

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

**Tuesday, July 15, 2025, 9:00 a.m.
1600 East Hanley Boulevard, Oro Valley, Arizona 85737**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

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

Member Absent: Board Member Tom Shellenberger (excused)

Staff Present: Fire Chief Tom Brandhuber, Assistant Chief Grissom, Assistant Chief Perry, Assistant Chief Cesarek, Deputy Chief Wilson, Deputy Chief Jarrold, Finance Director Christian, IT Director Rascon, Deputy Fire Marshal Druke, and Board Services Supervisor Ortiz

2. SALUTE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Those in attendance said the pledge of allegiance.

3. FIRE BOARD REPORTS

Vice Chairperson Vette said he made a call to have the Community Resource Technicians (CRT) respond to his home. He commented on how nice and polite they were. He described the CRT program as a great service to the community.

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There were no public issues presented at this time.

5. PRESENTATIONS

A. PRESENTATION OF PERSONNEL

- YEARS OF SERVICE
 - MICHAEL DAILY, FIREFIGHTER- 10 YEARS
 - RAJIV MORALES-GERMAN, PARAMEDIC- 10 YEARS
 - KIM DAVIS, PARAMEDIC- 20 YEARS
 - SHAWN FOSTER, FIREFIGHTER- 20 YEARS
 - GARY SCHOBEL, ENGINEER- 20 YEARS
 - MICHAEL SEEGMILLER, CAPTAIN- 20 YEARS



- NEW HIRE
 - JOHNATHAN BOSWELL, FLEET ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN

Captain Kassulke presented Firefighter M. Daily for his 10 years of service. He was presented with a years of service pin.

Captain Drury presented Paramedic Morales-German for his 10 years of service. He was presented with a pin.

Chief Brandhuber explained personnel with twenty years of service, and more, are recognized with plaques.

Captain Carlson presented Paramedic Davis for her 20 years of service. She was presented with a pin and plaque.

Captain Seegmiller presented Firefighter Foster for his 20 years of service. He was presented with a pin and plaque.

Captain Ahumada presented Engineer Schobel for his 20 years of service. He was presented with a pin and plaque.

Deputy Chief Wilson presented Captain Seegmiller for his 20 years of service. He was presented with a pin and plaque.

Deputy Chief Jarrold presented the new Fleet Electronics Technician, Johnathan Boswell. Chairperson Cox Golder administered the behavioral and loyalty oaths.

The Governing Board took a brief recess at 9:28 a.m.

The Governing Board reconvened at 9:33 a.m.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. APPROVE MINUTES- JUNE 17, 2025, REGULAR SESSION
- B. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2025-0006 TO DECLARE 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
- C. APPROVE DOCUMENT LOCATOR HR SOLUTION PROPOSAL
- D. APPROVE NICE HEALTHCARE EMPLOYER AGREEMENT
- E. APPROVE CONTRACT WITH TUCSON ER & HOSPITAL FOR BLOODBORNE PATHOGEN TESTING OF EMPLOYEES WHO WERE EXPOSED WHILE ON DUTY
- F. APPROVE TUCSON ER & HOSPITAL LAB SERVICES AGREEMENT



MOTION by Board Clerk Outlaw to approve the July 15, 2025, Consent Agenda.
MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Brady
MOTION CARRIED 4/0

7. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

- A. **FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT** – Chief Brandhuber thanked the Board for allowing the presentations at the beginning of the meeting. He expressed how important it is to the personnel, family, and friends. He presented the Fire Chief's report to the Governing Board.

Chairperson Cox Golder inquired about the active shooter training.

Assistant Chief Grissom explained, Golder Ranch Fire District (GRFD) has a great relationship with Oro Valley Police Department (OVPD). Both agencies partnered to participate in a ten-day active shooter training at a school in the area that was closed for the summer. In the near future, there are plans to conduct a command training.

Chairperson Cox Golder inquired about the animal problems-other listed in the call total report. It was not a call she noticed in the past.

Assistant Chief Grissom replied, the District does receive calls for animals other than snakes. These can include raccoons and deer. These calls are typically re-routed to Pima County Animal Control.

- B. **COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION DIVISION'S REPORT** – Assistant Chief Perry presented Community Risk Reduction's division report to the Governing Board. He announced the CRTs are now in service. They typically are in service six days a week. Once the scheduling is established this will go to seven days a week. The CRTs respond to approximately 30% of the calls that would be directed to suppression personnel.

Chairperson Cox Golder inquired about the bomb squad training listed in the Fire Prevention report.

Deputy Fire Marshal Druke explained, the meeting the Fire Prevention Division attended was a Joint Fire Investigation meeting with Northwest Fire District, Oro Valley Police Department, Marana Police Department, Pima County Sheriff's Department, and Pima County Attorney's Office, in coordination with the Pima County Bomb Squad who taught a class on Explosion Dynamics.

