

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

Tuesday, June 20, 2023 9:00 a.m.

3885 East Golder Ranch Drive, Tucson, Arizona 85739

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chairperson Vicki Cox-Golder called the meeting to order on June 20, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present: Chairperson Vicki Cox-Golder, Board Clerk Wally Vette, Board Member Steve Brady, Board Member Sandi Outlaw and Board Member Tom Shellenberger

Staff Present: Fire Chief Brandhuber, Assistant Chief Robb, Deputy Chief Cesarek, Deputy Chief Grissom, Deputy Chief Perry, Deputy Chief Pearce, Division Chief Price, Director Delong, Director Christian, Director Rascon, Attorney Aversa, Local 3832 President Jones, and Records Specialist Wong

2. SALUTE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. FIRE BOARD REPORTS

Board Member Steve Brady was a “hot dog roaster” at EMS’s cookout event. He stated he had a good time.

Board Member Tom Shellenberger stated that on May 26th, Local 3832 President Jones took him to Stations 370, 372, 373, and 378. He also stated that Station 373 relocated a Gila monster and responded to a medical call while he was on the tour. Board Member Shellenberger stated he had a good tour and will have a final tour sometime in July.

Vice Chairperson Wally Vette made a comment about his church on Sunday.

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There were no public issues presented at this time.

5. PRESENTATIONS

A. PRESENTATION OF PERSONNEL

- NEW HIRES

- DAN HABINEK COMMUNITY EDUCATION SUPERVISOR
- JESUS CABADA FLEET MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN
- PROMOTION
 - BRENDA DRUKE-PROMOTION TO DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL

Chief Brandhuber welcomed new hires Dan Habinek and Jesus Cabada. Deputy Chief Perry introduced the new Community Education Supervisor, Dan Habinek and Lead Technician Charlie Raney introduced the new Fleet Maintenance Technician, Jesus Cabada to the Governing Board.

Chairperson Vicki-Cox Golder administered the behavioral and loyalty oaths to both new hires.

Fire Marshal Akins presented Brenda Druke as a new Golder Ranch Fire District (GRFD) Fire and Life Safety Deputy Fire Marshal. Deputy Fire Marshal Druke was pinned by retired Captain Druke.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. APPROVE MINUTES- MAY 16, 2023 REGULAR SESSION
- B. APPROVE AND ADOPT THE FOLLOWING UPDATED POLICIES: 233 APPRAISAL OF PROGRAMS; 303 RAPID INTERVENTION/TWO-IN TWO-OUT; 305 TACTICAL WITHDRAWAL; 404 ALTERNATIVE MATERIALS AND METHODS REQUESTS; 407 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS DISCLOSURES; 502 PATIENT REFUSAL OF PRE-HOSPITAL CARE; 614 FIREFIGHTER HEALTH, SAFETY AND SURVIVAL TRAINING; 909 PERSONAL ALARM DEVICES; 1029 BADGES; AND 1030 IDENTIFICATION CARDS
- C. APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NUMBER 16 TO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT AND NORTHWEST FIRE DISTRICT FOR DISPATCH SERVICES

MOTION by Board Member Brady to approve the June 20, 2023 Consent Agenda
MOTION SECONDED by Vice Chairperson Vette
MOTION CARRIED 5/0

7. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

- A. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT – Chief Brandhuber presented the Fire Chief's report to the Governing Board. He stated he will meet with the EMS staff later in the day and that will complete his tour of meeting with everyone. Chief Brandhuber mentioned that GRFD received a radio grant in 2022. The District along with eight other agencies were recipients of the grant. GRFD is the lead agency, which means it will make the initial purchase and will be reimbursed 90%, the other agencies will then contribute their portion of the 10%. The Board will see a check request for \$2.4 million, this is for the radio grant that was approved in 2022.

Chairperson Vicki Cox Golder asked about the medical marijuana topic mentioned in the board report.

Chief Brandhuber replied that crews are asking about the use of medical marijuana for various medical reasons. Everyone in the District is in a safety sensitive position. So staff is doing their due diligence, to see if this can be done. Human Resources is researching best practices and speaking with the insurance carrier. Right now it is in the exploratory phase to see if this is something possible that can be done.

Board Member Brady asked Chief Brandhuber about the chief's conference.

Chief Brandhuber replied that fire districts across the country are facing the same challenges such as recruitment, retention and training. They also addressed myths such as generational differences. His key take away is that there really are not that big of generational differences. People are people. The key part is communicating, motivating and empowerment.

Assistant Chief Robb told the Board he appreciated the opportunity to attend the conference. Assistant Chief Robb said he was optimistic about the future of Golder Ranch because of the support of the Board.

