

**GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
December 21, 2021 9:00 a.m.
3885 East Golder Ranch Drive, Tucson, Arizona**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Fire Board Chairperson Cox Golder called the meeting to order on December 21, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present: Board Chairperson Vicki Cox Golder, Board Vice-Chair Richard Hudgins (via Zoom), Clerk Wally Vette, and Board Member Steve Brady

Staff Present: Fire Chief Randy Karrer, Assistant Chief Patrick Abel, Assistant Chief Tom Brandhuber, Finance Manager Dave Christian, Local 3832 President Jones, Administrative Assistant Maggie Hernandez, and Legal Counsel Donna Aversa

Assistant Chief Robb was absent due to illness.

2. SALUTE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. FIRE BOARD REPORTS

Board Member Vette congratulated staff on Winter Wonderland and said it was very fun.

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There were no public issues presented.

5. PRESENTATIONS

A. PRESENTATION FROM CATALINA CRUSADERS – A DONATION TO LOCAL #3832 FOR THE ANNUAL SHOP WITH A FIREFIGHTER EVENT – Ruth from the Players Pub was not in attendance. Union Representative Tobin Johnson spoke on behalf of Ruth and explained the fundraiser. He said it helped over 120 kids, we received double the amount of money this year, and it was a huge outpouring from community.

B. PRESENTATION OF PERSONNEL

PRESENTATION FOR FORMER BOARD MEMBER ALBERT PESQUEIRA

Chief Karrer congratulated Mr. Albert Pesqueira and thanked him for his time serving the community.



RETIREMENT

- ANTONIO BENJAMIN
- WILL LOESCHE

Retired Captain Benjamin received a plaque, flags, helmet, and an axe in recognition of his recent retirement. Retired Fire Marshal Loesche received a plaque and helmet for his recent retirement. Chief Karrer thanked each of them for their service to the community.

NEW HIRE

- OSCAR HERNANDEZ – Behavioral and Loyalty Oaths were administered

YEARS OF SERVICE

- ALLISON DELONG – 5 YEARS

Human Resources Manager Delong received her pin for 5 years of service.

PROMOTIONS

- JENN AKINS – PROMOTION TO FIRE MARSHAL
- BRAD WHITE – PROMOTION TO DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL
- MARK WILSON – PROMOTION TO BATTALION CHIEF
- RANDY CRAMBLIT – PROMOTION TO ENGINEER
- DENNIS YAUCH – PROMOTION TO ENGINEER

Chief Cesarek introduced Fire Marshal Akins and Deputy Fire Marshal White and congratulated them on their recent promotions. They were both pinned with their new badges. Chief Pearce introduced Battalion Chief Wilson, Engineer Cramblit, and Engineer Yauch and congratulated them on their recent promotions. They were all pinned with their new badges.

The Board took a brief break at 9:53 a.m. and reconvened 9:58 a.m.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

- APPROVE MINUTES – NOVEMBER 16, 2021 REGULAR SESSION
- APPROVE MINUTES – DECEMBER 3, 2021 SPECIAL SESSION
- APPROVE AND ADOPT THE GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT'S REGULAR GOVERNING BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2022

MOTION by Board Member Brady to approve the December 21, 2021 Consent Agenda
MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Vette
MOTION CARRIED 4/0

7. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE



- A. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT – Chief Karrer presented the Fire Chief's Report to the Governing Board. He stated that Winter Wonderland and the Union Christmas Party were both successful and thanked those who helped put the events together. He said that 75-plus cars went through Winter Wonderland and said the Union Christmas party at the Omni Tucson National Resort was a wonderful well-attended event. Chief Karrer added that we will be running on a skeleton crew for the next week during the holidays.
- LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORT – Tobin Johnson filled in for President Jones. He reported that the Shop with a Firefighter event was a success and Union Christmas party was success. He stated that March 5th will be the annual archery event.
- B. PLANNING ASSISTANT CHIEF'S REPORT – Chief Abel presented the Logistics/Planning Assistant Chief's report to the Governing Board. Chief Abel wanted to speak about the bond project at Station 374 – we received the grading permit, progress will increase after new year. The appraisal came in for Station 378 at \$325,000, an increase from eighteen months ago when it was \$285,000. There were no further questions or comments from the Governing Board.
- C. ESSENTIAL SERVICES ASSISTANT CHIEF'S REPORT – Chief Brandhuber presented the Essential Services Assistant Chief's report to the Governing Board. Chairperson Cox Golder asked about the certificate of necessity (CON) legislation. Chief Brandhuber replied that it will not affect us negatively. He added that Chief Karrer works closely with Chief Freitag and will make sure it is vetted before they support anything else. Board Member Vette asked about KVOA News records request. Chief Brandhuber responded that they are looking into discipline records from the previous month. Board Member Vette asked a question regarding depreciation. Finance Manager Christian answered the question, stating there is a depreciation schedule we follow but we do not report it monthly internally. Board Member Vette asked a question to Human Resources Manager Delong regarding a committee mentioned in her report and she answered. There were no further questions or comments from the Governing Board.
- D. EMERGENCY RESPONSE/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT CHIEF'S REPORT - Chief Fred Pearce presented the Operations Assistant Chief's Report to the Governing Board. Board Member Vette asked what "LZ" training was. Chief Pearce responded that it stands for landing zone for helicopters. There were no further questions or comments from the Governing Board.

