

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
MESCAL-J6 FIRE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD  
HELD WEDNESDAY, December 15th, 1830 AT 6:30 PM**

The meeting was called to order at 1830 hours by Board Chair Phyllis Ellis. Present at roll call were Board Members: Phyllis Ellis, Robert Murray 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:** Board members Phyllis Ellis and Robert Murray reviewed the minutes of the November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Regular Board Meeting. Both stated their agreement that the minutes were an accurate representation of the meeting; however, a vote could not be taken to officially approve the meeting minutes, as three board members have since left office, leaving only two board members who were present at the November 30<sup>th</sup> meeting. Since a quorum did not exist, the minutes will be entered into the District's official record without official approval.

**Item 3:**     **Board Officers:** A.R.S 48-803.F requires the governing board to elect a board chair and a clerk at the first meeting to take place after the election. Mr. Murray motioned that Phyllis Ellis be appointed the board chair. Motion, seconded by Mrs. Ellis East. Motion carried, 3 to 0. Mrs. Ellis motioned for Bob Murray to be appointed Clerk, motion second by Joanne Ellsworth, no further discussion, vote carried 3-0.

**Item 4:**     **National Bank Access:** Chief Moran explained that National Bank hosts the payroll account District credit cards. He explained that we haven't issued checks for years, as we require direct deposit, but we need a few signers in the event an employee is terminated. More importantly, he added, would be appointing the Board Clerk as the account administrator so District issued credit cards can be managed as necessary. Motion to appoint Clerk Bob Murray as National Bank Account Administrator and Bob Murray, Phyllis Ellis and Joanne Ellsworth also be added as signers to the National Bank Payroll account by JoAnne Ellsworth. Motion seconded by Board Chair Ellis. No further discussion, Motion carried 3-0.

**Item 5:**     **Vehicle Purchase:** Chief Moran requested \$6,800 to purchase a used 2007 Ford Expedition. Chief Moran stated Bob Murray had contacted him regarding this vehicle and it was Chief's understanding that he wanted price comparisons. Chief Moran presented several listings for the same model year vehicle, with similar options... Bob explained that he wanted folks to submit bids according to existing policy. Chief Moran stated the

financial policy Murray refers to was suspended and new one has yet to be implemented. He added that we cannot request sealed bids to buy a used vehicle because of the variety of vehicles available. He added that the vehicle he has presented for purchase has a lower than price than the Kelly Blue Book stated value, is priced lower than every similar vehicle of the same model year he was able to find for sale. The vehicle includes a mobile radio, siren, lightbar, etc. worth an estimated \$2,500.00 and that purchasing a civilian model would add that expense to the purchase price. He stated we would just need to purchase decals for this vehicle and place it in service.

Much discussion ensued regarding the current status of the financial manual, policies & procedures, etc. Joanne Ellsworth requested an agenda item at the next business meeting, specific to the status & future of the District's financial procedures.

Joanne Ellsworth motioned to purchase the 2007 Ford Expedition, considering the low price and equipment included. Motion seconded by Board Chair Ellis. Motion passed 2-1. Murray voting Nay. Ellis and Ellsworth voting Yes.

Further discussion regarding the validity of the two-to-one vote and possible legal issues prompted Mrs. Ellsworth to motion that her previous motion be contingent on the approval of our legal counsel. Second by Board Chair Ellis, motion passed 3-0.

**Item 6:**        **Personnel Records:** Motion to table/postpone this agenda item for the December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Regular Board Meeting by Bob Murray. Motion seconded by JoAnne Ellsworth. No further discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

**Item 7:**        **Board Member Appointments:** Motion by Bob Murray to enter into an Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing letters of interest surrounding the two available board seats. Motion seconded by JoAnne Ellsworth. Mrs. Ellsworth inquired as to whether the board could also review Item 6, Personnel Records, while the board was in executive session. Chief Moran explained that agenda would need to be tabled, as our attorney has yet to hear back from the Ombudsman's office. No further discussion. Motion carried 3-0. The Governing Board moved to a private room and entered into executive session at 1850 hours.

The Governing Board returned from executive session at 1900 hours. Motion by Bob Murray to appoint Debi Wise to the Mescal-J6 Fire District Governing Board. Motion seconded by JoAnne Ellsworth. No further discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

Bob Murray motioned to appoint Dana Law to the Mescal-J6 Fire District Governing Board. Motion seconded by JoAnne Ellsworth. No further discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

**Item 8:**     Adjourn: Robert Murray made a motion to adjourn the meeting. JoAnne Ellsworth seconded the motion. Motion carries 3 - 0 with Phyllis Ellis – yes, Robert Murray – yes, and JoAnne Ellsworth – yes.

Phyllis Ellis adjourned the meeting at 1904 hours.

Minutes compiled and submitted by:  
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Office Administrator