

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

**Tuesday, July 18, 2023 9:00 a.m.
3885 East Golder Ranch Drive, Tucson, Arizona**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chairperson Vicki Cox-Golder called the meeting to order on July 18, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present: Chairperson Vicki Cox-Golder, Vice Chairperson Wally Vette,
Board Member Steve Brady and Board Clerk Sandra Outlaw

Members Absent: Board Member Tom Shellenberger

Staff Present: Fire Chief Brandhuber, Assistant Chief Robb, Deputy Chief
Cesarek, Division Chief Price, Human Resources Director
Delong, Finance Director Christian, Attorney Aversa via Zoom,
Local 3832 President Jones, and Board Services Supervisor
Ortiz

2. SALUTE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. FIRE BOARD REPORTS

There were no reports made by any of the Governing Board members.

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There were no public issues presented at this time.

5. PRESENTATIONS

A. PRESENTATION OF PERSONNEL

- YEARS OF SERVICE
 - MICHAEL MCDADE- 5 YEARS
 - DEB METZGER- 5 YEARS
 - ADAM JARROLD- 20 YEARS
 - COLIN RYAN- 20 YEARS
 - RODOLFO SANTACRUZ- 20 YEARS
 - RANDY SCHULZKUMP- 20 YEARS

No personnel were present for presentations.



6. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. APPROVE MINUTES- JUNE 20, 2023 REGULAR SESSION
- B. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NUMBER 2023-0007 DECLARING AUGUST 2023 DROWNING IMPACT AWARENESS MONTH AT GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT
- C. APPROVE AND ADOPT THE FOLLOWING UPDATED POLICIES: 210 SOLICITATION OF FUNDS, 314 CONFINED SPACE RESCUE RESPONSE, 316 TRENCH RESCUE, 317 CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTOR ACTIVATIONS, 319 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESPONSE, 323 DISPOSITION OF VALUABLES, 331 GROCERY SHOPPING ON DUTY, 705 MOBILE DATA TERMINAL USE, 706 ACCESS BOX SYSTEMS KEY ACCOUNTABILITY; 707 COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS, 912 FIRE STATION SAFETY, 1009 EMERGENCY RECALL, AND 1015 PERSONAL PROJECTS ON DUTY
- D. APPROVE AND ADOPT THE JOINDER AGREEMENT WITH THE GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD AND THE NORTH TUCSON FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION IAFF LOCAL 3832 WITH THE WASHINGTON STATE COUNCIL OF FIRE FIGHTERS EMPLOYEE BENEFIT TRUST, AS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE IAFF MEDICAL EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT PLAN
- E. APPROVE AND ADOPT RESOLUTION 2023-0008 APPROVING AND FORMALLY ADOPTING THE EMPLOYER PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT WITH NATIONWIDE RETIREMENT SOLUTIONS, AS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE POST EMPLOYMENT HEALTH PLAN FOR NON-COLLECTIVELY BARGAINED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

MOTION by Vice Chairperson Vette to approve the July 18, 2023 Consent Agenda

MOTION SECONDED by Board Clerk Outlaw

MOTION CARRIED 4/0

7. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

- A. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT – Chief Brandhuber presented the Fire Chief's and Essentials Services reports to the Governing Board. He thanked the Board for their support of the MERP (Medical Expense Reimbursement Plan) and PEP (Post Employment Health Plan). Chief Brandhuber also thanked Jesus Limas in IT and the rest of the IT team for their work in the Microsoft 365 migration.

Chairperson Cox Golder congratulated Board Supervisor Ortiz for obtaining her Certified Public Manager certification.

In reference to Senate Bill (SB) 1263 Property Tax Revision, Vice Chairperson Vette asked if the dates are going to be changed of when it goes into effect.

Chief Brandhuber stated that if it was adopted it would accelerate the time that it would become effective.



Chief Brandhuber asked for the Board's permission to allow Human Resources Director Allison Delong to give a quick update.

Director Delong spoke of the trends that Human Resources is seeing regarding remote work. The District has two diverse groups with different work needs and schedules: suppression and administration. Recent hybrid schedules have been tried and she has received positive feedback from it.

Chairperson Cox Golder commented that she read an article in the paper about the difficulty of tracking if employees are actually doing their work. She asked if the District has this issue.

Director Delong responded that since most administrative work is project based, supervisors can ensure their employees are doing their work by making sure the projects are completed by ensuring employees are reaching deadlines and achieving the goals of the project. Supervisors are still holding their employees accountable.

Chairperson Cox Golder asked if there is a policy regarding remote work.

Chief Brandhuber replied that there is.

- LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORT – President Jones stated he had nothing to report on behalf of the Local. He hopes everyone can stay out of the heat. It does not look like there will be a break from the heat any time soon.

