

**GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
Tuesday, March 19, 2024, 9:00 a.m.
1600 East Hanley Boulevard, Oro Valley, Arizona 85737**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chairperson Vicki Cox Golder called the meeting to order on March 19, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

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

Staff Present: Fire Chief Brandhuber, Assistant Chief Cesarek, Assistant Chief Grissom, Assistant Chief Perry on Zoom, Deputy Chief Rutherford, Deputy Chief Jerrold, Deputy Chief Wilson, Deputy Chief Hilderbrand, Deputy Fire Marshall Akins, Local 3832 Secretary/Treasurer Ward, Human Resources Director Delong, Finance Director Christian, Information Technology Director Rascon, Division Chief North, Community Relations Supervisor Camarillo, Human Resources Supervisor Metzger, Operations Support Supervisor Bravo, Program Manager Holland, Medical Director Rice, District Attorney Aversa, and Records Specialist Wong

2. SALUTE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. FIRE BOARD REPORTS

Vice-Chairperson Vette stated he attended the Archery Shoot/BBQ. He said the event was great and was well-attended. He extended his congratulations to the Union for a successful event.

Board Member Vette also attended the Guns and Hoses Kickball Tournament and stated there was a good turnout and it was represented well.

Vice-Chairperson Vette also attended the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System's (PSPRS) Conference in Gilbert.

Board Member Brady said that North Administration is beautiful with the work that has been done there. He thanked those that were involved with the project.



Board Member Shellenberger attended the Rotary Club's Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Training event led by Battalion Chief Muscarella. Twenty-two people were trained. Board Member Shellenberger appreciated all the efforts.

Board Clerk Sandra Outlaw stated she attended the Public Safety Day event. Everyone in attendance was welcoming to the public and it was an awesome event.

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There were no public issues presented.

5. PRESENTATIONS

A. PRESENTATION BY GRFD MEDICAL DIRECTOR DR. AMBER RICE REGARDING THE PEDIPART RESEARCH STUDY

Chief Brandhuber introduced GRFD Medical Director, Dr. Rice.

Dr. Rice gave a presentation on the Pediatric Prehospital Airway Resuscitation Trail (PediPART). GRFD is one of the agencies participating in the study. Dr. Rice stated research improves the outcome and healthcare. This was a rigorous process, and it took months to review. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) outlines the rules for the research. There are three airway methods used by Emergency Medical Service (EMS) providers for critically ill children and the purpose of the study will determine which of the methods is best. There are ten EMS agencies from across the country that will be participating in the trial. Information about the study is provided to participants' parents as soon as possible and they can opt out of participating.

Vice-Chairperson Vette is excited that we are participating in the study. He believed it would improve care.

Board Member Shellenberger asked if we are currently using all three methods.

Dr. Rice answered that EMS personnel are trained in and use all three methods.

B. PRESENTATION OF COMMISSION ON FIRE ACCREDITATION INTERNATIONAL (CFAI) PLAQUE TO GRFD GOVERNING BOARD

Chief Brandhuber stated GRFD was granted accreditation (from the Commission on Fire Accreditation International). He is proud of the accomplishment and noted that it was a team effort. The Governing Board was presented with the plaque.

Vice-Chairperson Vette asked how long GRFD is accredited for.

Chief Brandhuber answered five years.

Board Member Brady asked if there were any recommendations from the accreditation board.



Chief Brandhuber responded that there were ten, but three have already been addressed. The rest of them will be addressed in the strategic planning process.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

The consent portion of the agenda is a means of expediting routine matters, such as minutes or previously discussed or budgeted items that must be acted upon by the Board. Any item may be moved to Regular Business for discussion and possible action by any member of the Board.

- A. APPROVE MINUTES- FEBRUARY 20, 2024, REGULAR SESSION

- B. APPROVAL OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH PINAL COUNTY ELECTIONS AND RECORDERS' DEPARTMENTS FOR ELECTION AND VOTER REGISTRATION SERVICES FOR A POSSIBLE ELECTION TO FILL THREE VACANCIES ON THE GOVERNING BOARD TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 5, 2024

- C. APPROVAL OF THE COMMISSION ON FIRE ACCREDITATION INTERNATIONAL (CFAI) ACCREDITED AGENCY STATUS

Vice-Chairperson Vette asked District Attorney Aversa if the Intergovernmental Agreement looked acceptable.

District Attorney Aversa answered that Board Services Supervisor Ortiz noticed something that needed to be addressed and it was brought to Pinal County's attention. She is happy with the content of the agreement.