8. REGULAR BUSINESS

- A. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING NOMINATIONS FOR THE GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD POSITIONS OF CHAIRPERSON, VICE-CHAIRPERSON AND CLERK FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2022

MOTION by Vice-Chair Hudgins to nominate Vicki Cox Golder as Chairperson of the Golder Ranch Fire District Governing Board



MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Brady
MOTION CARRIED 4/0

MOTION by Chairperson Cox Golder to nominate Richard Hudgins as Vice-Chairperson of the Golder Ranch Fire District Governing Board

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Brady
MOTION CARRIED 4/0

MOTION by Chairperson Cox Golder to nominate Board Member Vette as Clerk of the Golder Ranch Fire District Governing Board

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Brady
MOTION CARRIED 4/0

- B. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE APPOINTMENT OF A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT'S GOVERNING BOARD TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL RETIREMENT SYSTEM'S LOCAL PENSION BOARD

MOTION by Chairperson Cox Golder to nominate Clerk Vette as Chairperson of the Golder Ranch Fire District's Governing Board to the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System's Local Pension Board pursuant to A.R.S. §38-847(A)(3).

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Brady
MOTION CARRIED 4/0

- C. EXECUTIVE SESSION: THE BOARD MAY VOTE TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO A.R.S. §38-431.03.A(3) FOR DISCUSSION OR CONSULTATION FOR LEGAL ADVICE WITH THE ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT REGARDING THE BOARD VACANCY CREATED BY THE RESIGNATION OF BOARD MEMBER PESQUEIRA AND THE PROCESS TO FILL THE VACANCY FOR THE BALANCE OF HIS TERM. **Note – executive sessions are confidential pursuant to Arizona law.

MOTION by Board Member Brady to enter into executive session pursuant to A.R.S. §§38-431.03.A(3) for the purpose of legal advice with the attorney at 10:12 a.m.

MOTION SECONDED by Vice-Chair Hudgins
MOTION CARRIED 4/0

Those present in the executive session were the Board Members, Chief Karrer, Attorney Aversa, and Administrative Assistant Hernandez.

The Board reconvened into regular session at 10:30 a.m.

Chairperson Cox Golder reminded those in attendance Executive Sessions are confidential pursuant to ARS §38-431.03(C).

- D. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO ESTABLISH THE BOARD'S PROCESS TO FILL THE VACANT BOARD SEAT, INCLUDING SCHEDULING A SPECIAL MEETING FOR INTERVIEW AND POSSIBLE APPOINTMENT TO FILL VACANCY



Donna Aversa stated that the Board will set a special meeting and schedule each of the seven applicants for a fifteen-minute interview. Attorney Aversa recommended the first part of January, on or around the 11th, so the appointed applicant will have time to get certifications to be sworn in by the regular February board meeting. Attorney Aversa recommended the interviews be held in executive session.

MOTION by Board Member Vette to establish the Board's process to fill the vacant board seat, including scheduling a special meeting for interview and possible appointment to fill vacancy

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Brady

MOTION CARRIED 4/0

- E. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF THE AUDIT RESULTS PRESENTED BY BEACH FLEISCHMAN AND THE ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT (ACFR) FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2021

Board Member Vette asked about the hydrant score of 32 out of a possible 40 and questioned where we are short. Finance Manager Dave Christian said FLS wanted to lay out a metric for Fire and Life Safety. Chief Brandhuber added that it can be a battle with private water companies allowing us to test the hydrants and it directly affects ISO rating.

MOTION by Board Member Vette to approve the audit report and final Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 as presented

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Brady

MOTION CARRIED 4/0

- F. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE APPROVAL OF AN UPDATE TO THE FOLLOWING POLICIES: 203 – PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, 403 – CODE ENFORCEMENT, 701 – PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES, AND 708 – PUBLIC ALERTS

MOTION by Board Member Vette to approve and accept the updates to the following policies: 203 – Professional Development, 403 – Code Enforcement, 701 – Personal Communication Devices, and 708 – Public Alerts

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Brady

MOTION CARRIED 4/0

- G. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED POLICY: 1048 – HOLIDAY TIME OFF

Board Clerk Vette stated he wanted to take away birthday holiday in lieu of Juneteenth. Chairperson Cox Golder disagreed, stating we should give all holidays to staff that we can. Board Member Brady asked about the MOU. Chief Karrer said we have historically followed the holidays, but we can make adjustments. Chief Karrer said policy was more about procedure and floating holidays. Chief Karrer stated the birthday holiday is part of



MOU and we would be in violation of MOU if we take it away. Board Member Brady asked what the cost was again. Chief Brandhuber responded \$41,000. Board Clerk Vette said he is concerned at a more global budget issue as salaries increase and other costs increase in the future.

MOTION by Board Member Vette to approve and accept the following previously approved policy: 1048 – Holiday Time Off

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Brady

MOTION CARRIED 4/0

H. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT RECONCILIATION AND MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT**

Finance Manager Christian presented the monthly financials and reconciliation for Golder Ranch Fire District to the Governing Board. There were no further questions or comments from the Governing Board.

MOTION by Vice-Chair Vette to approve and accept the Golder Ranch Fire District reconciliation and monthly financial reports as presented

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Brady

MOTION CARRIED 4/0

9. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

This provides an opportunity for the Board to direct staff to include items on future agendas for further consideration and decision at a later date, or to study the matter further.

- Regularly Scheduled Meeting – January 18, 2022

10. **CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Board Member Brady to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

MOTION SECONDED by Board Clerk Vette

MOTION CARRIED 5/0



Wally Vette, Clerk of the Board
Golder Ranch Fire District
m/h