Vice Chairperson Vette asked if the District has a lobbyist.

Chief Brandhuber replied the District does have a lobbyist that works with the District on local and state issues.

Vice Chairperson Vette asked on the status of the COVID reimbursement.

Director Christian answered that there is good news for the ARPA (American

Rescue Plan Allocation) funding. The District should expect approximately \$2.4 million. He submitted a request for \$2.7, which was mainly operational costs. At a minimum, he expects to be reimbursed \$2.2 million.

Chairperson Vicki Cox-Golder asked if the funds were earmarked.

Director Christian replied the funds were reimbursement for expenses already paid. It is to make the District whole.

Board Member Shellenberger asked about the status of financing of the five engines.

Chief Brandhuber stated the loan was funded. The payment was withheld until the trucks were received. The trucks were finally received and the funds were transferred.

- LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORT – PRESIDENT JONES- President Jones presented the report from the Leadership Team. He reported members of the Local attended the PFFA (Professional Fire Fighters of Arizona) Conference. Five people attended and they learned a lot.
- B. PLANNING DIVISION’S REPORT-Deputy Chief Cesarek presented the Planning Division’s report. He stated that about a year ago, Fire and Life Safety (FLS) implemented a compliance engine. This allowed contractors to upload data, however getting them to do so was a small challenge. The major contributors are now contributing. The Hanley project is still continuing. There was a delay due to doors. Pinal County approved a variance request for Station 378 related to watershed.
- C. EMERGENCY RESPONSE/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT-Assistant Chief Robb presented the Emergency Response/Professional Development report to the Governing Board. Assistant Chief Robb provided an update about Battalion Chief Jarrold who was off duty and performed CPR on a member of the public. He received word the gentleman was discharged. AC Robb commended BC Jarrold for his community service and going above and beyond off-duty and for having the awareness to recognize the issue.

Chairperson Vicki-Golder Cox commented that the wait times in emergency rooms appear to have improved.

AC Robb replied that they have however, it is an ongoing thing.

8. REGULAR BUSINESS

- A. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING NOMINATIONS FOR THE GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD POSITION OF CLERK FOR THE REMAINDER OF CALENDAR YEAR 2023

MOTION by Board Member Brady to nominate Board Member Outlaw as Clerk of the Golder Ranch Fire District Governing Board for the remainder of the 2023 calendar year

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Shellenberger

MOTION CARRIED 5/0

- B. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023 – 2024

- OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING – Chairperson Cox Golder opened the public hearing for any comments from the public at 9:33 a.m. There were no public comments made.
- CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING – Chairperson Cox Golder closed the public hearing at 9:33 a.m.

NO MOTION NEEDED FOR THIS AGENDA ITEM

- C. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING RESOLUTION #2023-0005 APPROVING AND FORMALLY ADOPTING THE GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEARS 2023-2024 AND 2024-2025

MOTION by Vice Chairperson Vette to approve Resolution #2023-0005 formally adopting the Golder Ranch Fire District budget in the amount of \$48,161,396 with a proposed mil rate of \$2.500 and a bond debt service mil rate of \$0.140 for fiscal year 2023-2024.

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Brady

MOTION CARRIED 5/0

- D. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING RESOLUTION #2023-0006 APPROVING THE APPROPRIATION OF THE GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT END OF FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 GENERAL FUND BALANCE

Finance Director Christian stated this is done every year. The funds need to be properly reserved to be compliance with prescriptions. He said the District has approximately \$18.8 million in reserves. The funds need to be formally reported and

identified so they can be reported in the financial statements and available to the District according to its policies.

Board Member Brady asked if the reserve fund was 10%.

Finance Director Christian replied the contingency reserve fund is not a percentage perse. It is a hard number of \$4 million.

MOTION by Board Member Brady to approve Resolution 2023-0006 appropriating the end of fiscal year General Fund balance in accordance with GRFD Principles of Sound Financial Policy.

MOTION SECONDED by Board Clerk Outlaw

MOTION CARRIED 5/0

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

Finance Director Christian presented the monthly financials and reconciliation for Golder Ranch Fire District to the Governing Board.

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

MOTION SECONDED by Vice Chairperson Vette

MOTION CARRIED 5/0

9. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Regularly scheduled meeting – July 18, 2023

10. **CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

There were no public issues presented at this time.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Chairperson Vicki Cox-Golder to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 a.m.

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Brady

MOTION CARRIED 5/0



Wally Vette, Clerk of the Board

Golder Ranch Fire District

J/W