

Sun Lakes Fire District Regular Meeting Minutes

April 27, 2010

Call to Order:

The regular meeting of the Sun Lakes Fire District Board of Directors was called to order by Board Chair Sellers at 2:00 P.M. Board Chair Sellers, Board Members Kohler, Price, and Utter were present. Board Member Crawford was absent. Others in attendance included Fire Chief Wilson, Deputy Chief Guerra, Battalion Chief McCoy, Finance Manager Elikan, Captains Kenyon, Rock and McBride, Firefighters Franco, Walker, Puchta and Wiley, EMS King and Kohl and Member of the Public Jim Kaiser. The meeting was led in the Pledge of Allegiance by Fire Chief Wilson.

Approval of the Minutes of the March 23, 2010 Monthly Board Meeting

There were no additions or corrections to the minutes of the March 23, 2010 Regular Monthly Board Meeting, therefore, Board Chair Sellers declared the Minutes approved as circulated.

Approval of the Minutes of the March 9, 2010 Insurance & Legal Committee Meeting

Chief Wilson noted that the date of this meeting was in error. The meeting was held on March 17, 2010 and the minutes circulated are so dated. There were no additions or corrections to the minutes of the March 17, 2010 Insurance & Legal Committee Meeting, therefore, Board Chair Sellers declared the Minutes approved as circulated.

Unscheduled Public Appearances Call to the Public

There were none.

A. Recognition—Firefighter/Paramedic Cory Evans & Firefighter Ray Franco—5 Year Service Anniversaries.

Chief Wilson recognized Firefighter/Paramedic Cory Evans and Firefighter Ray Franco for their 5 years of service to Sun Lakes Fire District. He presented a pin to FF Franco. FF/PM Evans was not able to attend the Board Meeting.

B. Correspondence and/or Other Important Information Attached.

C. Reports

Public Safety Personnel Retirement System—Local Pension Board Meeting March 30, 2010—Board Chair Sellers

Board Chair Sellers reported that the Local Board appointed a new member of the public—Jane Watkins who had served on the Fire Board and the CAP. The only other item of business was the reaffirmation of the retirement status of Bouchi Bellandier.

D. Fire Chief's Report for March 16th, 2010 through April 15th, 2010.

Chief Wilson began his report by calling the Board's attention to the Certificate of Appreciation received from the AZ Governors office recognizing the CAP for the group's service to the community.

He noted that Battalion Chief Van Horn was in Maryland attending classes at the National Fire Academy.

Chief Wilson stated that Election candidate packets for 2010 had been requested for Board Chair Sellers and Board Member Price. The completed paperwork must be filed with the County Election Board on or before August 4, 2010.

Chief Wilson reported that the fire water line supplying the Cottonwood Clubhouse buildings had been hydraulically recalculated and by providing a second street connection to make the line a loop, the existing 4" line would be satisfactory.

Chief Wilson also reported that the Arizona Department of Health Services is allowing SLFD to increase ambulance billing amounts by 8.9%. This increase is retroactive to 4/01/2010.

The full text of the Fire Chief's Report is attached to the Board Agenda Package.

1. News and Events.

a. Upcoming CPR/AED Classes:

** May 11 & 15—8:30AM*

b. Splash Newspaper Articles

** Sun Lakes Women's Association Donation*

** EMS Week Recognition*

2. District Accomplishments & Highlights.

Chief Guerra reviewed the District Accomplishments & Highlights.

Chief Guerra stated that the applications for new Captains are open and will be closing May 7, 2010.

No Comments.

3. Operations Report – A, B & C Shifts & Emergency Medical Services

He noted that the new engine is due to be completed around the end of May.

No comments.

4. Significant Emergency Incidents

5. Chief Wilson represented the Fire District and met with the Individuals and Organizations noted:

This information is presented in the Chief's Report included with the Agenda package.

Financial Report.

The Financial Report was reviewed by Finance Manager Andrea Elikan. Finance Manager Andrea Elikan briefed the board on anticipated savings in back fees due to reconfiguring the Districts accounts through Chase Bank to a branch level. Chief Wilson recognized Mrs. Elikan for her initiative to save District Funds.

Board Member Kohler asked how the foreclosures in Sun Lakes will affect the tax income of the District. Ms. Elikan replied that any taxes due but not paid would show up as past taxes if they are collected possibly in subsequent years and listed as "taxes back one year".

Board Member Price commented that the income from lock boxes is down and asked if there was any way that we could re-energize the program like articles in the paper, highlighting lockbox success stories.

