

**GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES**

May 17, 2022 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 May 17, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present: Board Chairperson Vicki Cox Golder, Board Vice-Chair Richard Hudgins, Board Clerk Vette, Board Member Steve Brady, and Board Member Outlaw

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

2. SALUTE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. FIRE BOARD REPORTS

Board Clerk Vette said he had lunch with Captain Hatfield and mentioned he had a situation where station 375 responded to his church. He said the crew was very respectful to the patient and commended a job well done. There were no comments from the Board.

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There were no public issues presented at this time.

5. PRESENTATIONS

A. PRESENTATION OF PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES

- Thomas Jefferson (T.J.) – IT Specialist

IT Manager Rascon introduced Thomas Jefferson to the Governing Board. Behavioral and loyalty oaths were administered.



6. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. APPROVE MINUTES – APRIL 19, 2022 REGULAR SESSION
- B. APPROVE AND ADOPT THE FOLLOWING UPDATED POLICIES: 207 – MINIMUM STAFFING POLICIES AND POLICY 1007 – EDUCATIONAL INCENTIVES
- C. APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NUMBER 15 TO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT AND NORTHWEST FIRE DISTRICT FOR DISPATCH SERVICES

MOTION by Board Clerk Vette to approve the May 17, 2022 Consent Agenda

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Outlaw

MOTION CARRIED 5/0

7. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

- A. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT – Chief Karrer presented the Fire Chief's Report to the Governing Board. Chief Karrer said yesterday was EMS Day and wanted to acknowledge how well our EMS providers serve the community and their dedication. He said there are many graduations this week and we are participating in Project Grad at Ironwood Ridge and Canyon del Oro High Schools. Clerk Vette asked which crews are on wildfires. Chief Karrer said we had an ambulance in Sonoita, but it is back now. Chief Karrer added that we do not have the staffing right now to send out more crews. There were no further questions or comments from the Board.
 - LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORT – President Jones said this last month has been busy. He said they attended a relationship-building barbecue and baseball game with Northwest Fire District, participated in a charity event with Tucson Fire for Adopt-a-Family, and participated in the Oro Valley First Responder 5k run. President Jones added that next week they will attend the Professional Firefighters of Arizona (PFFA) State Convention in Tucson.
- B. PLANNING ASSISTANT CHIEF'S REPORT – Chief Abel presented the Logistics/Planning Assistant Chief's report to the Governing Board. Chief Abel provided the status on station 374 stating there have been challenges of getting subcontractors on scene and supply shortages. He said they are looking at a completion date end of June. Chief Abel encouraged the board members to tour the station to view progress. He said Van Robinson from State Land is trying to wrap up the packet that goes to be marketed for auction for station 378.

Chief Cesarek provided updates on the Hanley project. Over the last couple of weeks, requests for quotes (RFQ)'s were sent out to three construction companies. The three companies and their proposals will be reviewed then a recommendation will be made to Chief Karrer. The next steps would be to align the construction company and the architects.



Vice Chair Hudgins had a question regarding construction of 378. Chief Abel said he had a conversation with the architect this morning to go through a pre-vetted program. He explained further to answer Vice Chair Hudgins' question. Chief Abel said he would like to ask for a special board meeting to help move the Hanley building forward to start the pre-construction process. There were no further questions or comments from the Board.

- C. ESSENTIAL SERVICES ASSISTANT CHIEF'S REPORT – Chief Brandhuber presented the Essential Services Assistant Chief's report to the Governing Board. Chief Brandhuber recognized IT Manager Rascon for bringing great credit to the Zoll Summit last week. He said Shelby in Billing has done great as well to get the award. Chief Brandhuber wanted to commend his other staff as well, including Finance Manager Christian, Chief Perry, and the Human Resources team. Chairperson Cox Golder commented on the IGA between Northwest Fire District and Golder Ranch Fire District that was on the consent agenda and the fact that it went down. Chief Brandhuber said with the dispatch captains in place, we were able to receive a credit. There were no further questions or comments from the Board.
- D. EMERGENCY RESPONSE/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT CHIEF'S REPORT – Chief Robb presented the Operations Assistant Chief's Report to the Governing Board. Chief Robb also complimented Manager Rascon and the operations personnel that attended the Zoll Summit. He said the goal is to streamline the process to assist patients. There were no further questions comments from the Board.

8. REGULAR BUSINESS

- A. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT FISCAL YEAR 2022-23 BUDGET
 - THE PUBLIC HEARING OPENED AT 9:22 A.M.Resident Lee Mayes had questions regarding labor on the budget and asked if we could have one suppression unit at 380. Chief Karrer responded that we only have one engine at that station. Mr. Mayes asked about new apparatus. Chief Karrer responded and asked Chief Abel to assist in the response. Mr. Mayes asked more about the truck. Chief Karrer answered the question.
 - THE PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED AT 9:25 A.M.

Public hearing only. No motion necessary.

