



Rio Verde Fire District
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**MINUTES OF THE
RIO VERDE FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS GENERAL SESSION**

September 22, 2025

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September 22, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Monday, September 22, 2025, General Session of the RVFD Board of Directors was called to order by Chairperson Nancy Sewell (videoconferencing) at approximately 9:00 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 (videoconferencing), Pete Sturman, and Harold Tabor

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Scott Krushak, Deputy Chief Kelvin Bartee, Administrative Manager Jennifer Jacobs, and Administrative Assistant Tatum Heinrich, Rio Verde Fire District

II. ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS

All commissioners were present, either in person or by videoconferencing.

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

August 25, 2025 – General Session

Chairperson Sewell moved that the Board approve the August 25, 2025, General Session minutes as submitted. That motion was seconded by Commissioner LeMoine and passed unanimously.

VI. CLERK'S REPORT

The following meeting dates were listed:

- Monday, October 27, 2025, 9 a.m.
- Monday, November 24, 2025, 9 a.m.
- Monday, December 22, 2025, 9 a.m.

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

Commissioner Sturman reported on the August 2025 financials:

Financial Report	
Revenue	\$28,069.25
Expenses	\$419,182.46
Other Income (Expense)	\$493,250.38
Net Income (Loss)	\$102,137.17
Transfers to (from) Capital Fund	\$500,000.00
Adjusted Net Income	(\$397,862.83)
Budgeted Monthly Net Income	(\$360,965.34)
YTD Net Income (Loss)	\$243,451.57
Borrowing from Capital Fund	\$1,000,000.00
YTD Adjusted Net Income	(\$756,548.43)
YTD Budgeted Net Income	(\$733,180.58)
General Fund Operating Cash	\$217,722.28
Capital Fund Cash	\$1,053,255.14
Capital Fund Advances to General Fund	\$1,000,000.00
Capital Fund Equity	\$2,053,255.14
YTD Funds Borrowed from Capital Fund	\$1,000,000.00
YTD Funds Repaid to Capital Fund	-0-
Funds Owed to Capital Fund	\$1,000,000.00
Total Bond Fund Authorization*	\$5,101,858.64

Total Expenditures to Date	\$4,956,107.47
Total Interest to Date (Interest Earned)	\$47,803.71
Current Month Expenditures	-0-
Remaining Bond Equity	\$67.30

*The “Total Bond Fund Authorization” includes the \$5,000,000 bond, plus the cost of issuance.

Tax revenues continue to be sluggish but should be increasing soon. Sturman also noted that expenses run close to budget, apart from Reimbursable Overtime (i.e., wildfire costs) which will be reimbursed to the district.

Chief Krushak discussed the delays experienced in training personnel.

Commissioner Sturman moved that the Board accept the August 2025 financial reports as submitted. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Tabor and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Sturman moved that the Board accept the August 2025 transaction report, the bank reconciliation, and the additional financial reports as submitted. That motion was seconded by Commissioner LeMoine and passed unanimously.

Administrative Manager Jennifer Jacobe surmised that she would not need to transfer \$250,000 from the Capital Fund to the Operating Fund to cover this month’s expenses.

The audit report has been received, and Commissioner Sturman noted that the unfunded liability for the Local PSPRS was just over \$860,000.

VIII. COMMISSIONER OVERSEEING EMS

Commissioner Clerk Jeanne Finney reported the following:

Nine (9) surveys were returned out of 23, all claiming “Outstanding” service with only positive attributes and comments.

IX. CHIEF’S REPORT

Firewise Day

Rio Verde Community Association’s “Firewise Day” will be held on November 1, 2025. Chief Krushak indicated that they were hoping to have the State Forrester and a representative from Maricopa County Emergency Management speak on that date.

Regional 9-1-1 Delays

Chief Krushak advised the Board that certain 9-1-1 calls had been delayed up to 10 or 15 minutes. The chief determined that the primary answering point routes calls in the district to Rural Metro when the location is not fully identified. Chief Krushak and Deputy Chief Bartee will meet with County on this date to determine a solution.

The importance of calling 9-1-1 for any emergency was discussed, as it is still the fastest way to call for assistance. Residents are urged not to come to the station – call 9-1-1.

Rural Metro

Some residents in the area may have a Rural Metro subscription. Because of the limited number of engines (and no ambulances) in Maricopa County, Rural Metro response times can vary greatly.

Unincorporated Maricopa County

Chief Krushak attended a meeting with the chief of the Daisy Mountain Fire District, Maricopa County Chairperson Tom Galvin, and other County staff members to discuss how the entire county fire system works. Krushak informed them that there was no authorized entity that responds to structural fires in unincorporated Maricopa County, except for Rural Metro subscriptions.

