

ORACLE FIRE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday March 4, 2014
Approved April 1, 2014

Meeting was officially called to order at 6:00pm, Tuesday, March 4, 2014 at 1475 W. American Ave., Oracle, AZ.

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Chairman Navarro, Clerk McMurry, OFDBMs Bristow, Brown and Doran.

Staff Present: Operations Fire Chief Southard , Admin. Chief Acosta

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.
2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES.

Chairman Navarro presented the minutes from the February meeting and requested comments or questions. OFDBM Bristow stated that the motion and vote were missing from the discussion regarding Chief needing to temporarily move out of district. Once this was clarified, OFDBM Bristow made a motion to accept the minutes as modified, **to reflect that the Board authorized, by vote, the Chief to temporarily live out of district while looking for a rental, a home to purchase or building a house in the Oracle Fire District. This decision will be reviewed in 6 months. (wording amended in April 1, 2014 Board meeting, in item #2. TA).** Clerk McMurry seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.

3. CALL TO PUBLIC.

No response.

4. CHIEF'S REPORT – Attached

Also attached: February 2014 Financial Reports and Call Load Reports.

- COMMUNITY RECOGNITION: The 2013 Firewise Community Award was presented to Gene Greeley, by Chief Southard and Firewise Co–Chair Rachel Opinsky.
- STAFF REPORT: Chief Ramsay's retirement was announced and celebrated by the Board, Staff and Public with a cake. Also, Brent Frost was presented with a 2013 Firefighter of the year plaque.
- VEHICLE REPORT: The Rescue 691 also had to go into the shop for mechanical problems.

5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING MAKING CHANGES TO THE EMPLOYEE POLICY & PROCEDURE MANUAL TO ALLOW PART TIME RESERVE FIREFIGHTERS TO LIVE OUTSIDE OF DISTRICT DUE TO CURRENT STAFFING SHORTAGES.

Chief explained the background of why we allow full time firefighters to live out of district (about 6 years ago, we needed another full time firefighter, but there were no qualified people in the department or district. Therefore, someone who lived out of district was hired, which

set the precedent of living out of district).

Chief will send a copy of the current policy in next month's packets and will work on the wording.

6. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION FOR ELECTION OF FIRE BOARD CLERK FOR 2014.**
OFDBM Doran nominated OFDBM Brown for the Clerk position. Clerk McMurry seconded. All were in favor. Ellie Brown is officially the Clerk of the OFD Board.

7. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO SET BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING DATE(S) FOR THE 2014/2015 OPERATIONS BUDGET.**

Chief prepared a draft budget to send home with all the board members. We will need to meet at least two times. The budget needs to be advertized in the local papers by mid-May. A public hearing will be held later in June and go into effect July 1, 2014.

The budget meeting date was set for Saturday March 15, at 9am (all board members invited to attend).

8. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A REQUEST FROM VERIZON WIRELESS TO REPLACE THE EXISTING RADIO TOWER AT STATION ONE AND ERECT A NEW TOWER OF APPROXIMATELY THE SAME HEIGHT WITH SHARED SPACE FOR OFD COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT.**

Chief explained that a representative of Verizon met with him and offered \$1,300 per month to rebuild our existing radio tower to upgrade it and co-locate their equipment, at no cost to OFD.

OFDBM Doran requested that the representative attend the next board meeting.

Discussion ensued and comments were made by the public.

It was determined that the representative would be invited to the April meeting.

9. **ADJOURNMENT.**

OFDBM Doran made a motion for the meeting to adjourn. This was seconded by OFDB Clerk McMurry. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned 7:18pm. **Next regular board meeting: Tuesday, April 1, 2014 at 6pm.**

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Tina Acosta - Administrative Chief

Reviewed by OFD Board Clerk Ellie Brown: _____

Footnote: The recorder is malfunctioning. Consequently, there is not a recording of this meeting.