

**GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
October 18, 2022 9:00 a.m.
3885 East Golder Ranch Drive, Tucson, Arizona**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Fire Board Vice-Chairperson Hudgins called the meeting to order on October 18, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present: Board Vice-Chair Richard Hudgins, Board Clerk Vette, Board Member Steve Brady, and Board Member Sandi Outlaw

Excused Absence: Chairperson Vicki Cox-Golder

Staff Present: Fire Chief Karrer, Assistant Chief Robb, Deputy Chief Pearce, Deputy Chief Grissom, Deputy Chief Cesarek, Division Chief Perry, Fire Marshal Akins, HR Director Delong, Finance Director Christian, Attorney Aversa, Local 3832 President Jones (via Zoom), and Records Specialist and Acting Board Services Specialist Ortiz

2. SALUTE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. FIRE BOARD REPORTS

Board Member Brady mentioned he has been speaking to the public about Proposition 310 and has been explained the Proposition.

Vice-Chair Hudgins said he has also answered questions and explained the Proposition to those who opposed it because they opposed an additional tax.

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There were no public issues presented at this time.

5. PRESENTATIONS

A. PRESENTATION OF PERSONNEL

- PROMOTIONAL BADGE PINNINGS
 - KEITH BURGLE – PROMOTION TO CAPTAIN
 - TOBIN JOHNSON – PROMOTION TO CAPTAIN
 - ADAM JARROLD – PROMOTION TO BATTALION CHIEF
 - MICHAEL LESLIE – PROMOTION TO BATTALION CHIEF



- YEARS OF SERVICE RECOGNITION
 - BATTALION CHIEF WILLIAM SEELEY – 25 YEARS
- RETIREMENT
 - ENGINEER DANIEL GORDON

Keith Burgle was pinned with his captain badge for his recent promotion. Tobin Johnson was unable to attend the meeting.

Adam Jarrold and Michael Leslie were pinned with their battalion chief badges for their recent promotions.

William Seeley was presented with a pin and plaque for 25 years of service.

Chief Karrer presented Diana Gordon, the wife of Engineer Daniel Gordon, with flowers and a plaque thanking her for her support of Dan during his fire service career. Chief Karrer presented Engineer Daniel Gordon with a plaque, a US flag, Arizona flag and flag certificates, as he retired from the Golder Ranch Fire District with five years of dedicated service to the District, even though his career in the fire service extended beyond that time. Chief Karrer, Chief Robb, Chief Pearce and the Governing Board thanked Daniel Gordon and wished him well in his retirement.

The Board took a brief break at 9:28 a.m. and reconvened at 9:32a.m.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. APPROVE MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 20, 2022 REGULAR SESSION
- B. APPROVE MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 20, 2022 EXECUTIVE SESSION
- C. APPROVE MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 20, 2022 EXECUTIVE SESSION
- D. APPROVE MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 30, 2022 SPECIAL SESSION

MOTION by Board Clerk Vette to approve the October 18, 2022 Consent Agenda

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Outlaw

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. Chief Karrer served as a facilitator at the Chief Executive Officer Program (CEOP). Four members of GRFD staff completed the program: Chief Robb, Chief Grissom, Chief Pearce, and Chief Cesarek. It was a very informative class where they learned new skills on communication. It will be Chief Karrer's direction to send more personnel to future classes because it was such a successful program. Chief Karrer explained the absences of Chief Abel and Chief Brandhuber.



- **LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORT –**

Due to technical difficulties, President Jones was not able to present via Zoom. Chief Karrer read a statement from President Jones on his behalf. The early ballots have been mailed out for the General Election. President Jones of the Local 3832 urged voters to vote yes on Proposition 310. The Union will be preparing for 'Shop With A Firefighter' in the upcoming weeks. The planning committee for the Jose Samaniego Archery Event will be meeting soon to plan for the upcoming event. They expect it to be their largest event to date. Chief Karrer explained the event is the Union's major fundraiser.