MOTION by Vice-Chairperson Vette to approve the March 19, 2024, Consent Agenda.

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Brady.

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. Chief Brandhuber asked if Human Resources Director Delong, Information Technology Director Rascon, or Community Relations Supervisor Camarillo had anything additional to present. They all replied they did not have anything additional to add but could answer any questions the Governing Board may have.

LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORT – Secretary/Treasurer Ward was filling in for President Jones. Secretary/Treasurer Ward stated the Union had raised \$15,000 at the Archery Shoot/BBQ event. This money will go towards charities for foster kids, kids in need, and firefighters.

Secretary/Treasurer Ward stated there is an upcoming Leadership Team meeting. This meeting will address any issues that may be present.



- B. COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION DIVISION'S REPORT – Deputy Chief Hilderbrand was filling in for Assistant Chief Perry. However, Chief Perry was in attendance via Zoom. Vice-Chairperson Vette asked what it cost GRFD for the Narcan program.

Dr. Rice responded there is no cost to the District.

Vice-Chairperson Vette asked about the Community Integrated Health Program (CIHP) and if we should keep it since there is no interest in it.

Chief Brandhuber stated that it is currently not staffed, but we do not want to close the door to it because it was so popular with the residents and provided a good service.

Assistant Chief Perry stated he can foresee a future use or expansion of the program maybe beyond the scope that it was used for previously.

- C. SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION'S REPORT – Assistant Chief Cesarek presented the Support Services' report to the Governing Board. He provided an update for Station 378. Assistant Chief Cesarek stated he and his staff were working through different items with Pinal County regarding the construction of Station 378. Assistant Chief Cesarek feels comfortable with the construction team and the architects and is not the first time that they have done that procedure. This is the best way to get through the next steps. There is approximately four or five weeks of land work to get everything cleared. In that five week period, we would be moving forward with the process and in the background the civil plan should be under review with Pinal County. The county had asked for two weeks' worth of review time before they would release the "at risk permit."

Vice-Chairperson Vette asked if the change in drainage will have any cost savings.

Assistant Chief Cesarek answered that there is not necessarily a specific dollar amount, but it uses two acres of land. The movement of the drainage gets the retention of drainage off District property so the District can maximize the two acres of land versus having to place retention basins, or it can divert water back to the area to hold it on District property. The District can maximize the full two acres of its land.

- D. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES & FIRE RESPONSE DIVISION'S REPORT – Assistant Chief Grissom presented the EMS & Fire Response and Professional Development report to the Governing Board. Assistant Chief Grissom wanted to highlight that offers were extended to thirty new recruit firefighters, and they all have accepted. They are in the process of getting fitted for turnouts, fittings, and going through the 1582 pre-physical. The thirty new recruits will be starting April 29th.

8. REGULAR BUSINESS



A. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A DRAINAGE EASEMENT DEDICATION FOR THE STATION 378 PROPERTY

MOTION by Vice-Chairperson Vette to approve the Drainage Easement Dedication for the Station 378 Property.

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Shellenberger.

MOTION CARRIED 5/0

B. DISCUSSION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Assistant Chief Perry via Zoom stated the Board requested a strategic plan update at the last meeting. Each of the goal Managers, Assistant Chiefs, and Chief Brandhuber gave an update for each of their goals.

Chief Brandhuber presented Goal #1. Chief Brandhuber stated with the help from Finance Director Christian and his team, he believes staff are doing a good job delivering the goals and objectives with the financial resources the Governing Board has provided and will continue to do so.

Chief Brandhuber also presented Goal #2. Chief Brandhuber noted this was a group effort led by Chief Grissom and many others. After the upcoming academy starts, staff are going to pursue part-time employees who can provide alternative services. This would also help the District build an internal pool and staff of people for recruitment. Personnel are always looking at different ways to do things, embracing technology with the help of Information Technology Director Rascon and his team. Once the academy starts, staff will begin this project.

Assistant Chief Perry stated Goal #3 is another shared goal. His division is responsible for the recruitment of suppression personnel. Chief Hilderbrand leads that charge in working with the Website Revamp Committee. In order to develop a better website presence there will be a section directed towards recruitment, with more resources for people interested in becoming a firefighter for GRFD. The rest of Goal #3 would fall under Human Resources Director Delong. HR Director Delong stated there are a lot of people involved in Goal #3. The last bullet point is about the District's performance appraisal system. The system has not been updated in several years. It serves its purpose but can be better. There is now a committee in place. Staff are dedicated to seeing what is available, what the options are, what might be a better fit for GRFD culture now and enhance giving feedback to employees so they feel valued. This will give valuable, timely feedback and provide knowledge on where their career path is. Staff are working towards this. HR Director Delong stated she can provide updates as desired by the Governing Board. One of the things discussed in the committee is designing the performance evaluations so they match the goals and vision of GRFD moving forward.