Chairperson Cox Golder commented that she enjoyed her meeting with President Jones.

Vice Chairperson Vette said he saw a news report on how crews in Phoenix take precautions for the crews in extreme heat. He asked if GRFD does anything similar.

President Jones replied that in addition to placing certain items in the refrigerator for patients, they also take precautions for the crews. Suppression does not have to treat its own personnel often for heat but if it were to happen, they would be prepared.

- B. PLANNING DIVISION'S REPORT- Deputy Chief Cesarek presented the Planning Division's report to the Governing Board. He mentioned that he attended the Arizona Fire Chief's (AFCA)/ Arizona Fire District's Association (AFDA) conference. A few of the District's new engines were on display at the conference. Deputy Chief Cesarek thanked Division Chief Price and his team for taking care of the logistics of displaying the trucks. He said the Hanley project is still under way.

Chairperson Cox Golder inquired as to when the move-in date will be for the Hanley building.

Deputy Chief Cesarek replied that he expects it to be late August.



Chairperson Cox Golder said she read Fire Marshal Akins report and saw the meetings she attends. She asked what the Shark Tank meeting was.

Deputy Chief Cesarek explained the Shark Tank is a platform for district employees to submit ideas they have. The group is diverse and represents various areas of the District and FM Akins is a great addition because of her expertise in Fire and Life Safety.

Vice Chairperson Vette asked if an academy is scheduled.

Chief Brandhuber responded that there is an academy planned. Professional Development will do an engineer promotional process, then a captain's promotional process and the academy will take place after both of these.

Vice Chairperson Vette asked what the difference between a stipend and a wage differential was.

HR Director Delong explained a stipend is a one-time payment and a wage differential is an additional wage provided for additional duties completed, such as wildland.

- C. EMERGENCY RESPONSE/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT – Chief Robb presented the Emergency Response/Professional Development report to the Governing Board. He noted that the wildland team has been requested to respond to some wildland fires. During the summer, operations has been dispatching an additional engine to fires as a precautionary measure to support crews during the summer heat.

Vice Chairperson Vette asked if the District has someone assigned to central dispatch and if there has been an improvement in dispatch times.

Assistant Chief Robb replied that Captain Lundeberg is assigned to central dispatch. Northwest Fire District (NWFD) and Tucson Fire Department (TFD) also have captains that cover the other two shifts. Chief Robb stated they have seen an improvement in field coordination.

Vice Chairperson asked what the ABOR study was.

Captain North responded that it was a firefighter cancer study. Volunteers were requested from GRFD.

Chairperson Cox Golder stated she read firefighter Morales received the hand tevy certification. She asked what this was.

Assistant Chief Robb explained handy tevy is for pediatric calls and is app based.



8. REGULAR BUSINESS

A. 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. He also presented the fiscal year end figures. Director Christian was pleased to inform the Board that the District was within 1% favorable in the budget. This is exceptionally good considering the budget is approximately \$47 million. Director Christian gave an overview of the bond projects, phase 1 projects were completed, phase 2 are currently underway and phase 3 money will be used for phase 2. There is \$12.3 million remaining in bond funds. Four hundred thousand has been earned in interest from the bond funds and is added to the total. There is a total cash balance of \$29,537,749. The District began the year with approximately \$32 million so, the District closed the year with nearly the same that it began with. The billing department billed for 6,970 transports. The department increased its cash collection and cash collection rate. The total amount billed was \$5,656,340, the total cash collected was \$4,559,090 for FY 22/23 and the cash collection rate was 80%. The total revenue for cash collections has increased every year since 2019. Last year the District collected \$4,480,216. There were 66 transports more this year than last and the cash collection rate increased by \$8.

Chairperson Cox Golder asked who paid the best.

Director Christian responded that private pay pays the best.

Director Christian worked with GIS Analyst Steinnecker to create a three dimensional map to show where the majority of the transports occurred within the District.

For this fiscal year the wildland team has been called out to five fires, all within the State.

Board Member Brady asked when the audit is scheduled.

Director Christian responded that it is scheduled the first week of August.

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

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Brady

MOTION CARRIED 4/0

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be August 15, 2023

10. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There were no public issues presented at this time.

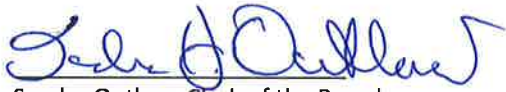


11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Board Member Brady to adjourn the meeting at 9:38 a.m.

MOTION SECONDED by Vice Chairperson Vette

MOTION CARRIED 4/0



Sandra Outlaw, Clerk of the Board
Golder Ranch Fire District
s/o

