



Rio Verde Fire District
17619 E. Rio Verde Drive
Rio Verde, AZ 85263
Phone: (480) 471-2304
Fax: (480) 471-1821

**MINUTES OF THE
RIO VERDE FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS GENERAL SESSION**

July 27, 2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. CALL TO ORDER.....	2
II. ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS.....	2
III. CERTIFICATE OF POSTING	2
IV. CALL TO THE PUBLIC	2
V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES	3
VI. CLERK’S REPORT	3
VII. FINANCIAL REPORTS	3
VIII. COMMISSIONER OVERSEEING EMS REPORTS	4
IX. DISCUSSION TO APPROVE MARICOPA COUNTY OFFICIAL BUDGET FORM FOR F/Y 2026 – 2027.....	4
X. DISCUSSION TO APPROVE REPLACEMENT OF EKG MONITORS	4
XI. APPROVAL OF 2025/2026 AUDIT ENGAGEMENT FROM ATLAS CPA’S	4
XII. CHIEF’S REPORT	5
XIII. DEPUTY CHIEF’S REPORT	5
XIV. FIRE MARSHAL’S REPORT	6
XV. ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER’S REPORT.....	6
XVI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS	6
XVII. BOARD COMMENTS.....	7
XVIII. CHAIRPERSON COMMENTS.....	7
XIX. ADJOURNMENT	7



Rio Verde Fire District
17619 E. Rio Verde Drive
Rio Verde, AZ 85263
Phone: (480) 471-2304

MINUTES OF THE RIO VERDE FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS GENERAL SESSION

July 27, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Monday, July 27, 2026, General Session of the RVFD Board of Directors was called to order by Chairperson Nancy Sewell at 9:04 a.m. in the RVFD Fire Station #442 Community Room, located at 17619 E. Rio Verde Dr., Rio Verde, AZ 85263.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Jeanne Finney, Dave LeMoine, Nancy Sewell (via videoconference), Pete Sturman, and Harold Tabor

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Scott Krushak, Deputy Chief Kelvin Bartee, Fire Marshal Chris Cavanaugh, and Administrative Manager Jennifer Jacobo, Rio Verde Fire District.

II. ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS

All commissioners were present either in person or by teleconferencing.

III. CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

The District's Certificate of Posting was presented, certifying that the meeting's agenda had been posted at least twenty-four hours prior to the meeting. This certificate was posted at the fire station, Rio Verde Post Office, Rio Verde Community Center, the Tonto Verde Community Center, and on the Verde River website.

IV. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There was no response to the Call to the Public.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 22, 2026 – General Session

Commissioner Lemoine moved that the Board approve the June 22, 2026, General Session minutes as submitted. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Sturman and passed unanimously.

VI. CLERK'S REPORT

The following meeting dates were listed:

- Monday, August 24, 2026, 9 a.m.
- Monday, September 28, 2026, 9 a.m.
- Monday, October 26, 2026, 9 a.m.

It was determined that even though Commissioners LeMoine and Tabor will not be present for the September meeting, there will be a quorum.

All meetings will be held in the Community Room at F/S #442, 17619 E. Rio Verde Drive, Rio Verde, AZ 85263.

VII. FINANCIAL REPORTS

The financial report for June has not yet been received from the County.

Expenses are in line with everything, but we are down approximately 3.2% from the budget in revenues. Expense control was very good for the past year, but we haven't received an update on the cost of SCBAs. (This was discussed briefly under the chief's report.) We have exceeded the surplus planned at the beginning of the fiscal year.

Chief Krushak discussed the cost of outfitting and training new hires. He indicated that outfitting (including turnouts) costs approximately \$5,000 per new hire, and the total cost of training and outfitting (including their pay) can be as much as \$40,000 per new hire.

Krushak commended the staff for not only forecasting the budget but the execution of the operation. Chairperson Sewell requested that Chief Krushak advise the staff as to how much their efforts are appreciated.

A motion was made to move an additional \$500,000 from the capital fund to the general fund. That motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

VIII. COMMISSIONER OVERSEEING EMS REPORTS

There were no EMS survey responses again this month, and staff are back to mailing the surveys. It was noted that call volume is minimal at this time.

IX. DISCUSSION TO APPROVE MARICOPA COUNTY OFFICIAL BUDGET FORM FOR F/Y 2026 – 2027.

This County report is based on the levy report, our approved budget, and the obligation bond debt service data received. Once signed, it is due by August 1, 2026.

Chairperson Sewell moved that we approve the official Maricopa County Budget Form as written. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Sturman and passed unanimously.