- C. **SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION'S REPORT** – Assistant Chief Cesarek presented the Support Services' division report to the Governing Board. He mentioned a special guest in the audience, Ruben Alderete, a former first responder for Pascua Yaqui. Mr. Alderete was attending on behalf of his company 1-800-Boardup. Assistant Chief



Cesarek also recognized a new employee, Adam Kirby, who recently helped with the fireworks show in Washington, D.C. on the Fourth of July. Assistant Chief Cesarek emphasized the importance of recognizing personnel for their contributions on and off duty and the work they do for the community.

Assistant Chief Cesarek thanked IT Director Rascon for his assistance in getting a fiber optic line to Station 378. The Support Services division is close to getting the water issues at this station resolved.

Vice Chairperson Vette asked if the water company is paying the cost to purchase the equipment needed to get the correct PSI.

Assistant Chief Cesarek explained the district is having to pay several costs to get water because it is the first structure in the area. He stated the water company is not helping pay for the cost to get the correct PSI.

Chief Brandhuber added that he supported Assistant Chief Cesarek's decision to purchase the valve needed to get the water pressure issue resolved. He will make sure they are diligent in getting reimbursed for it.

- D. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES & FIRE RESPONSE DIVISION'S REPORT – Assistant Chief Grissom presented the EMS & Fire Response's division report to the Governing Board. He highlighted a recent rescue by crews from stations 375 and 377 of a man experiencing a medical issue while on a tile roof. The crews were able to safely remove the patient from the roof.

In the Fire and EMS report there was a statement that said, "The number of instances where non-reserve ambulance availability is 0. There were 4 instances." Chairperson Cox Golder asked what this meant.

Assistant Chief Grissom explained that when the level reaches zero, the district relies on auto-aid partners to assist in responding to calls.

8. REGULAR BUSINESS

- A. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING RESOLUTION 2025-0007, A RESOLUTION OF THE GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD, AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRPERSON AND/OR CLERK TO EXECUTE ON BEHALF OF THE DISTRICT ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY OR REASONABLY REQUIRED TO FINALIZE THE PROPERTY ACQUISITION AT 3701 W. QUASAR STREET, TUCSON, ARIZONA 85741

Assistant Chief Cesarek explained authorization is needed by the Governing Board to complete the closing documents to purchase the property at 3701 W. Quasar Street. He stated leadership believes it is the right move for the District.



MOTION by Vice Chairperson Vette to approve Resolution 2025-0007 authorizing the chairperson and/or clerk to execute on behalf of the District any and all documents necessary or reasonably required to finalize the property acquisition at 3701 W. Quasar Street Tucson, AZ 85741.

MOTION SECONDED by Board Clerk Outlaw

MOTION CARRIED 4/0

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

Finance Director Christian presented the GRFD reconciliation and monthly financial report. He said the District did well on revenue overall, it did incredibly well on ambulance revenue, it did not meet what was budgeted for miscellaneous revenue, but overall the District did well. He explained how the District has done so well, it is able to purchase the Quasar property out of the O&M fiscal year 2025 budget. The District has been favorable in its interest revenue, ambulance revenue, grant revenue, and miscellaneous revenue. There is a zero variance on the revenue line. The District did go over budget in labor however, overall, the District is within budget. He said he felt it was one of the best executed budgets in his 15 years at the District. Director Christian explained the District has a total of \$26 million in both Pima and Pinal County Treasurer's Offices, which is what it started with at the beginning of the fiscal year, with the exception of the bond money. As of June, the bond has \$5 million remaining in the account. Assistant Chief Cesarek will use these funds to complete the projects listed in the bond initiative.

In reference to ambulance revenue, Director Christian explained there were 7,300 transports in FY25. In FY24 the District reached the 7,000 mark for the first time. He mentioned there is now a high cash collection per transport. On average, there is a total of 20 transports per day. It takes on average sixteen days to bill the patient and an average of nineteen days for the customer to pay the bill. The goal is to bill the patient within seven days. Which the billing department believes they will be able to achieve.

Chairperson Cox Golder asked how many days a patient is given to pay a bill.

Director Christian answered on average the patient is given thirty-five days. There are many factors to consider in the process. Some make payments sooner, some later. In many cases there are two parties involved, the insurance and the patient.

Director Christian explained crews have been busy responding to wildland fires. There has been a lot of activity, not just in Arizona but New Mexico as well.

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 Outlaw

MOTION CARRIED 4/0



Vice Chairperson had questions regarding items purchased which were listed in the financial reports.

Assistant Chief Cesarek said he would follow up with Vice Chairperson Vette and make sure staff provide descriptions if they are large purchase amounts.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be August 19, 2025

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 10:04 a.m.

MOTION SECONDED by Vice Chairperson Vette

MOTION CARRIED 4/0



Sandra Outlaw, Clerk of the Board
Golder Ranch Fire District