- B. **PLANNING ASSISTANT CHIEF'S REPORT –** Chief Ceserak presented the Logistics/Planning Assistant Chief's report to the Governing Board on the behalf of Chief Abel. There were no further questions or comments from the Board.

ESSENTIAL SERVICES ASSISTANT CHIEF'S REPORT – Chief Perry presented the Essential Services Assistant Chief's report to the Governing Board on behalf of Chief Brandhuber. He noted that he provided a strategic plan update in the Board packet at the request of Board Clerk Vette.

Board Clerk Vette congratulated Chief Perry on the accomplishment of goal #1, 20% improvement of the time of the first unit arriving. He asked how this was accomplished. Chief Perry attributed the accomplishment to work of the battalion chiefs and captains. In reference to goal 7-Wellness, Board Clerk Vette inquired how the employee assistance and peer support program was trending the past few years in relation to COVID. Chief Perry responded that it is still a very active program. Board Clerk Vette asked about the usage of the program. Chief Perry deferred the question to Chief Grissom, Deputy Chief of Professional Development. Chief Grissom replied that the peer support team remains steady. He did not see an uptick or undertick due to COVID. The team recently added an additional twelve members. He said the group is highly motivated and willing to assist at any time. In reference to goal 8, based on his previous work experience, Board Clerk Vette made recommendation to reconsider seeking a courtesy inspection from OSHA, as this is not best practice.

- C. **EMERGENCY RESPONSE/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT CHIEF'S REPORT –** Chief Robb presented the Emergency Response/Professional Development Assistant Chief's Report to the Governing Board. He highlighted the mini-muster program that teaches kids about fire safety. The crews and other members of staff have been very helpful in giving the kids a great experience. There were no further questions or comments from the Board.



8. REGULAR BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION #2022-0008 TO DECLARE DISTRICT ITEMS AS SURPLUS AND DIRECTION TO STAFF TO ADD DECLARED SURPLUS ITEMS TO A PUBLIC AUCTION SITE

Deputy Chief Cesarek explained the District has done an excellent job of having each division identify items that are no longer used or needed. He thanked the divisions for contributing to the process. The list of surplus items was submitted in the Board packet.

Board Clerk Vette asked if the District could afford to part with a wildland truck that had only 60,000 miles.

Chief Cesarek explained that at this point with the fleet, it is a good idea to replace those vehicles that are aging. While the mileage may be low, when the vehicles are sent out on contracts, sometimes the District has a better value with newer vehicles being sent because there is less down time. The District has done a good job of replacing the older vehicles with modern ones. He stated he felt comfortable with the current fleet and surplus the 2006 vehicle.

MOTION by Board Clerk Vette to approve Resolution 22-0008 declaring the list of items presented as surplus to the needs of the District and direction for staff to place the items on the public surplus auction site or sell to a neighboring or mutual aid fire district.

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Brady

MOTION CARRIED 4/0

B. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE SELECTION OF LLOYD CONSTRUCTION AS THE CONTRACTOR FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF STATION 378 IN SADDLEBROOKE RANCH

Chief Karrer commented that Chief Cesarek would present this agenda item on behalf of Chief Abel. He added that it has been a thorough process to identify the best construction company for the project.

Chief Cesarek stated a request for qualifications (RFQ) was distributed to the community that could construct a fire station. Upon the Board's approval, he would like to move forward with aligning Lloyd Construction with WSM to move forward to get the construction process started. The anticipated plan is to return to the board at a future date when a gross maximum price (GMP) of the building has been established, and an AIA contract, so it can be presented to the Board for review and approval. After completing the RFQ process, the committee recommends Lloyd Construction.

Board Member Brady asked what the agreed upon price of the project was.



Chief Cesarek answered that at this point we do not know what the price will be however, there is a \$6 million line item in the current bond budget.

Chief Karrer commented that the cost of the project could potentially triple. Staff has done an excellent job finding the best benefits that they could. He wanted to make sure the Board was aware of the potential cost.

