



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

January 26, 2026

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January 26, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Monday, January 26, 2026, General Session of the RVFD Board of Directors was called to order by Chairperson Nancy Sewell at 9:11 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, Pete Sturman, and Harold Tabor

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Scott Krushak, Deputy Chief Kelvin Bartee, Fire Marshal Chris Cavanaugh (via telephone), Administrative Manager Jennifer Jacobs (departed mid-meeting), Rio Verde Fire District; D. Clark Partridge, Senior Executive Consultant, Arizona PSPRS, and Local PSPRS Board members Denny Myers, Jerry Devorak, Kyle Hilb, Scott Cherschligtsr (Member at Large).

II. ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS

All commissioners were present.

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. PSPRS PRESENTATION

D. Clark Partridge, senior executive consultant for the AZ PSPRS, was present to review the local PSPRS for RVFD board members and Local PSPRS board members.

Partridge explained that the basic pension funding equation is as follows:

$$\text{Contributions + Investment Returns} = \text{Benefits + Expenses}$$

Discussion was held on the following:

- ✓ Investment rates and returns
- ✓ Contribution rates and budgeting
- ✓ Permanent benefit increases
- ✓ Funding levels (Tiers 1 & 2, 92.2%, Tier 3, 102.4%)
- ✓ Actuarial reporting and evaluations
- ✓ Pension reform
- ✓ Firefighter tiers
- ✓ Amortization schedules
- ✓ Pension liability methods
- ✓ Historical pension returns and funding ratios
- ✓ Investment returns
- ✓ Arizona PSPRS trust
- ✓ Amortization of gains and losses
- ✓ Portfolio management

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 22, 2025 – General Session

Chairperson Sewell moved that the Board approve the December 22, 2025, General Session minutes as submitted. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Sturman and passed unanimously.

October 27, 2025 – General Session

On Page 5 of the October 27, 2025, General Session, minutes, the following was corrected:

Reassignment of Captain/Paramedic

Chris ~~Pearson~~ Koenig submitted a request for a reassignment from his current position of Captain to that of a firefighter. An H/R agreement was signed, so that he understood all the implications of making the move. He was moved to the status of “Firefighter” on Saturday, October 25, 2025, at station #442. Tyler Tinsley Rohrer was promoted to “Captain” at F/S #441(B). David Bacon was then promoted to “Engineer” at F/S #441(B).

Chairperson Sewell moved that the Board accept the correction in verbiage in the October 27, 2025, minutes. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Tabor and passed unanimously.

VII. CLERK'S REPORT

The following meeting dates were listed:

- Monday, February 23, 2026, 9 a.m.
- Monday, March 23, 2026, 9 a.m.
- Monday, April 27, 2026, 98 a.m.

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

VIII. FINANCIAL REPORTS

Commissioner Sturman reported that the November and December financial reports have not yet been received from the Maricopa County Treasurer's Office. He will continue to follow up with the County.

IX. COMMISSIONER OVERSEEING EMS

Clerk Commissioner Jeanne Finney reported that four (4) surveys were returned (all electronic), all claiming Outstanding Service with only positive comments. It was noted that Tatum Heinrich is now mailing out postcards to the service recipients.

X. CHIEF'S REPORT

Legislation

The Arizona Fire District Association has come out against the proposed legislation eliminating property tax for certain groups of individuals, i.e., (1) people over 62 years of age, (2) disabled veterans of any age, or (3) those people with a loss of a public safety individual in their home.

SCBAs

The attorneys for the City of Phoenix have reviewed the SBCA agreement and will forward that document to the RVFD attorneys. That document states that the SBCAs will be transferred to the RVFD and will therefore no longer be a liability to the City of Phoenix. This review period should be completed in the next couple of months.

Standpipe

The standpipe is completed, and construction continues on the site.

Antenna Tower

It was discovered that there is currently a lien against the RVFD property where AT&T wishes to install the antenna tower. This lien existed from a promissory note signed by the Board when the property was purchased by West 36. Installments were made, and the district was paid off in three years, but the promissory note was never cleared. An escrow agent will assist the district in having that lien removed.

Firefighters Departing District

In the past month, two firefighters have resigned from the district. To fill one of the positions, a vetted, trained firefighter from the employee list has now joined the ranks of the district. Two additional persons from the potential employee list have been hired and will attend the regional firefighting academy training starting today. They will be available to work once they have completed the academy, three to four months from now.

Two of our firefighters will attend paramedic training starting February 23, 2026, for six months.

These leave a deficiency in the number of firefighters on active staff until these training programs are completed, thus requiring overtime.

XI. DEPUTY CHIEF'S REPORT

Community Information

On February 4, 2026, at 2 pm in the Rio Verde Community Center, information will be disseminated on EV lithium batteries to educate the community on preventing fire hazards. Topics will include the safety risks of electric vehicles, mitigation strategies, using appropriate chargers and proper storage, and disposal/recycling. Directly following that presentation will be a short training program focused on fall prevention.

At a future date, a training program focused on trail hiking, awareness, and safety will be held in the Trilogy community.

Critical Incident

On January 5, 2026, there was a call to the McDowell Mountain Park where a horse inadvertently fell on its rider, a Level 1 trauma. The patient was stabilized, packaged for transportation, and transferred to the hospital.

XII. FIRE MARSHAL’S REPORT

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

Permits Issued:	2025	2024
Sprinklers	12	10
Propane	9	11
Other	0	0
YTD (All Types)	128	169
Plan Reviews:	2025	
Propane	9	
Sprinkler	1	
Total Inspections	19	

Trilogy/Shea Homes

A total of one thousand and ninety-one (1,091) homes has been closed by Trilogy/Shea Homes as of the end of the 2025 calendar year.

XIII. ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER’S REPORT

Wildland Expense Update

Since Administrative Manager Jennifer Jacobe had to depart the meeting prior to its end, Chris Cavanaugh informed the Board that wildland expenses (Greer, Monarch, California) in the amount of \$203,507.98 were invoiced and received this year.

XIV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

XV. BOARD COMMENTS

There were no additional Board comments.

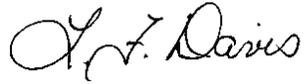
XVI. CHAIRPERSON COMMENTS

There were no additional chairperson comments.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

At 12:06 a.m. Commissioner Finney moved that the Board adjourn. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Tabor and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Libby F. Davis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Libby Floyd Davis
My Personal Secretary (From Voice Recording)