve allowing the Fire Chief authority to sell the vehicle, with an initial listed price of $15,000, made by Dana Law; seconded by William Clowers.

Discussion:
Chief Nied stated the District has put no money into the truck other than registering it, and it is in the District's name free and clear. He stated that after the District's mechanically experienced personnel and Chairman Law looked it over, the cost of bringing it up to the District's specifications was more than the District wants to spend, and that the District will list it on one or two sites. Chief Nied stated the pump and

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tank alone could be worth $15,000. Chairman Law stated he estimated it would cost $30,000 to $35,000 to put the truck in service, and that selling it was the best option.

Cynthia Drummond asked how the District acquired the truck; Chief Nied stated another fire chief contacted him and the truck was given to the District.

Vote:
Wade Temple Yes
Cynthia Drummond Yes
William Clowers Yes
Debi Wise Yes
Dana Law Yes

Approved allowing the Fire Chief authority to sell reserve brush truck 172, with an initial listed price of $15,000.

Item 10: **POLICY ADOPTION – ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES #024 AND #042:**

Motion to approve Administrative Policies #024, Drug and Alcohol Testing, and #042, Vehicular Accidents, made by Dana Law; seconded by William Clowers.

Discussion:
Wade Temple asked whether an employee on suspension is paid; Chief Nied stated they are not. Chief Nied stated Policy #024 was found in paper form and was 14 years old, and he updated it by comparing it with the policies of other fire districts; Policy #042 is a new policy and includes a form. Debi Wise noted that Policy #042 includes a Vehicle Incident Loss and Investigation Report. Wade Temple suggested the District consider front and rear cameras that record continuously on its apparatus and the Chief's vehicle.

Vote:
Wade Temple Yes
Cynthia Drummond Yes
William Clowers Yes
Debi Wise Yes
Dana Law Yes

Approved Administrative Policies #024, Drug and Alcohol Testing, and #042, Vehicular Accidents.

Item 11: **CHIEF'S REPORT:**
Update on District operations. Chairman Law stated he is working with a state representative on highway safety and will share the I-10 statistics from the report; Chief Nied offered to provide the name of the Benson officer collecting that data. Debi Wise noted that Walt Blackman is looking into signage and other highway safety measures with ADOT.

No action taken.

Item 12: **FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE:**
Next regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be December 30, 2026.

Item 13: **FUTURE AGENDA ITEM(S):**
The Website Accessibility (ADA) presentation video will be on the December 30, 2026 agenda.
Cynthia Drummond asked that vehicle cameras for District apparatus be placed on a future agenda.

Item 14: **ADJOURN:**
Motion to adjourn made by William Clowers; seconded by Cynthia Drummond.
No discussion.

Vote:
Wade Temple Yes
Cynthia Drummond Yes
William Clowers Yes
Debi Wise Yes
Dana Law Yes

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm.

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

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