



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

February 27, 2023

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

February 27, 2023

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Monday, February 27, 2023, General Session of the Board of Directors was called to order by Chairperson George Kattermann at 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: Marty Bowin, Jeanne Finney, George Kattermann, Dennis Meyers, and Nancy Sewell

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None

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

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 District and Trilogy websites.

IV. RESOURCE SPECIALISTS REPORT

Commissioner Meyers reported that resource specialists had been very busy so far this year.

V. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There was no response to the Call to the Public.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 23, 2023 – General Session

Commissioner Sewell moved to approve the January 23, 2023, General Session minutes as submitted. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Finney and passed unanimously.

VII. REASSIGNMENT OF TREASURER POSITION

Commissioner/Treasurer Marty Bowin had originally submitted a notice of resignation as of April 25, 2023, for both his commissioner (Board member) and treasurer duties. He felt that with his upcoming travel plans, he could not be at the meetings to present the Treasurer's Report in depth. Consequently, Commissioner Sewell offered to assume the position of treasurer, which would then free up Commissioner Bowin's required physical presence monthly. Commissioner Bowin has now rescinded his notice of resignation as a commissioner.

Commissioner Bowin moved that the Board elect Commissioner Sewell to the position of treasurer, effective immediately. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Meyers and passed unanimously.

VIII. FIREFIGHTER POSITIONS

Chief Krushak stated that he currently staffs four firefighters on each engine (needed due to automatic aid requirements) and two part-time reserve EMS personnel on the ambulance. Currently, we have eight full-time career firefighters with two part-time reserve EMS personnel. As it stands, staffing is short by two full-time career firefighters each shift, and we should have a total of ten career full-time firefighters on duty each shift for standard and adequate fire response.

Administrative Manager Jennifer Jacobe reviewed the general personnel cost worksheets, comparing the total cost of staffing with a current mix of overtime and reserves, to that of new hires, resulting in a cost savings. It was noted that experienced personnel could be hired from the reserves to fill these open positions.

Commissioner Sewell urged the Board to consider hiring at least four firefighters, keeping the district fully staffed. Chief Krushak will look at future long-term personnel and land needs.

Staff will continue to explore personnel options for the upcoming budget process.

Commissioner Sewell moved that the district proceed with the hiring of six FTEs to eliminate the current shortage of personnel. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Finney and passed unanimously.

IX. CLERK'S REPORT

Future Meetings

The following meeting dates were listed:

- Monday, March 27, 2023 – 9 a.m.
- Monday, April 24, 2023 – 9 a.m.
- Monday, May 22, 2023 – 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).

X. FINANCIAL REPORTS

Commissioner Bowin reported on the January 2023 financials:

Financial Report	
Revenue	\$127,974.05
Expenses	\$359,238.27
Other Income (Expense)	(\$483,806.65)
Net Income (Loss)	(\$715,070.87)
Transfers to (from) Capital Fund	(\$500,000.00)
Adjusted Net Income	(\$215,070.87)
Monthly Budgeted Net Income (Loss)	(\$202,492.73)
YTD Actual Net Income (Loss)	\$511,071.40
Borrowing from Capital Fund	0.00
YTD Adjusted Net Income	\$511,071.40
YTD Budgeted Net Income	\$434,383.13
General Fund Operating Cash	\$443,738.49
Capital Fund Cash	\$1,968,150.93
Capital Fund Advances to General Fund	0.00
Capital Fund Equity	\$1,968,150.93
Total Bond Fund Authorization*	\$5,101,858.64
Total Expenditures to Date	\$4,956,107.47
Total Interest to Date (Interest Earned)	\$45,133.84
Current Month Expenditures	0.00
Remaining Bond Equity	\$190,885.01

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

Commissioner Bowin noted that, besides Personnel costs, Preventive Maintenance costs are escalated – beyond the rescue truck. Chief Krushak indicated that, hopefully, these maintenance costs are only cyclical.

Commissioner Bowin requested that Jennifer Jacobs change the line item from “Preventive Maintenance” to “Maintenance.”