Chief Brandhuber wanted to recognize Community Relations Supervisor Camarillo



for her work on branding and marketing. Staff conducted over ninety interviews and almost every interviewee commented about the District's Instagram and social media presence. It allows him to see the merits of it and it was evident just on the interviews that were conducted. Chief Brandhuber thanked Community Relations Supervisor Camarillo.

Assistant Chief Perry stated Goal #4 is development of a formal, sustainable community risk reduction plan, which was also one of the recommendations the Center for Public Safety Excellence Accreditation team made. Chief Perry stated a Community Risk Reduction educator was hired, Dan Habinek. Jeremy Hilderbrand is the Deputy Chief who oversees Community Risk Reduction (CRR). He is working through the process of developing a community risk reduction plan. He has circulated a community survey, initially in SaddleBrooke. The Division anticipates expanding District wide. The program was piloted in the SaddleBrooke area in order to gather information about what programs the community wants. The feedback has come back that CPR classes are the most important to the citizens in the SaddleBrooke area. The division is working to expand the CPR program. Another thing that is being worked on is additional staffing as the budget will allow. The CRR Division will be proposing a Community Educator position moving forward for this next budget year. If the budget allows, it will help the District expand its outreach to not only schools, but to the community at large, particularly the elderly population in the northern part of the District. The Division is also considering part-time Community Risk Reduction Technicians to staff on pick-up trucks and change smoke detector batteries, pick-up snakes and things of that nature so the demand on emergency services units for those types of calls will still be met.

Chief Brandhuber presented Goal #5. He stated that he is currently working on this and has contacted other departments that are accredited. He has learned some of their best practices since there has never been a formal document with this information. It is in the formation phase, but Chief Brandhuber would like to take the best practices of accredited departments and make sure that moving forward, within the five years, that GRFD's plan meets the standards the accreditation has.

Goal #6 was presented by Assistant Chief Cesarek. AC Cesarek stated that he wants to focus on what the EMS Division has done since 2017 to maintain supplies and inventory, automatic ordering and the maximization of Operative IQ. The goal is to roll that out into all of the areas of the District. One area is the supply area and making sure that there is accountability for all of the equipment and making sure that personnel can use the inventory management system and get to a spot where ordering is based off of what the current inventory is on hand. As partnerships with our other agencies are explored one thing that staff have found is that the District has limited suppliers. Staff were focusing on only having one or two suppliers, for example, fire helmets. Personnel are now looking at multiple suppliers along with developing those relationships, which the District has in multiple areas. If the District maximizes multiple vendors, staff can get the products they need. Assistant Chief Cesarek stated that last year, there was a challenge with helmets so personnel went



with a little different product that would only be able to tell if someone knew fire helmets really well. The final thing is forecasting vehicle replacements. Assistant Chief Cesarek mentioned the vehicle market is very difficult right now so his division is looking at internal procedures: How have done things been done in the past, how staff are going to have to do things, and how nimble can personnel be to make sure they work through the purchasing environment. One example is with ambulances. Previously, staff had ordered everything as one, but now is staff are finding that chassis can be purchased individually for a little better price. The part will be sent to the ambulance builder and the District will have the same product out in the street at the end.

Board Member Shellenberger asked about the two ambulances ordered and if they were on backorder.

Assistant Chief Cesarek responded that there were two ambulances ordered over the last two years. They were ordered and he was told the District was going to receive them, but they were not received. However, staff were able to find two chassis. The ambulance builder found them through another vendor and exactly what was needed. Purchasing the chassis individually is different than what was done in the past. Those chassis will be paid upfront, units built, and then the District will receive a full invoice once the vehicles are received.

Board Member Shellenberger asked if they will replace the ones the District has or will they be additional units.

Assistant Chief Cesarek answered they will replace some of the older units. There are a couple of units that are really timing out in the whole system, and they are going to replace those.

Assistant Chief Perry stated Goal #7 is a goal between Assistant Chief Grissom and Assistant Chief Cesarek. It is officially under Chief Cesarek, at this time, since Health & Safety has been moved.

