

**MINUTES OF AN EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE
MESCAL-J6 FIRE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD
HELD Monday, July 8th, 2024, AT 4:00 PM**

The meeting was called to order at 1600 hours by Board member Debi Wise. Present at roll call were Board Members: Debi Wise, Dana Law, Keith Rogers, Mike Nervik and Soni Cido. A quorum existed.

Item 1: **Acceptance of Resignation:** Reviewed, discussed and possible action to Accept Board Chair Phyllis Ellis's resignation.

Item 1 Justification:
District operations and banking matters required the removal of previous board member to establish financial signers and to conduct business. The resigned board members demanded removal in their resignation letters. The board was without a quorum or leadership to conduct business.

Dana Law made a motion to accept former Board Chair Phyllis Ellis's resignation, effective 6.21.2024. Keith Rogers seconded the motion. Motion carries 5-0 with Dana Law – yes, Debi Wise- yes, Keith Rogers – yes, Mike Nervik – yes, and Soni Cido – yes.

Item 2: **Acceptance of Resignation:** Reviewed, discussed and possible action to Accept Board Member JoAnne Ellsworth's resignation.

Item 2 Justification:
District operations and banking matters required the removal of previous board member to establish financial signers and to conduct business. The resigned board members demanded removal in their resignation letters. The board was without a quorum or leadership to conduct business.

Dana Law made a motion to accept former Board member JoAnne Ellsworth's resignation, effective 6.21.2024. Mike Nervik seconded the motion. Motion carries 5-0 with Dana Law – yes, Debi Wise- yes, Keith Rogers – yes, Mike Nervik – yes, and Soni Cido – yes.

Item 3: **Acceptance of Resignation:** Reviewed, discussed and possible action to Accept

Board Clerk Robert Murray's resignation.

Item 3 Justification:

District operations and banking matters required the removal of previous board member to establish financial signers and to conduct business. The resigned board members demanded removal in their resignation letters. The board was without a quorum or leadership to conduct business.

Keith Rogers made a motion to accept Board Clerk Robert Murray's resignation, effective 6.26.2024 as stated in the record, with the exception that resignation is to be stricken from the record if found to be unacceptable in future, and a ratification can occur within the 30 days. Dana Law seconded the motion. Motion carries 5-0 with Dana Law – yes, Debi Wise- yes, Keith Rogers – yes, Mike Nervik – yes, and Soni Cido – yes.

Discussion took place regarding:

- At the time Mr. Murray's presented his resignation, it was not on the Agenda
- Murray's resignation tendered and delivered
- Statements made after the first sentence of Murray's resignation possibly to be stricken from audio and written record as it was not on the Agenda and Call to the Public was never entered, due to lack of quorum
- Statute regarding speaking to items not on Agenda
- Statements made after first sentence of Murray's resignation are opinion only
- 30 days to ratify

Item 4: **Reorganization:** Reviewed, discussed and possible action for the election of new officers.

Item 4 Justification:

To establish a quorum and functioning board, the organization and election of officers was necessary. Business matters require members to be seated in official positions to conduct business. The board was without a quorum or leadership to conduct business.

Mike Nervik made a motion to nominate Keith Rogers as Board Chair. Dana Law seconded the motion. Motion carries 4-0 with Dana Law – yes, Debi Wise- yes, Keith Rogers – abstain, Mike Nervik – yes, and Soni Cido – yes.

Discussion took place regarding:

- Keith Rogers expressed the Board Chair position is something someone has to take whether it be he or another Board member, he has the bandwidth, ability and leadership to do it. It is the Boards decision, and he appreciates the nomination

Dana Law made a motion to appoint Debi Wise as Board Clerk. Soni Cido

seconded the motion. Motion carries 4-0 with Dana Law – yes, Debi Wise- abstain, Keith Rogers – yes, Mike Nervik – yes, and Soni Cido – yes.

