

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
MESCAL-J6 FIRE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD
HELD THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28TH, 2022 AT 6:30 PM**

The meeting was called to order at 1834 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:** Review, discuss, and possible action to approve the Draft minutes of the December 15th 2022 Special Board meeting minutes.

Minutes were unavailable. Draft minutes will be reviewed, discussed and possibly approved at the next Regular board meeting.

Item 3: **Financial Report:** Natalie Galgano-Pinkley of Municipal Accounts & Consulting, will provide a brief written summary of the District's recent financial activities. Board Members review, discuss and possible board action to approve the November 2022 Financial Report, as prepared by Natalie Galgano-Pinkley of Municipal Accounts & Consulting.

Robert Murray made a motion to accept as given the November 2022 Financial Report. JoAnne Ellsworth seconded. Motion carries 3 – 0 with Phyllis Ellis – yes, Robert Murray– yes, and JoAnne Ellsworth – yes.

Item 4: **Fire Chief Report:** Fire Chief John Moran was unable to provide a written report due to time constraints.

JoAnne Ellsworth inquired as to if new board members and email addresses on the website would be updated to which Chief Moran stated, yes, he was awaiting all new board members to be on board and photos are to be done as well.

Phyllis Ellis reiterated for the public, since audio was lost in the previous meeting, the tape recording will be made available on the districts Facebook page, as soon as possible.

Robert Murray stated people were very happy with the helipad and that there will be a story done on it in the next issue of Currents.

Item 5: Oath of Office: Board Chair Ellis will administer the Oath of Office to recently appointed MJFD Governing Board Member Mr. Dana Law.

Agenda item was not addressed in meeting.

Item 6: Personnel Records: Review, discuss and possible action to determine, at the advice of the District's legal counsel and the State of Arizona's Ombudsman's Office, what employee payroll information will be designated a public record and what will remain confidential.

No board action taken.

Chief Moran stated our legal counsel is still awaiting further communication on the above matter from the State of Arizona's Ombudsman's Office.

Item 7: Financial Policies and Procedures: Review the District's previous financial policies & procedures, current policies, procedures and practices and discussion related to the need for revisions, additions or removal of financial policies.

Chief Moran presented copies of the Districts previous financial policies and

procedures, noting that the manual was put together in 2011 and updated possibly in 2012. Chief Moran further explained that while redundancy has been narrowed down, policies and procedures will need tailoring to fit our program and they do not really do that right now. JoAnne Ellsworth inquired as to if it would be possible to query a couple other rural Fire Departments and see what they have done to thin down the policy and procedure manual. Chief Moran replied, yes.

Phyllis Ellis asked Chief Moran, for the record, if he had communicated with our legal counsel about the purchase of the Ford Expedition, despite it not fitting with the parameters of our policy. Chief Moran replied, he had and our attorney, Ann Roberts, stated it was not a problem.

Robert Murray made a motion to table for further discussion at the work session scheduled for 1.23.2023 at 6:30pm. JoAnne Ellsworth seconded the motion. Motion carries 3 – 0 with Phyllis Ellis – yes, Robert Murray – yes and JoAnne Ellsworth - yes.

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

Phyllis Ellis adjourned the meeting at 1900 hours.

Minutes compiled and submitted by:
Denise Serna
Office Administrator