Commissioner Bowin moved that the Board accept the January 2023 Financial Report as submitted. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Finney and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Bowin moved that the Board accept the January 2023 Monthly Transaction Report. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Sewell and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Bowin moved that the Board accept the January 2023 bank reconciliations as submitted. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Meyers and passed unanimously.

XI. EMS REPORT

Commissioner Clerk Jeanne Finney reported that there were 12 surveys received in the month of January, all of which claimed “Outstanding” service and included positive comments. The sole exception was a suggestion for a better brand of vomit bag.

XII. CHIEF’S REPORT

Trilogy Event (Blue Star)

An auction was held at Trilogy as a fundraiser (apparatus display) for the district, raising a total of \$8,065. At the auction, the district sold two four-person dinners at the station, bringing in \$600 to \$700 apiece.

Legislative Report

Chief Krushak noted that we are 50% through the legislative session. He reviewed the following:

- A bill was introduced limiting the bonding capacity of a general obligation bond to 120%.
- The bill requiring compensation for Board members quickly died.
- Several other bills have to do with taxation and funding. He will bring any bills to the Board that affect the district.

Grant Update

The current status of our grants is as follows:

- 2020: EKG Monitors – We have received a grant of \$150,000 for new heart monitors. The monitors are still pending FDA approval, and we should receive them once they are approved.
- 2021: SAFER (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response) – The district was declined this grant.
- 2021: Assistance to Firefighter Grant – This turnout grant was recently awarded to the district. (\$105,000, with a co-pay of \$5,000)
- 2022: Assistance to Firefighter Grant – This firefighter and command grant was applied for, and we should learn this coming October as to whether or not the grant was awarded to us. (\$168,000)
- 2023: SAFER – The district will apply for this by the 10th of March.

Budget Timeline

Chief Krushak presented the budget timeline, and that budget process will be under way soon.

2023 Levy Limit Worksheet

The Net Assessed Property Value in the district is up 9.4%, and the tax rate has increased from 3.375% to 3.5%. As a result, the Allowable Levy Limit this year is up 13%, so we will receive 13% more tax revenue this year.

XIII. DEPUTY CHIEF’S REPORT

In Deputy Chief’s absence, Chief Krushak presented the January Deputy Chief’s Report:

Activity Report

Call Type	Response Time
In-District EMS	4:48
In-District Non-Emergency	3:14

Call Type	# Occurrences	
	2023	2022
Total EMS Calls	40	34
Total Transports	28	20
Total Non-emergency Response Calls	18	10
Fire-related Calls	5	6
Total Responses	56	50
Community Contacts	32	21

XIV. FIRE MARSHAL REPORT

In the absence of Fire Marshal Chris Cavanaugh, Jennifer Jacobs reported on the following:

Permits issued:

January	2023	2022
Sprinklers	12	12
Propane	14	13
Others	0	0
YTD (All Types)	26	25
Other Prevention Activity (January)		
Propane Plan Review		14
Total Inspections		43

Shea Trilogy has closed 775 out of a total of 1215 planned homes, leaving 440 for future completion.

XV. ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER'S REPORT

Administrative Manager Jennifer Jacobe noted no change on wildland billing, still \$180,001.11 invoiced and received.

Maricopa County closed the district's fiduciary account, transferring \$3.17 into the General Account on February 14, 2023.

XVI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

XVII. BOARD COMMENTS

There were no additional Board comments.

XVIII. CHAIRPERSON COMMENTS

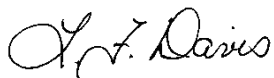
Chairperson Kattermann thanked Chief Krushak and Jennifer Jacobe for their excellent work regarding the personnel cost data.

While there were no new concrete facts about the construction of a 5G tower adjacent to F/S #441, the subject was discussed briefly.

XIX. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Bowin moved that the Board adjourn at 10:02 a.m. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Finney and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Libby Floyd Davis
My Personal Secretary
(From Voice Recording)