X. DISCUSSION TO APPROVE REPLACEMENT OF EKG MONITORS

The Rio Verde Fire District currently has three Philips MRX EKG monitors that have exceeded their effective life and require replacement. We also have one Philips Tempus Pro/LS purchased in 2021 as an additional unit due to increased response activity. The Philips Tempus Pro/LS was selected as a replacement for the 3 MRX monitors, because we already had one Tempus/LS. It was determined that the purchase of one additional EKG monitor was necessary due to the increased response in the future and the need for a reserve unit.

A quote was presented to Board members, and the cost of each monitor has been reduced to \$15,000. A service agreement will be purchased from Philips for five years, the life of the units. They will give us \$1,000 apiece for our used monitors. The total amount due would be \$44,000, including the refund and taxes. After this purchase, the district would have 5 EKG units for their use.

Commissioner Sturman moved that the district purchase EKG monitors from Philips in the amount of \$44,000. Commissioner Tabor seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

XI. APPROVAL OF 2025/2026 AUDIT ENGAGEMENT FROM ATLAS CPA'S

The engagement letter from Atlas CPAs and Advisors was received, and the cost of this service will be between \$10,000 and \$15,000.

Commissioner/Clerk Finney moved that the Board approve the Atlas CPAs and Advisors engagement letter for the 2025/2026 audit. That was motion was seconded by Commissioner LeMoine and passed unanimously.

XII. CHIEF'S REPORT

Wildland

The Tonto National Forest lifted one of its fire restrictions due to rain and lack of fire activity, and the state trust lands followed suit.

The district was called out to a Sedona fire, but the lack of staffing kept them from responding.

Staffing

We will need 34 staff members by April of 2027, 20 as paramedics. We currently have 27 fulltime staff members, not including the two in paramedic training. It is recommended that we hire 6 people immediately, placing 4 of them in the academy and making the other 2 as civilian EMTs on the ambulance until the next academy class.

The topics of quality hires and interviewing were discussed. Each prospective new employee is told about the district's ethics and expectations. The commitment of each new prospective employee is considered, but the district cannot control whether or not an employee stays in the district. All efforts are put forward to assure the employee/employer relationship is a match.

Station Maintenance

Because the air conditioners work nonstop during the summer, they require ongoing maintenance.

Cell Tower

The cell tower/antenna site is going through the County. Because of the industrial nature of the area on which that tower is being placed, it should not be an issue with the County. AT&T did recommend that a neutral/positive stance from Toll Brothers would be a good aspect in their case.

XIII. DEPUTY CHIEF'S REPORT

SCBAs

The SCBAs were delivered, and all members of the staff are trained on them.

Facilities

The issue with grout in the F/S #442 bathroom drains continues. CORE is assessing how best to rectify the problem.

Paramedics

The subject of people transitioning back into the system (from training) was discussed. Our two paramedics will be out of training on October 2, 2026, and will join our team on a fulltime basis.

XIV. FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

Fire Marshal Chris Cavanaugh reported the following for the month of June:

Permits Issued:	2026	2025
Sprinklers	0	6
Propane	0	7
Other	1	0
YTD (All Types)	52	67
Plan Reviews:	2026	
Fire Alarm	1	
Total Inspections	37	

Trilogy/Shea Homes

One thousand, one hundred and twelve (1,112) homes have been closed by Trilogy/Shea Homes as of the end of June. Total buildout should be 1,385 homes, including Toll Brothers, Shea Homes, and Monterey. Shea Homes has laid off employees nationwide due to the housing slowdown, including two at Verde River.

Cavanaugh will report on the subject of service fees to the Board at its August meeting.

XV. ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER'S REPORT

As of the start of the fiscal year, there was no wildland activity within the district.

Jacobe asked the Board to send her information on Lands End shirts if they would like to purchase them.

XVI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Commissioner Tabor presented a Three-Year Administrative Compensation Alignment Plan to the Board. Tabor's comprehensive strategy addressed a critical operational vulnerability: our current administrative management salary scales rank seventh (last) among comparable central Arizona fire districts and municipal agencies.

Chairperson Sewell moved that the Board move forward with the pay range plan that was being presented by Commissioner Tabor. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Tabor and passed unanimously.

XVII. BOARD COMMENTS

There were no additional Board comments.

XVIII. CHAIRPERSON COMMENTS

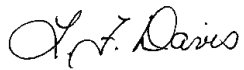
Chairperson Sewell will return soon and be present for the next meeting.

Based on staffing discussions, the Board should begin consideration of facility expansion in order to support growth of the community.

XIX. ADJOURNMENT

At 11:00 a.m. Chairperson Sturman moved that the Board adjourn. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Tabor and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Libby Floyd Davis
My Personal Secretary (From Voice Recording)