



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**

March 23, 2026

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March 23, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Monday, March 23, 2026, General Session of the RVFD Board of Directors was called to order by Chairperson Nancy Sewell 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: 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 Assistant Tatum Heinrich, and Administrative Manager Jennifer Jacobe, 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

February 23, 2026 – General Session

Chairperson Sewell moved that the Board approve the February 23, 2026, 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, April 27, 2026, 9 a.m.
- Monday, May 18, 2026, 9 a.m.
- Monday, June 22, 2026, 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

January 2026 Financial Report	
Revenue	\$378,647.93
Expenses	\$389,278.41
Other Income (Expense)	\$115.00
Net Income (Loss)	(\$10,515.48)
Transfers to (from) Capital Fund	0.00
Adjusted Net Income	(\$10,515.48)
Budgeted Monthly Net Income	(\$334,068.43)
YTD Net Income (Loss)	\$2,572,657.21
Borrowing from Capital Fund	\$1,250,000.00
YTD Adjusted Net Income	\$1,322,657.21
YTD Budgeted Net Income	\$801,150.18
General Fund Operating Cash	\$249,554.01
Capital Fund Cash	\$717,146.67
Capital Fund Advances to General Fund	\$1,250,000.00
Capital Fund Equity	\$1,967,146.67
YTD Funds Borrowed from Capital Fund	\$1,250,000.00
YTD Funds Repaid to Capital Fund	0.00
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)	\$47,804.15
Current Month Expenditures	-0-
Remaining Bond Equity	\$67.71

February 2026 Financial Report	
Revenue	\$210,189.65
Expenses	\$412,502.09
Other Income (Expense)	(\$248,641.14)
Net Income (Loss)	(\$450,953.58)
Transfers to (from) Capital Fund	(\$250,000.00)
Adjusted Net Income	(\$200,953.58)
Budgeted Monthly Net Income	(\$96,602.60)
YTD Net Income (Loss)	\$2,121,703.63
Borrowing from Capital Fund	\$1,000,000.00
YTD Adjusted Net Income	\$1,121,703.63
YTD Budgeted Net Income	\$704,547.58
General Fund Operating Cash	\$2,024,786.85
Capital Fund Cash	\$967,146.67
Capital Fund Advances to General Fund	\$1,000,000.00
Capital Fund Equity	\$1,967,146.67
YTD Funds Borrowed from Capital Fund	\$1,250,000.00
YTD Funds Repaid to Capital Fund	\$250,000.00
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
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*\$5,000,000 bond plus cost of issuance

Commissioner/Treasurer Sturman briefly discussed the following:

- County fire district assistance was running behind, which is common.

- There had been an \$87,000 lease payment for the fire truck in January.
- In February the district was 2% below on tax revenues, but a more representative amount should start to be collected in April. Nevertheless, the district is in a strong cash position currently.

Another \$250,000 will be moved from the general account to the capital account.

Sturman commended Administrative Manager Jennifer Jacobe for her accuracy in working with the budget.

Commissioner Sturman moved that the Board accept both the January and February of 2026 financial reports as submitted. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Tabor and passed unanimously.

VIII. COMMISSIONER OVERSEEING EMS

Clerk Commissioner Jeanne Finney reported that no surveys were returned. A question was raised as to whether the community might have difficulty in following the QR codes or that the surveys are received too long after the service event (creating a time lag).

We have returned to mailing out the surveys. Chief Krushak suggested that we follow the results of mail only for a period of time and then reassess.

IX. CHIEF'S REPORT

Legislative Update

No legislative update was received by Chief Krushak, due to a Professional Fire Service Institute meeting in Washington, DC. This meeting was represented by the Arizona Fire Districts Association.

The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors selected Rio Verde Foothills resident Cody Reim to replace former Rep. Joseph Chaplik from Fountain Hills, who recently resigned from the Arizona House of Representatives (District 3) to run for Congress. Chief Krushak noted that this should bring more regional issues to the forefront.

