MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
MESCAL-J6 FIRE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD
HELD ON Thursday, June 29, 2017 6:30 PM

The meeting was called to order at 1832, by Board Member Owen Kieley. Present at roll call were Board Members Jerry Conrad, Mary Bowen, and Owen Kieley, not present to roll call were Sue Dupee and Mark Lee.

Item 1: Minutes: Mary Bowen requested that the Board table's agenda item 1 because she was not present for the meetings there for she must abstain from voting to approve the minutes. With Mrs. Bowen abstaining, the Board would not have sufficient vote to approve the minutes.

Item 2: Financial Report: Chief Moran gave the Board an update on the financial status of the District. (Cash Flow Projection and Bank Register attached) Jerry Conrad made a motion to approve the May 2017 financials, Mary Bowen seconded motion. Motion carries 3-0.

Item 3: Fire Chief Report: Chief Moran advised the Board the MJFD firefighters responded to 46 incidents during the month of May with an average turn out time of 7 minutes and 7 seconds and an average response time of 12 minutes and 31 seconds. He stated that the response time continues to be higher than normal because of staffing constraints but he hopes to work on that problem in the coming month.

Training: Chief Moran stated that Whetstone fire came to Mescal and held a wildland refresher class for us on June 10th. He also stated that he will be holding a training for the firefighters on the new AED's that the District purchased July 5th. Chief Moran stated that he and the Districts Administrative Assistant Leigha Woolums will be attending the bi-annual AFDA conference during the month of July.

Apparatus and Maintenance: Chief Moran advised the Board that when he took Command 171 into the shop to have the oil changed and the mechanics found that there is $1,800 worth of front end repairs that are needed ASAP. He also stated that new intake valves were purchased this month on engine 171 that allows for a faster connection to the units hard suction and allowing connection to Benson Fire District's 5 in. LDH.

Billing: Chief Moran gave an update on the invoices out for state fires. He stated that the District received $347.23 for the Orion Fire. Chief Moran stated that he will be billing for the Texas, Walnut Gulch, Encino, Slaven and Lizard Fires in the near future. He also stated that firefighter Wolf Tubach is still out on the Fry fire with Tender 171, and that he anticipates that this assignment should net the District approximately $35,000.

Other: A local from the Sonoita area send the Firefighters Association a donation of $200 for their help during the Mulberry fire.

Chief Moran stated that Governor Doug Ducey issued an Executive Order to increase opioid overdose reporting and related data, allowing ADHS to realtime information for use in combatting the opioid epidemic. He stated that Firefighter Kuhn and Lieutenant Olander will be going to a conference in Phoenix for training on the new reporting regulations.

Chief Moran stated that there are 24 active fires in Arizona at this time and has burnt an excess of 65,000 acers.

Chief Moran stated that Mescal Firefighters will be participating in Bensons Annual water fight.

Chief Moran stated the Districts attorney Lauri Owen has been released from Cochise County employment. Ms. Owen is considering private practice and Chief Moran would like to retain her services if she does. He stated that the District needs to seek legal advice on a few pressing matters soon.

Item 4: Minimum Wage and Sick Leave Policies: Members of the board reviewed Chief Moran's proposed Standard Operating Procedure for Minimum Wage and Sick Leave Policies (Attached). Mary Bowen made a motion to accept the PST SOP with no changes, Jerry Conrad seconded the motion. Motion carries 3-0.

Item 5: Annual Review, Fiscal Year 2017: Members of the Board reviewed Ludwig and Klewer's proposed engagement letter. Jerry Conrad confirmed with Chief Moran that Ludwig and Klewer was the company that did last year's financial review. Mary Bowen made a motion to approve the engagement letter from Ludwig and Klewer, Jerry Conrad seconded. Motion Carries 3-0.

Item 6: Accounting Services, Fiscal Year 2017: Members of the Board Reviewed HBL CPA's proposed engagement letter. Mary Bowen confirmed that the hourly rate proposed in the engagement letter is the same as we have paid in the past. Mary Bowen made a motion to accept the HBL CPA's engagement letter, Jerry Conrad seconded. Motion Carries 3-0.

Item 7: Resolution 2017-001: Members of the Board reviewed Chief Moran's proposed Resolution 2017-001. (Attached) He stated that the workman's compensation coverage will go from $400/month if a firefighter working for the District became permanently disabled on the job to $2,000/month. Chief Moran stated that $400/month coverage was a disservice to our volunteer firefighters, and that he feels this increase in coverage is worth the money. He also stated that the first payment of $6,500 is due on June 30th. Mary Bowen made a motion to approve the resolution 2017-001 with no changes, Jerry Conrad seconded the motion. Motion carries 3-0.

Item 8: Volunteer Staffing and Stipend Program: Chief Moran gave the Board an update on the status of the volunteer staffing and stipend program. He stated that he had hoped to implement an hourly wage for the firefighters but due to financial constraints that will not happen this fiscal year. He also stated that there does need to be changes to the stipend program and he intends on having more information for the board by the next Board Meeting.

Item 9: Call to Public: Owen Kieley opened the floor to the public. There were no requests to speak.

Jerry Conrad made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1915, Mary Seconded. Motion carries 3-0.

Minutes compiled and submitted by:

Leigha Woolums, Administrative Assistant
DATE 7/1/2017