MOTION by Board Clerk Vette to approve Lloyd Construction as the contractor for the Fire Station 378 construction project and direct staff with coordination of the contractor and design team to arrive at a Gross Maximum Price (GMP) and AIA Agreement for construction to be presented to the board at a future meeting.

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Brady

MOTION CARRIED 4/0

C. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE APPROVAL OF THE RFP SUBMITTED BY BANNER UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER (B-UMC) TO SERVE AS THE MEDICAL DIRECTION PROVIDER EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2023

Chief Karrer explained this is a very important thing the District does. Eighty percent of the calls run by the District are medical. The medical direction is one of the most important liability aspects that must be managed. Chief Karrer said Chief Rutherford would review why this change is necessary.

Chief Rutherford explained that in Golder fashion, personnel are constantly seeking ways to improve their divisions. The EMS division felt a change in administrative medical direction (AMD) would be a good place to start. The EMS team wrote the RFP with those specifications and sent it to four organizations: Tucson Medical Center, Northwest Hospital, Oro Valley Hospital, and Banner- University Medical Center (B-UMC). The EMS team conducted a detailed review of the proposals. After the review of the submitted proposals, the command staff unanimously voted to change medical direction.

Board Member Brady asked if a patient could still request the hospital they wished to be transported.

Chief Rutherford answered this will not change GRFD's relationship with Oro Valley Hospital and it will not change where patients are transported. It comes down to the acuity of the patient and what the hospitals can accept. The good thing about moving to Banner is that they have a group of doctors that specialize in Hazmat and pre-hospital care. The move would enable the District to be progressive and at the forefront of EMS. In addition, the two other auto-aid partners also use B-UMC for EMS. If this is approved it will begin in January.

MOTION by Board Member Outlaw to approve the proposal from Banner – University Medical Group to serve as medical direction for the Golder Ranch Fire District in the amount of \$77,963.50 for the second half of the fiscal year to begin on January 1, 2023



through June 30, 2023, and at the full year cost thereafter and authorize the Chairperson or Clerk of the Board to sign the agreement on behalf of the District.

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Brady

MOTION CARRIED 4/0

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

Finance Director Christian presented his monthly report and financials. He mentioned GRFD has applied for a grant to be reimbursed for COVID related costs from the State.

Chief Karrer explained municipalities were reimbursed for COVID related costs by the federal government. Fire districts were not and did not feel it was fair. The State obtained funding to distribute to the fire districts. Chief Karrer said the finance division did a great job calculating the District's COVID related expenses. GRFD is now seeking reimbursement for these costs.

MOTION by Board Clerk Vette to approve and accept the Golder Ranch Fire District reconciliation and monthly financial report as presented.

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Outlaw

MOTION CARRIED 4/0

E. EXECUTIVE SESSION: THE BOARD MAY VOTE TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO A.R.S. §38-431.03.A(1) FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION AND REVIEW OF THE FIRE CHIEF'S EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT

MOTION by Board Member Brady to enter into Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03.A(1) for the purpose of discussion and consultation with the attorney at 10:14 a.m.

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Outlaw

MOTION CARRIED 4/0

Those present in the executive session were the Board Members, Chief Karrer, Attorney Aversa, Director Delong, and Records Specialist and Acting Board Services Secretary Ortiz.

The Board reconvened into regular session at 10:14 a.m.

Vice-Chair Hudgins reminded those in attendance, Executive Sessions are confidential pursuant to ARS §38-431.03(C).

F. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE FIRE CHIEF'S EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT



MOTION by Board Member Outlaw to approve an amendment to the Chief's contract to specify that he is entitled to the same retirement benefits as all other District employees.

MOTION SECONDED by Board Clerk Vette

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 – November 15, 2022

Chief Karrer said there may be items on next month's agenda regarding the recruitment of the next fire chief.

10. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There were no public issues presented at this time.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Board Member Brady to adjourn the meeting at 10:16 a.m.

MOTION SECONDED by Board Clerk Vette

MOTION CARRIED 4/0



Wally Vette, Clerk of the Board
Golder Ranch Fire District