AC Cesarek stated the organizational chart has been updated. The Health & Safety program is under Division Chief North. One of the things he and his staff are doing is the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1500. It is very elaborate and one of the things the District follows through the District's insurance company is a checklist of everything that needs to be done to satisfy all the portions of the NFPA 1500. DC North and Firefighter Colt are doing an exceptional job in the Health & Safety area to focus on reducing risk to all of the District's firefighters and personnel. One example of that is, expanding the medical assessments to all administrative personnel. This is going to take care of the District's people, but hopefully has a financial impact on reducing what the health insurance costs are. AC Cesarek wanted to thank the group that is working through some of the NFPA 1500 standards in exposure risk. Under AC Grissom, he had added in "no smoke exhaust purification," but those attachments are on all of the diesel vehicles. It is important to make sure that personnel are



reducing the risk that they have to vehicle exposure. This fiscal year the Health and Safety Division is requesting budget support to do some error sampling in all of the stations so that the District can ensure the products that are put on the apparatus are protecting the District's people.

The annual mental health examinations are very difficult to put in place. The hesitancy from folks will be there and finding the right provider to where we can have some interaction with that person so that we are not just meeting them for the first time during that examination time and will be working with staff all the time to ensure that staff are on that right level. Division Chief North and Deputy Chief Jarrold have been working on this and how to revamp some of the mental health tools that are provided to personnel to make them as strong as possible. The Struggle Well Program is going to be implemented starting April 15th, 2024. It is going to be phenomenal for all staff. We are covering the last bullet point in multiple areas to protect GRFD staff both physically and mentally.

Chief Brandhuber wanted to add that GRFD is the first fire district in the nation to adopt the Struggle Well Program. It has been adopted by police agencies and the military. He and a few others have been through the five-day program and is a firm believer in it and that is why it is a priority to offer it to every member of the organization, not just suppression. It also deals with post traumatic growth and what the concept is; someone can get stronger from adversities in life and get better and be the best that one can be. He firmly believes it is going to help personnel regardless of what position they are working in the organization. His goal is to offer it every other month and it will be voluntary, but he is hoping to build the momentum of people attending the class.

Vice-Chairperson Vette asked if the program is in town.

Chief Brandhuber stated that it is offered here in town locally and that one of the requests that the group had asked is that it is not done at a worksite to keep that separation.

Assistant Chief Perry stated that he made the Governing Board aware, last meeting, that the District is due for strategic planning. Moving forward, he is looking at doing a combined strategic planning master plan so that the District can have a three-year strategic plan in place and a little more flexible master plan for the next ten to twelve years to points the District in the right direction. A request has been sent to multiple vendors for proposals. As of right now, he is waiting for responses. As soon as he receives those responses, staff will go through the process to select a vendor and the Governing Board will be present in that strategic planning process. It will be an all-encompassing process. He wants to reach out to a wide variety of the community members as well as the Governing Board, and the government agencies that the District works with to ensure that all feedback is captured to make it a truly representative strategic plan.



Vice-Chairperson Vette stated that between the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS) and the Insurance Services Office (ISO), from a management standpoint, the District is doing very well as long as it maintains those standards. He would like the District to consider focusing on department and facility growth and planning for the future such as training, new stations, revamping and remodeling stations, for needed capacity in the future as Oro Valley in this northern part of town is really growing. The District is going to need a plan ten or fifteen years out and plan how it is going to meet those needs so that it does not end up being behind, and if the District needs to buy land, it needs to be looking at it now.

Assistant Chief Perry responded that is exactly the focus of looking at a long-term master plan. AC Perry stated he believes staff recognize what Vice-Chairperson Vette stated and the District is at a pivotal point in GRFD. Staff need to start looking further out to make sure they are adopting the needs of the future.

Board Clerk Outlaw asked if the District is part of Oro Valley's big master plan that they are currently going through as they are gathering data and information in their process. BC Outlaw also asked if there is anyone involved in that or could share some of the data and information with.

Chief Brandhuber answered that staff have contributed and participated in that. Personnel have given them data and have seen a draft of what they are going to have in their plan with the District. Staff worked with the Town Manager and participated in his executive leadership team meetings, and the District has a voice with them. Their requested data was provided to them.

Board Clerk Outlaw asked if there is an overlap of goals and objectives that the District piggybacks on.

