



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

October 27, 2025

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I. CALL TO ORDER

The Monday, October 27, 2025, General Session of the RVFD Board of Directors was called to order by Chairperson Nancy Sewell at 9:01 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, Administrative Manager Jennifer Jacobe, and Administrative Assistant 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 Verde River website.

IV. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There was no response to the Call to the Public.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 22, 2025 – General Session

Commissioner LeMoine moved that the Board approve the September 22, 2025, General Session minutes as submitted. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Finney and passed unanimously.

VI. CLERK'S REPORT

The following meeting dates were listed:

- Monday, November 24, 2025, 9 a.m.
- Monday, December 15, 2025, 9 a.m.*
- Monday, January 26, 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.

*The date of the December Board meeting was changed from December 22, 2025, to December 15, 2025.

VII. FINANCIAL REPORTS

Commissioner Sturman reported on the September 2025 financials:

Revenue	\$1,040,831.05
Expenses	\$452,172.34
Other Income (Expense)	\$413,221.03
Net Income (Loss)	\$1,001,879.74
Transfers to (from) Capital Fund	\$250,000.00
Adjusted Net Income	\$751,879.74
Budgeted Monthly Net Income	\$783,710.16
YTD Net Income (Loss)	\$1,245,331.31
Borrowing from Capital Fund	\$1,250,000.00
YTD Adjusted Net Income	(\$4,668.69)
YTD Budgeted Net Income	\$50,529.58
General Fund Operating Cash	\$1,029,292.12
Capital Fund Cash	\$802,496.75
Capital Fund Advances to General Fund	\$1,250,000.00
Capital Fund Equity	\$2,052,496.75
YTD Funds Borrowed from Capital Fund	\$1,250,000.00
YTD Funds Repaid to Capital Fund	-0-

Funds Owed to Capital Fund	\$1,250,000.00
Total Bond Fund Authorization*	\$5,101,858.64
Total Expenditures to Date	\$4,956,107.47
Total Interest to Date (Interest Earned)	\$47,803.98
Current Month Expenditures	-0-
Remaining Bond Equity	\$67.54

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

Commissioner Sturman noted that tax revenues continue to fall behind, 15% below the monthly budget. On a year-to-date basis, the district is behind 17%. Since residential taxes are due this week, revenues will increase.

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

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

Commissioner Sturman moved that the bank reconciliations be approved. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Finney 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.

VIII. COMMISSIONER OVERSEEING EMS

Commissioner Clerk Jeanne Finney reported the following:

Ten (10) surveys were returned out of 28, all claiming "Outstanding" service with only positive attributes and comments.

Administrative Assistant Tatum Heinrich presented the newest customer satisfaction survey cards, somewhat larger than the original business card-sized cards. It was agreed that there should be the district's web address on the next version of the card as well as a font increase. It had been discussed that a separate letter/postcard would be sent to the medical transport individuals, and that will be at the discretion of the medic.

IX. CHIEF'S REPORT

First Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement with City of Mesa

An updated contract (starting December 1, 2025), was received from the City of Mesa relating to "Fire Apparatus Maintenance and Repair Services" defining their service rates. The contract has been signed by the attorney for the district, and George Kattermann's signature line will be crossed out in lieu of Chairperson Sewell's signature line.

Commissioner LeMoine moved that the First Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Mesa Relating to “Fire Apparatus Maintenance and Repair Services” be approved as revised. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Tabor and passed unanimously.

Firewise Day

Rio Verde Community Association’s “Firewise Day” will be held on November 1, 2025. Josh Johnson and Diane Newcomb have prepared a presentation, and representatives of the Maricopa County Emergency Management will speak as well. This meeting will be held at the Community Center in Rio Verde at 9 a.m. on November 1, 2025. If more than half the Board is attending, it will be posted

Reassignment of Captain/Paramedic

Chris Pearson 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 was promoted to “Captain” at F/S #441(B). David Bacon was then promoted to “Engineer” at F/S #441(B).

Legislation

The Federal government shutdown has not specifically affected the district as of this date; however, SAFER and Assistance to Firefighter grant processing may be on hold. Staff will check to see if grants are being reimbursed or if critical services from the federal government will be received. Chief Krushak will keep the board advised on this subject.

Local PSPRS

Chief Krushak has been in contact with the AZ PSPRS representative who has agreed to provide a training session for the board and selected staff members. Krushak will ask that representative to provide this training at the next Board meeting – November 24, 2025. Questions specifically related to the RVFD will be provided in order to keep the meeting running smoothly. Please contact Chief Krushak with those questions.

