

**GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD
BUDGET STUDY SESSION MINUTES
Tuesday, May 9, 2017 1014 hrs
3885 East Golder Ranch Drive, Tucson, Arizona**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Fire Board Chairperson Vicki Cox Golder called the meeting to order on Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at 10:14 a.m.

Members Present: Board Chairperson Vicki Cox Golder, Board Vice-Chair Steve Brady, Clerk David Dahl, Board Member Mark Clark, Board Member Richard Hudgins

Staff Present: Fire Chief Randy Karrer, Assistant Chief Patrick Abel, Assistant Chief Tom Brandhuber, Finance Manager Dave Christian, Board Services Manager Brooke Painter

2. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There were no public issues presented.

3. REGULAR BUSINESS

A. BUDGET STUDY SESSION

Chief Karrer explained that we had to add over \$300,000 to the budget for our health insurance costs. He also noted that some of the training expenses the Board had asked to be cut, have been. Staff was also successful in finding some additional resources, as directed by the Governing Board.

Manager Christian discussed in detail the changes to version #2 of the budget, including the increase of total costs and the projected increase of revenue sources. He stated that the proposed mil rate needed to balance the budget would be \$2.29, with a bond mil rate of \$.10.

Chief Karrer stated that this is the costs to continue the programs Golder Ranch Fire District currently offers. The chiefs worked with staff to cut as much as possible, while continuing the programs that are in place. Chairperson Cox Golder said that a \$.20 increase is unacceptable. Manager Christian explained that the current budget was funded by subsidizing our current mil rate with our reserve fund, which in reality, would put Golder Ranch Fire District's true mil rate at \$2.21 instead of \$2.09.

Chief Karrer stated that he is extremely frustrated with the Town of Oro Valley, in their unwillingness to pay for plan reviews that GRFD staff is performing, while they are collecting monies on those plans.

Board Member Hudgins stated that he needs to be able to explain to his constituents why there is such a large increase in the tax rate. Chief Karrer stated that he knows and appreciates the Board's diligence in trying to keep the tax rate low.

Chief Abel explained that by taking from the reserve fund to balance the budget [in order to keep the mil rate low], still leaves the PSPRS increase and capital needs that still need to be addressed,



and would be put on hold again. Unfortunately, the economy has had a big impact over the past years and we [GRFD] are now playing catch up.

The Board stated that they would like the website to have information on it for the public that reflects why their tax rate has been raised, so they are able to direct their constituents there for information.

Chief Brandhuber stated that he felt this is the year would be the big hit, but he foresees it beginning to stabilize after this year.

NO MOTION NECESSARY FOR THIS AGENDA ITEM

B. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE APPROVAL OF THE GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017 – 2018

MOTION by Board Member Hudgins to approve the Golder Ranch Fire District tentative budget for fiscal year 2017-2018 in the amount of \$24,043,058 with a proposed tax rate of \$2.29 and to publish the tentative budget for public notice pursuant to A.R.S. §48-805.A(2).

MOTION SECONDED by Clerk Dahl

MOTION CARRIED 5/0

C. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE APPROVAL OF A PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017 – 2018

MOTION by Board Member Hudgins to schedule a public hearing date for adoption of the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Budget on June 13, 2017, at 0900 in the Golder Ranch Fire District Administration Board Room

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Clark

MOTION CARRIED 5/0

4. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Vice-Chair Brady to adjourn the meeting at 10:51 a.m.

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Clark

MOTION CARRIED 5/0



David Dahl, Clerk of the Board
Golder Ranch Fire District
b/p

