

ORACLE FIRE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING
MONDAY JUNE 03, 2013

APPROVED

The following are the minutes of the Oracle Fire District Board meeting, held on JUNE 03, 2013.

Present: Chairman Bud Bristow, Clerk Bill McMurry, Board members, John Doran and Manny Navarro, Ellie Brown, Fire Chief Larry Southard, Administrative Chief Tina Acosta, and various members of Certs/Firewise and of the public.

Meeting was officially called to order at 6:08pm.

#1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#2 CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No public responded.

Chairman Bristow suggested we conduct the swearing in ceremony for Larry Southard as permanent Fire Chief, present the Certificate of Appointment with signatures of all five OFD Board members and break for photos and cake.

6:27pm – Board meeting resumed.

#4 CHIEF'S REPORT

Grant Report: We are waiting for news on the recently submitted WFHF 2013 grant. All other grants are now complete.

Fire Station Report: The old SCBA fill station has been moved to the old Station. New shelving to store drinking water and wildland gear has been assembled and is located in the laundry area.

Financial Report: The 2012 audit is in progress (in final stages) by CPA Jennifer Phillips.

Budget Report: The Public Budget hearing is scheduled for Monday June 17th at 6pm. Chief Southard requested a Budget Committee meeting prior to the Public Hearing.

Policies and Procedures update: In progress by staff.

Staff Report: Larry and Tina have modified the Administrative schedule to provide office coverage Monday through Friday from 7am – 5pm.

Vehicle / Equipment Report: All vehicles are currently in service. Annual pump testing will be scheduled in June. Annual hose testing is now complete.

Current Fire Conditions: Fire danger elevated to VERY HIGH on April 29th. Coronado National Forest and all State Trust Lands are currently in Level One Fire Restrictions.

Wildland Firefighter Report: No deployments so far. OFD wildland crews have been taken off of the rotation list and will remain off until Oracle's fire danger lessens.

CERT/Firewise Report: The next Firewise meeting is June 10th at 4pm. CERT's and Firewise are no longer meeting at the same time. Each group will meet on alternate months. The next CERT meeting is July 8th at 4pm.

Volunteer and PSPRS Pension Report: None

Training Report: The 2013 FF 1 & 11 Academy was completed in May. OFD had eight students attend the Academy. No word yet on student pass/fail. State Certifications will be awarded during an upcoming Fire Board Meeting.

Brush Dump Report: We are waiting until the monsoon begins to burn the piles of brush

Storage Building Report: None

Call Load Report: Statement to be provided.

Account Balances Report: Statement to be provided.

Chief Ramsay spoke about some of the recent changes and gave a history of the last 25 years.

Engineer Paul Farrell gave a report on the Peppersauce Cave Rescue that took place on Sunday.

#5 DISCUSSION ON EMS SERVICES

The discussion on Paramedic services will take place over a period of time. Chief handed out various information regarding our current call load (example: 6 out of 10 calls to OFD are EMS calls), costs associated with Rural Metro/Tri-City Meds Ambulance service (the most expensive in the State), other Fire Districts, Certifications of Necessity (CON). Also discussed were other options to having Paramedics on our staff (such as providing quarters for the Tri-City Ambulance to be based out of Oracle rather than San Manuel.

Karen Graham, the Medical Director for OFD, under St. Joseph's Hospital, will attend the July 1st meeting and provide further information. The Base Hospital (St. Joe's) was also discussed.

OFDBM Doran made a motion to adjourn. OFDB Clerk McMurry seconded. All were in favor, none opposed.

Meeting adjourned 7:13pm

Minutes respectfully submitted June 5, 2013,

Tina Acosta – Administrative Chief