Chief Brandhuber answered that staff are trying to find overlaps. It is informal, but personnel are talking with Oro Valley Police Department. Conceptually, if they have a big training facility, it makes sense to try to partner and have joint use. The District is trying to capitalize on anything that it can do in partnership.

Board Member Brady asked Medical Director Dr. Rice if there is anything that the Governing Board can do to improve the program.

Medical Director Dr. Rice responded that the Governing Board has provided an immense support to the EMS group so for now, she appreciates all the support that has been given.

Assistant Chief Perry concluded his presentation and Chairperson Cox Golder thanked AC Perry for his input.

C. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 2024-0003 TO DECLARE DISTRICT ITEMS AS SURPLUS AND DIRECTION TO STAFF TO



ADD DECLARED SURPLUS ITEMS TO A PUBLIC AUCTION SITE OR SELL TO A NEIGHBORING OR MUTUAL AID FIRE DISTRICT/DEPARTMENT

Assistant Chief Cesarek stated that this time the item on the agenda is Unit 1511, a 1999 Pierce Quantum engine with about 85,000 miles on it. It is ready for use at a smaller agency being that the Governing Board approved GRFD to purchase five new engines a few years back. This is now one that is on the auction block. With approval with this agenda item, it will be placed on the national surplus in hopes of going to an agency that needs it. If it can be sold locally, that would be the primary route.

MOTION by Board Member Shellenberger to adopt Resolution 2024-0003 to declare district items as surplus and direction to staff to add declared surplus items to a public auction site or sell to a neighboring or mutual aid fire district or department.

MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Brady

MOTION CARRIED 5/0

D. DISCUSSION OF 2021 BOND ARBITRAGE CALCULATION

Chief Brandhuber stated that he appreciates Finance Director Christian staying on top of this.

Finance Director Christian presented the District is doing well with the interest revenues over the last twelve to fifteen months. It is one of the rare times where the District is doing well with the reserve fund balance and the interest. However, there can be an excess amount. With respect to the 2021 Bond issuance, which the District sold on January 26, 2021. It sold \$12.8 million dollars and hit the three-year mark. Three years is the duration the District has to utilize the money. For several reasons, including supply chain issues, and COVID-19, the District has not been able to execute on all of the money. It has been sitting in the investment pool with the Pima County Treasurer's State Investment Pool earning interest. The arbitrage yield 1.406389% is what the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) considers as the limit of what the District is allowed to earn on those dollars as it sits in the investment pool for that three-year period. The District has not always had a good interest rate. When it first sold those bonds, it was substantially less. Nonetheless, over the three-year period, the District has earned more than what the IRS will allow. Since the District is approaching the three-year mark and knowing that it could potentially be in negative arbitrage situation, Finance Director Christian reached out to Stifel, the firm that Mark Reader works with, who has helped with public approvals and facilitating the sale of these bonds. Mark Reader helped with these calculations. Essentially, Pima County Treasurer and the Investment Pool has certain securities that are permissible or not permissible. The District can earn greater than the 1.4% if the District invests in Muni bonds and municipal securities. If the District is outside of those investments, it is limited to the 1.4%. GRFD is \$111,000 over what the IRS will allow for a return on investment/yields over that three-year period. He knows what the obligations are, and it is going to be paid for out of bond proceeds. It will not affect the O & M or mill rate. For the duration of the next year or two, as Station 378



is built and some of the other bonded projects are executed, he would like to mitigate that yield and get as much return as possible on that money while it is sitting in the investment pool. Finance Director Christian stated that this is just an informational presentation and wanted the Governing Board to be aware of this situation and make sure the Governing Board understood the general parameters behind these yield calculations. Going forward, he is going to try to present the Governing Board some options for maximizing return on those dollars while remaining within the rules the IRS allows for that yield. As long as the funds are invested in municipal bonds, the investment can exceed the 1.4%. It will not give the 5% that the District is currently receiving, but it is going to give the District something it does not have to pay back. Finance Director Christian stated that concluded his report and wanted to give the Governing Board some broad parameters.

Board Member Brady asked Finance Director Christian if the District owes money to IRS and if they will send a bill.

Finance Director Christian answered, the District pays the IRS and it is tax time. Director Christian also stated that the District self-reports this. There will potentially be an audit because the bonds have been sitting out there for so long. As long as this is calculated, and at the end of the three-year mark finance will have to submit some informational reports to the IRS that declares the District is aware of it and then it is believed that in another year and a half, there will be a deadline on when the yield will have to be paid. Over the next twelve to twenty-four months, there will be some deadlines and some checks to write. The money will come out of the bond account, and it will not affect the O & M rate, but it is going to limit how much can be done with the bond dollars.