Paramedic Training Program

The district will no longer be able to utilize the City of Phoenix for its one-year paramedic training program for between one and three years due to the work load of that program. There is also a training program associated with Paradise Valley College, but no training can be done there for approximately two years. Glendale Community College has an opening for January 2026, a one-year program.

There are two or three paramedics who are eligible to retire in 2026/2027. To keep the station fully staffed, Chief Krushak has recommended placing one firefighter in the Glendale program in January to be prepared for that retirement. The firefighter will enter the training program and simultaneously work at the district. We currently have one extra person per shift for relief if needed. Tuition estimate is \$8,000 to \$8,800 and gives college credits upon completion. We will try to place additional firefighters in paramedic training programs as openings are available.

Firefighter of the Year

The Rotary Club of Fountain Hills has historically selected a “Firefighter of the Year” or “Public Safety Person of the Year.” On October 28, Christopher Saldana will be honored with the “Firefighter of the Year” award by the Rotary Club of Fountain Hills. Only three (3) persons are invited to attend to the ceremony.

Golf Tournament

The upcoming golf tournament will be held on December 1, 2025, at Trilogy. Margaret Tabor is heading up that event, and she was commended by Chief Krushak for her expertise. There will be 144 golfers, plus a wine event the evening prior to the tournament. Any Board members interested in attending any of the activities, please advise Chief Krushak.

Self-contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBAs)

The purchase of the SCBAs from Phoenix Fire Department must be approved by the Phoenix City Council at its November (originally October) meeting. The cost of the anticipated SCBAs is \$100,000 to \$120,000 which is in the capital plan.

Avenida del Sol

When it storms, there is a heavy flow of rainwater crossing Avenida del Sol, heavy enough to transport vehicles into the wash itself. Since there are no storm drains in the community, the district depends upon retention basins or washes to keep flooding at bay. Community members, therefore, must be cautious in crossing roadways with running water. The district does not have the capability to rescue stranded residents, so discussions will be held with community leadership about using signage to keep residents out of flood waters.

X. DEPUTY CHIEF’S REPORT

Training

In 2023 the district received a grant which had a residue of funds. These funds were used to send firefighters to Incident Command Training through Blue Card Incident Command in Cincinnati, Ohio, returning October 4, 2025. Six staff members attended that week-long training and will help in training those who were not able to attend the meeting.

Included in this training was data on fighting electric vehicle fires. At this time, the vehicle must simply be removed from the home until the fire burns down. Technology of fighting a battery fire is advancing, and staff will keep abreast of anything new.

Facilities

CORE took full responsibility for the sewer problem at F/S #442. At their direction, Tempe Mechanical made the necessary fixes under their warranty.

Another issue found was a drain clogged with grout leaking to the dorm. CORE will attempt to rectify that problem by using muriatic acid to loosen the grout – then removal of the loose grout.

There is a parapet wall over the captain's area in F/S #441 where the stucco is leaking. A contractor will be out within the week to make those repairs.

Annexation

There are no updates about annexation.

Recap

- Total service calls for September service were 103, 37 less than occurred in August.
- Engine #441 ran approximately 2.5 times as many calls as Engine #442.
- Average response times were at four minutes, nine seconds, still under the five-minute mark.
- Thirty-six snake calls were handled in the month of September.
- Twenty-four EMS calls were handled in the month of September.

Engineer Testing Process

In late September the district had a full day of engineer position interviews. Out of nine (9) candidates to receive promotions to fill the two (2) engineering vacancies, Tyler Rohrer and Nicki Gatlin were the successful applicants.

EPCOR

One commissioner indicated that EPCOR had installed two huge tanks in the area and questioned their purpose. Deputy Chief Bartee will investigate and report to the Board at its next meeting.

XI. FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

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

	2025	2024
Sprinklers	2	0
Propane	1	0
Other	1	0
YTD (All Types)	86	109
	2025	
Propane	1	
Kitchen Hood	1	
Sprinkler	3	
Total Inspections	24	

Trilogy/Shea Homes

One thousand and sixty-nine (1,069) homes have been closed by Trilogy/Shea Homes as of the end of September.

XII. ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER'S REPORT

Wildland Expense Update

Administrative Manager Jennifer Jacobe informed the Board that wildland expenses (Greer, Monarch, California) in the amount of \$203,507.98 were invoiced and received this year.

XIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

XIV. BOARD COMMENTS

There were no additional Board comments.

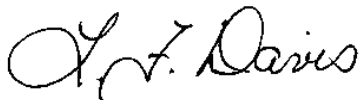
XV. CHAIRPERSON COMMENTS

There were no additional chairperson comments

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:30 a.m. Commissioner Sewell 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)