District Activities

The budget timeline has begun. Staff will create a budget and review with Commissioner Sturman prior to the April 27 Board meeting. The budget will be voted on at the May meeting. This process is one month ahead of the past budget schedule.

Facilitated Discussion

A facilitated discussion (drill) will be held on March 24, 2026, at the Maricopa County Emergency Management location regarding evacuation and coordination of activities throughout the Rio Verde area. Some causes for evacuation could be a hazardous materials release, gasoline or fertilizer truck rollovers, wildland fires, or power outages.

Cell Tower

Chief Krushak reported that the district is still in contact with representatives planning to build the monopole cell tower. That company had followed their due diligence by sending proposed drawings to the County.

Resignation

Captain Tyler Tinsley will resign from the Rio Verde Fire District as of April 10, 2026, joining forces with the Goodyear Fire Department.

Staffing

Deputy Chief Kelvin Bartee noted a vacancy at the “top” created by Captain Tinsley’s upcoming departure. We currently have four candidates to interview; one will be hired to be started at the “bottom”, and one firefighter will be promoted to fill Tinsley’s position at the “top”. A new promotional captain’s list will be created for future hiring/promotions. We will be fully staffed at the end of June 2026 with 33 firefighters.

Incidents

On Friday, March 20, a resident drove into a transformer in Rio Verde, shutting down power in a particular grid, including the Rio Verde Clubhouse and the Community Center. The resident was not injured, though the transformer required major repair and resulted in a power outage. A few residents sheltered at the Community Center (powered by a generator) to get out of the heat. Everyone in the community was contacted to determine if any other vulnerable individuals needed assistance.

X. DEPUTY CHIEF’S REPORT

Building Updates/Annexation

The projected timeline for Toll Brothers to close on the West 36 property is March 31, 2026. The property annexation is expected in April after their closing. (Mark Maloney will be the Toll Brothers contact regarding this annexation.)

The plant salvage/relocation process will also occur after the Toll Brothers closing. Their second County review for the final plat permit should be approximately July 1, 2026. Construction will then be forthcoming.

There is no update on the Shops at Rio, though a traffic plan is being planned with the County's input.

Training

All personnel have completed their certification for advanced cardiac care training and EMT recertification. This is done every two years.

Wildland and safety training is ongoing in coordination with the Department of Forestry and Fire Management, some offsite. The district is ready to be deployed.

It is hoped that in the future, the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office helicopters will work more closely with the district at McDowell Mountain Regional Park through communication, training, and coordination. Currently, they can transport an individual from the incident location to a safe road/parking lot where fire personnel can treat and transport.

XI. FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

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

Permits Issued:	2026	2025
Sprinklers	2	2
Propane	0	0
Other	0	0
YTD (All Types)	15	3
Plan Reviews:	2026	
Propane	0	
Sprinkler	2	
Total Inspections	35	

Trilogy/Shea Homes

One thousand and ninety-nine (1,099) homes have been closed by Trilogy/Shea Homes as of the end of February.

XII. ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER'S REPORT

Wildland Expense Update

Wildland expense and payments remain at \$203,507.98.

There will be no checks this week, beginning again the next Monday.

So far, budget projections look good, with an anticipated year-end gross of \$400,000, \$300,000 of which is contingency.

XIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Commissioner Sturman questioned whether the Board had discussed the unfunded pension liability. There had been no discussion to date, but per Chief Krushak's calculations based on those comments from the representative from Maricopa County Treasurer's Office, the district is funded at 98%.

The subject of funding the Local PSPRS will be placed on the April agenda to create a funding plan.

XIV. BOARD COMMENTS

One Board member commended the district for its service throughout the month, both technically and human related.

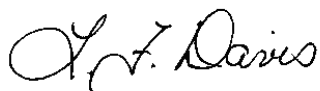
XV. CHAIRPERSON COMMENTS

There were no additional chairperson comments.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:16 a.m. Commissioner Sturman moved that the Board adjourn. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Finney and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Libby Floyd Davis
My Personal Secretary (From Voice Recording)