Board Member Brady asked if the District would get a refund from the IRS.

Finance Director Christian stated it does not. It is calculated based on the investments that the District is involved in, and Finance can determine what the payment is, and the IRS receives it. The IRS can audit if they want to.

The Governing Board thanked Finance Director Christian for this presentation.

Chief Brandhuber stated that he expects to present something to the Governing Board in April. But as Finance Director Christian had mentioned, staff wanted to first present it to the Board and then recommendations will be made for the Governing Board to consider at the next board meeting.

Chairperson Cox Golder mentioned how well Finance Director Christian is at investing.

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



Finance Director Christian presented the Golder Ranch Fire District monthly financials and reconciliation to the Governing Board. He said February was a short month and right in the middle between the property tax revenue deadlines, October and May. It is difficult to predict how much property tax revenue the District will receive in May. Last year was used as a guide, however this year is not in conformity with last year. This interest revenue is doing very well and a calculation of not just bond revenues, but also the general fund. What is being reported is across all the funds. For the miscellaneous revenue, the District is bringing in the final pieces of wildland revenue and ambulance revenue is 8% favorable. The District is starting to liquidate some of its older receivables. The receivable balances decreased substantially. The billing team is working on older claims now that they are fully caught up on everything. They are trying to work some of the denials that can still turn to cash. They are much more intensive, but eventually the District does collect on some of those collections. The District did not make the mark on revenues, however, the year-to-date is right on schedule. For costs, it is within 1%. This is very good in terms of the total cash outlay. A spending of \$3 million dollars was budgeted, however, \$2.9 million dollars was spent, so the District is doing well with its costs. The District did consume cash in the month of February. The biggest source of cash is property taxes, and it is within 1% of that. He said the District is right where it needs to be for February and the year-to-date is the key as long as the District is trending where it should be, which is 9% favorable, largely due to grants received; the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant revenues, radio grants, and the (American Rescue Plan Act) grants. This has been a great year for grants and the proceeds from the grants are going to be a source of cash for some of the capital projects with given options to the Governing Board for 2024, 2025, and 2026. Our biggest cost is labor, and the District is at 1%, which is where it wants to be. One percent on a \$22 million dollar budget is outstanding. It is 5% favorable with cash expenditures. Finance Director Christian said the District added \$5 million dollars to the total cash balance at the end of February. In Pinal County, the District has \$270,000 at the end of February, which will get remitted to Pima County by the end of March. In Pima County, it has \$14 million dollars in the general fund. The total cash across all our accounts at Chase, Pinal and Pima Counties, is almost \$30.1 million dollars. With ambulance revenues, the receivable balance fell at the end of February due to the billing team working hard for some of the cash on the older receivables. The transport numbers have been declining. All year, the District had around twenty transports a day. For the month of February, it had about 18 transports a day and 555 transports for the month. It is the lowest month of the year, even on an average daily transport rate.

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 Clerk Outlaw

MOTION CARRIED 5/0



- F. 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 INCLUDING COMPENSATION
***Note – executive sessions are confidential pursuant to Arizona law.*

Chairperson Cox Golder asked Chief Brandhuber who will be going into the Executive Session.

Chief Brandhuber answered that it will be HR Director Delong, District Attorney Aversa, and Records Specialist Wong.

MOTION by Board Member Brady to enter into Executive Session.

SECONDED by Vice-Chairperson Vette

MOTION CARRIED 5/0

TIME IN FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION: 10:07 a.m.

TIME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION: 11:02 a.m.

- G. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE FIRE CHIEF'S EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT INCLUDING COMPENSATION

There was no motion for this agenda item. It will be tabled for the next board meeting.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on April 16, 2024.

Chief Brandhuber asked Chairperson Cox Golder if she wanted to formally announce the Budget Study Session on April 16, 2024, following the board meeting.

Chairperson Cox Golder affirmed the date of the GRFD Hanley Building Open House will be on April 15, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. and the Budget Study Session will be on April 16, 2024 following the board meeting.

10. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There were no public issues presented at this time.

11. ADJOURNMENT



MOTION by Vice-Chairperson Vette to adjourn the meeting at 11:04 a.m.
MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Shellenberger
MOTION CARRIED 5/0



Sandra Outlaw, Clerk of the Board
Golder Ranch Fire District
Meeting minutes transcribed by Jenny Wong