Legislation

The Arizona Fire District Association is proposing legislation that will enable the County to be the authority over county-wide fire response. Maricopa County does not currently aid in fire responses to unincorporated areas. If this legislation passes, responsibility for those areas would most likely fall to other districts such as the Rio Verde Fire District, Daisy Mountain Fire District, Sun City Fire District, and Arizona Fire and Medical and would conceivably be reimbursed by the County.

Self-contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBAs)

The sale of SCBAs from the Phoenix Fire Department is progressing through bureaucracy. Initially, Phoenix Fire must create an intergovernmental agreement with the RVFD to sell the SCBAs to us. The contract must then go to their City Council who must approve the reallocation of city assets and resources to the RVFD. We must approve the purchase at the (anticipated) October meeting at a cost of \$100,000 to \$120,000 which is in the capital plan for SCBAs. If the opportunity arises to approve the purchase earlier than October, it might be possible to conduct an email vote.

Miscellaneous

It was requested that the district's website be updated with current information and photos.

X. DEPUTY CHIEF'S REPORT

On the evening of September 8, Rescue #441 sustained a flat tire while transporting a patient. Rescue #442 met the ambulance, transferred the patient to the new ambulance, which then transported the resident to the hospital. Rescue #441 was back in service in two hours, and all four tires were replaced.

On September 11, sewage backed up into Station #442. The pipes were snaked, and a plumbing system defect was detected. That defect occurred during the station construction, and CORE contacted Tempe Mechanical, the plumbing subcontractor. Tempe Mechanical will arrive at the station on Tuesday, September 23, 2025, to remedy the defect. Going through CORE saved the district \$10,000 in repairs.

Annexation

On September 15 a communication was received from a civil engineering firm Wood Patel & Associates who represents the West 36 LLC group for the property behind the station. Wood Patel indicated that the property development was going to be a joint venture between Toll Bros. and Shea Homes. The plan for their first submittal to the County has been completed, and copies were enclosed for the district's review. Phase I will include 221 single-family residential lots, and the full buildout is expected to be 1066 lots. Toll Bros. and Shea Homes would like to have this development annexed into the RVFD. A Letter of Annexation to provide services to that development will be drafted for Chief Krushak's signature.

The schematic of the development was reviewed.

There were no updates on the retail development.

Recap

- Total calls for August service were 144, 37 more than occurred in July.
- Engine #441 ran approximately 1.5 times as many calls as Engine #442.
- Average response times were at four minutes, nine seconds, under the five-minute mark.
- The time to clear for engines was 18 minutes, six seconds, down from 25 minutes, 47 seconds.
- The time to clear for ambulances was one hour, seven minutes, down from one hour and forty minutes.
- Fifty-one snake calls were handled in the month of August.
- Thirty-two EMS calls were handled in the month of August.

Engineer Testing Process

On September 9, 2025, nine firefighters attended the Phoenix Fire Department Training for a driver's training and evaluation process. All firefighters were successful in the testing process.

This Friday the district will have a full day of engineer position interviews. Candidates will be selected to receive promotions to fill the two engineering vacancies.

XI. FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

In the absence of Chris Cavanaugh, Administrative Manager Jennifer Jacobe reported the following for the month of August:

	2025	2024
Sprinklers	0	11
Propane	1	9
Other	0	0
YTD (All Types)	82	109
Propane	1	
Sprinkler	1	
Total Inspections	22	

Trilogy/Shea Homes

One thousand and fifty-nine (1,059) homes have been closed by Trilogy/Shea Homes as of the end of August.

XII. ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER'S REPORT

Wildland Expense Update

Administrative Manager Jennifer Jacobe informed the Board that wildland expenses were billed for a total (Greer, Monarch, California fires) of \$100,208.34. That amount should be received this week.

Drew Wendt, Atlas CPAs & Advisors PLLC, plans to be at the October meeting to discuss the district audit.

XIII: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

XIV. BOARD COMMENTS

There were no additional Board comments.

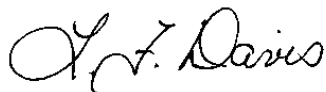
XV. CHAIRPERSON COMMENTS

Chairperson Nancy Sewell will return to the community prior to the October Board meeting.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:46 a.m. Commissioner Sturman moved that the Board adjourn. That motion was seconded by Commissioner LeMoine and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Libby Floyd Davis
My Personal Secretary (From Voice Recording)