She also asked why the revenues for the ambulance are down. Chief Wilson noted that is likely because of a decrease in Medicare reimbursements for transports and a general trend of people considering alternate sources of treatment such as Urgent Care facilities, etc. rather than opt for transport to a hospital. Board Member Price also asked why the flu shot revenue was down. Chief Wilson answered that there was a lot more competition.

Board Member Kohler asked about the dispatch fee. Chief Wilson answered that SLFD expects the fees to be slightly less next year due to the fact that both Southwest and PMT ambulance services will start paying dispatch fees which they have not been paying. Chief Wilson went on to say that while dispatch fees may be down somewhat next year, radio maintenance fees are expected to rise, due to new 800mhz radios. Dispatch fees are based on a per call basis. He also noted that due to Chief Guerra's participation in the negotiations, SLFD will only pay one dispatch fee for a call where the Engine is dispatched first and subsequently the Medic unit is called to the scene.

Board Member Kohler asked if SLFD will be spending the remainder of the Capital Expenditure Budget of \$156,000. Ms. Elikan replied that she was expecting that to happen. Chief Wilson added that the Traffic Preemption project was starting with monies committed for equipment.

There were no other comments.

Local 3560 Report.

Union President Kenyon reported that the Union had had received an additional check from the “Art at the Lakes” exhibition at Cottonwood Country Club. With this check the Union had netted about \$5,500 for the benefit of the Sun Lakes Firefighter Emergency Relief Funds. (SLFFERF)

The Union will be helping with a \$0.31 per scoop night at the local Baskin-Robbins store on April 28, 2010 from 5 PM to 10 PM. Baskin-Robbins will be donating their profits to the National Fallen Firefighter Fund. SLFD will also be present with a “boot” or equal and any donations they receive will be put toward the SLFFERF Fund.

Captain Kenyon asked what happened at the meeting on Tuesday with the District’s Insurance Broker noting that the Union wanted to be included in any meetings concerning insurance coverage. Chief Wilson answered that this meeting was only for staff to receive proposals from the Spellicy Group for insurance coverage so that Management could begin studying the ramifications of each.

Firefighter Puchta reported that SLFFERF had recently been used to help an individual referred to them by the Methodist Church. This person was not a Sun Lakes Resident. FF Puchta also reiterated the policy of the Union and SLFFERF not to hand out any cash but rather to give the person a gasoline voucher and have a local motel bill SLFFERF for a night’s stay. The clear intention is to provide for a person’s immediate needs such as for food, shelter and gasoline in a way that the money cannot be subverted to other uses.

FF Puchta also reported on a double header softball game with the SL Softball team that ended in a split. He noted that the FF donation account was used to buy subs for everybody.

FF Puchta stated that a highway cleanup was scheduled for 5/15/2010.

E. Regular Agenda

1. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve a Proclamation recognizing May 16-22, 2010 as Emergency Medical Services Week in the Community of Sun Lakes.

Chief Wilson briefly explained the purpose of this Proclamation.

Board Member Utter moved approval of the EMS Proclamation. Board Member Price seconded the Motion. There was no further discussion. The Motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

2. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve disposal of unusable District Equipment.

Chief Wilson explained what the equipment was and the reasons for disposing of the equipment.

Board Member Kohler moved that the District dispose of the equipment as proposed in the staff Report. Board Member Utter seconded the Motion. There was no discussion. The Motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

3. Discussion and Possible Action on Resolution #C (100) to approve the Submission of a Emergency Response Vehicle Grant, through the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, for consideration in the 2010 Gila River Indian Community Shared Revenue Program.

Chief Wilson explained that this grant would be used to replace the Tahoe which is a 1998 and has 94,000 miles on it. The new vehicle would be used in place of the current BC231 vehicle which would then become the BC backup and CAP unit backup.

Board Member Utter moved the approval of Resolution #C (100). Board Member Kohler seconded the Motion. There was no discussion. The Motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Board Member Kohler asked about the quality of communications with the GRIC. Chief Wilson answered that there is an ongoing effort to maintain good communications and relations with GR authorities.

F. Board Member Comments

There were no Board Member comments.

G. Scheduling of Committee Meetings:

**Insurance and Legal—John Crawford and Forrest Kohler
May 4, 2010 9:00AM**

Board Member Kohler agreed to this time. Board Member Crawford will be consulted as soon as possible.

**Budget and Finance—Diane Price and Mike Sellers
May 5, 2010 9:00AM**

This time was agreed to by both Board Chair Sellers and Board Member Price.

H. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Board Chair Sellers declared the meeting adjourned at 2:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Forest Kohler,
Board Clerk
FK/geh