- B. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE REGARDING RESOLUTION #2022-0004 APPROVING AND FORMALLY ADOPTING THE GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022/23

Chief Karrer commented that he feels very comfortable with the budget presented. He thanked staff and said he wanted to be prepared for a possible recession in the future. He thanked President Jones for his collaboration. Manager Christian said that the budget is a very good move in the right direction when dealing with some economic consequences. He added that if we have to make adjustments, they will not be



dramatic. Chief Karrer added comments regarding the rise in property taxes in nearby areas as well to give a comparison. Chairperson Cox Golder commented that we have a well-managed district.

MOTION by Vice-Chair Hudgins to approve Resolution #2022-0004 formally adopting the Golder Ranch Fire District budget in the amount of \$48,267,409 with a proposed mil rate of \$2.43 and a bond debt service mil rate of \$0.14 for fiscal year 2022/23.

MOTION SECONDED by Board Clerk Vette

MOTION CARRIED 5/0

- C. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING RESOLUTION #2022-0005 APPROVING THE CALL OF ELECTION FOR THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT FOR THE PURPOSE OF FILLING TWO VACANCIES ON THE GOVERNING BOARD IN NOVEMBER 2022

Board Services Specialist Hernandez said we are on track with the election schedule and the petitions for each candidate are ahead of schedule. She added that the final date to turn in petitions is July 11, 2022.

MOTION by Board Clerk Vette to approve Resolution #2022-0005 approving the call of election for the governing board of the Golder Ranch Fire District for the purpose of filling two vacancies on the governing board in November 2022.

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Brady

MOTION CARRIED 5/0

- D. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE APPROVAL OF AN ADDENDUM TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT AND THE NORTH TUCSON FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION LOCAL #3832

Chief Karrer said he is pleased with the memorandum of understanding (MOU) presented and commended President Jones on his leadership with the Local 3832. President Jones said the MOU was a fluid process and took less time than the previous year. Chief Karrer brought up the retiree health care trust that is listed in the MOU and talked to the importance and value that it will bring to the employees. President Jones said he is actively working on it right now and that he and Chief Brandhuber met with a representative from Crest to discuss options, but it will not be this year, possibly next year. Chief Brandhuber commented on the trust as well. Chief Karrer listed a few other districts that have a trust and mentioned that Tempe includes their administrative employees as well. President Jones said they will not bring anything forward that does not include all staff. Board Clerk Vette had a question regarding compensation and PTO and the standard across the industry. Chief Karrer answered his question.

MOTION by Vice-Chair Hudgins to approve an addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding between Golder Ranch Fire District and the North Tucson Firefighters Association Local #3832

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Outlaw



MOTION CARRIED 5/0

- E. 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 WITH THE ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT REGARDING THE PROCESS OF RECRUITING A SUCCESSOR FOR FIRE CHIEF RANDY KARRER UPON HIS UPCOMING RETIREMENT FROM GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT

***Note – executive sessions are confidential pursuant to Arizona law.*

Chief Karrer said if anybody has any legal questions for Legal Counsel Aversa we can go into executive session, but it is not necessary.

HR Manager Delong handed out packets to the Board, Chief Karrer, and Legal Counsel Aversa. She discussed the different companies that had been researched for recruitment for the next fire chief. She recommended Mosaic, although cost is higher than others and gave reasons for her recommendation.

Chairperson Cox Golder requested to enter into Executive Session for legal advice.

MOTION by Board Clerk Vette to enter into Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03.A(3) for the purpose of discussion and consultation with the attorney

MOTION SECONDED by Vice-Chair Hudgins

MOTION CARRIED 5/0

The regular board meeting reconvened at 10:00 a.m.

- F. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE PROCESS OF RECRUITING A SUCCESSOR FOR FIRE CHIEF RANDY KARRER UPON HIS UPCOMING RETIREMENT FROM GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT

Chairperson Cox Golder requested to add another agenda item to the special session requested earlier to further discuss the recruitment. She and other board members agreed that that would give them time to review the companies presented and make a more informed decision.

- G. 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 WITH THE ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT REGARDING ONGOING KVOA NEWS PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS

***Note – executive sessions are confidential pursuant to Arizona law.*

Chief Karrer said, again, if anybody has any legal questions for Legal Counsel Aversa we can go into executive session, but it is not necessary. He added that there is nothing new in regards to the records requests except that they have hired a lawyer.

No motion was made to go into Executive Session.



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

Manager Christian presented his monthly report and financials. He spoke about property tax collection, wildland revenue, and the borrowing for the five-engine purchase for the engines we have not yet received. Chief Karrer asked Manager Christian about prior year property tax collections. Manager Christian answered and gave examples. Manager Christian said they will be closing on the last bond sale shortly. Manager Christian gave his estimate of the number of transports he expects this year, based on the current trend. He commended Billing Supervisor Massie's work on cash collection and cleaning up the process. Board Clerk Vette asked about suppression getting the proper information to assist. Manager Christian commended the team effort by all. There were no further questions from the Board.

MOTION by Vice-Chair Hudgins to approve and accept the Golder Ranch Fire District reconciliation and monthly financial report as presented.

MOTION SECONDED by Board Clerk Vette

MOTION CARRIED 5/0

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 – June 21, 2022
- Special Session – Tentatively scheduled for June 6, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

10. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Board Clerk Vette to adjourn the meeting at 10:16 a.m.

MOTION SECONDED by Vice Chair Hudgins

MOTION CARRIED 5/0



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