Discussion took place regarding:

- Board Clerk will assume task of taking and preparing meeting minutes
- Time frame for minutes completion
- Board Clerk to be assigned as Administrator at National Bank of Arizona
- Warrant signers
- Restating of vote count for Agenda Item 4 election of Board Chair, as 4-0 with 1 abstain for Keith Rogers as Board Chair
- Restating of vote count for Agenda Item 4 election of Board Clerk, as 4-0 with 1 abstain for Debi Wise as Board Clerk

Item 5: **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.

Item 5 Justification:

The board was without a quorum or leadership to conduct business. National bank required the removal and instillment of new signers in official minutes to make changes to the banking record as the previous signers had resigned. This left the district unable to conduct business in terms of signers for banking matters. The board was without a quorum or leadership to conduct business.

Debi Wise made a motion to remove Robert Murray, JoAnne Ellsworth and Phyllis Ellis from the National Bank of Arizona in all capacities and to appoint Board Clerk Debi Wise as National Bank of Arizona account Administrator and to also add Soni Cido, Keith Rogers, and Mike Nervik to be signers to the National Bank of Arizona Payroll account. Dana Law seconded the motion. Motion carries 5-0 with Dana Law – yes, Debi Wise- yes, Keith Rogers – yes, Mike Nervik – yes, and Soni Cido – yes.

Item 6: **Volunteer Services to assist the Mescal-J6 Fire District:** Reviewed, discussed and possible action to accept professional volunteer services from Bruce Andrew to assist the Mescal-J6 Fire District.

Item 6 Justification:

In response to the loss of a quorum and the budget deadline looming and the majority of the board being new to the district, it was imperative to accept the services from retired accountant Bruce Andrews to assist the novice members and the administration with the financial

understanding of the budget and looming deadlines. The district had approximately \$104,000 dollars in limbo and other invoices and such to be paid. Bruce has the experience and knowledge to assist the members in navigating the current state of the financials and ensure the district meets the deadlines.

Debi Wise made a motion to accept professional volunteer services from Bruce Andrews in his assistance with the Mescal-J6 Fire District. Dana Law seconded the motion. Motion carries 5-0 with Dana Law – yes, Debi Wise- yes, Keith Rogers – yes, Mike Nervik – yes, and Soni Cido – yes.

Discussion took place regarding:

- Bruce Andrew's previous history assisting MJFD
- volunteer service with no compensation
- Board support of Bruce Andrew

Item 7: Volunteer Services to assist the Mescal-J6 Fire District: Reviewed, discussed and possible action to accept professional volunteer services from John Moran to assist the Mescal-J6 Fire District.

Item 7 Justification:

In response to the loss of the district technology admin (Chief), new members and staff were unable to establish district technology services. It was in the best interest of the district to bring John Moran on as a volunteer to ensure the district board members and admin could continue to conduct business. John has the knowledge and access to assist the members in navigating and establishing the new board technology and access needs.

Mike Nervik made a motion to accept John Moran's Administrative services to assist in transition of the Administrative operations of the District, as described. Debi Wise seconded the motion. Motion carries 5-0 with Dana Law – yes, Debi Wise- yes, Keith Rogers – yes, Mike Nervik – yes, and Soni Cido – yes.

Discussion took place regarding:

- John Moran has been instrumental in assisting during this difficult transition, his knowledge is invaluable, and Moran has shown his dedication to the District
- Moran's assistance scope would only be in the Administrative sector, not the Operations sector, not in any Chief capacity. Further, John Moran would not operate District vehicles or run calls

Item 8: Adjourn:

Dana Law made a motion to adjourn. Soni Cido seconded the motion. Motion carries 5-0 with Dana Law – yes, Debi Wise- yes, Keith Rogers – yes, Mike Nervik – yes, and Soni Cido – yes.

Keith Rogers adjourned the meeting. Meeting End Time 1620 hours.

Minutes compiled and submitted by:
Denise Serna
Office Administrator