

ORACLE FIRE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, November 4, 2014 / Approved Dec 2, 2014

Meeting was officially called to order at 6:10pm, Tuesday November 4, 2014 at 1475 W. American Ave., Oracle, AZ.

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL:

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

Members Absent: OFDBM McMurry.

Staff Present: Chief Larry Southard, Asst. Chief Jennings, Admin. Chief Acosta, (Capt) Tyler McGovern, on-duty firefighters

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES.

Chairman Navarro asked the Board members if there were any changes to the Monday October 6, 2014 minutes. There were none. OFDBM Doran made a motion to accept these minutes as provided. The motion was seconded by Clerk Brown. All were in favor. Motion passed.

3. CALL TO PUBLIC.

No response from public.

4. CHEF'S REPORT – see end of this document

Prior to the Chief's report, a pinning ceremony was conducted for newly promoted Captain Tyler McGovern. After the pinning, there was a break for cake, provided in recognition of the Board members who have nearly completed 2 years of service, and especially to OFDBM John Doran, who will end his term December 1st., 2014.

5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A LETTER OF DECLARATION FROM THE PINAL COUNTY TREASURER'S OFFICE.

Chief Southard explained that this is a form regarding our line of credit with Pinal County, that is to be completed annually, stating that the Governing Board of the Oracle Fire District will issue LESS than \$10 million in total debt during the 2015 calendar year. The line of credit was not needed in any previous years.

Chairman Navarro read from the letter. OFDBM Bristow made a motion to complete the form with the LESS than \$10 million in debt selection. Clerk Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE FIRE CHIEF'S REQUEST FOR AN ANNUAL EMPLOYEE EVALUATION. THE BOARD COULD GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THIS.

Chairman Navarro requested that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss

the evaluation of Chief Southard.

Executive session started at 7pm / Executive session was completed at 8pm

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8pm.

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday December 2, 2014 at 6pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Tina Acosta - Administrative Chief / Reviewed by OFD Board Clerk Ellie Brown:

7. CHIEF'S REPORT:

Financial, Budget & Account Balances Report: Documents will be presented by Chief Acosta.

Staff Report: Tyler McGovern has been promoted to Captain. A badge pinning ceremony will be performed during the November Fire Board meeting. Staffing levels have improved significantly since we hired 5 new reserve firefighters. Reserves are working 12 or 24 hour shifts. The "mid-shift" position has been eliminated to accommodate the reserves. The medical insurance policy has been renewed. Due to a reduction in full time staffing, the renewal will have little or no effect on our budget for fiscal year 2014/2015.

Vehicle Report: All vehicles are currently in service. We have received a quote from United Fire to make a modification to Engine 691 to prevent future pump gear repairs from occurring.

Fire Station & Equip Report: All equipment is currently in service. Fire hydrant servicing was recently completed. 126 hydrants had grass cut from around them and many were inspected and tested. Two hydrants are currently out of service. Arizona Water Company has been notified. One of the exercise tread mills was recently worked on.

Fire District: The HR Policies Manual draft has been reviewed and sent back to Brenda Tranchina for a second draft edition before being presented to the Fire Board for review and approval. The AFDA Conference classes will be held in Laughlin NV on January 16th and 17th. Travel days to the event are January 15th and 18th. Recent Arizona statutes require Fire Board members and Fire Chief's to complete 6 hours of fire district training -after- the November 2014 General Election. The next time these classes will be held is June 2015 in Tucson. A letter to property owners in the area known as "Campo Bonito" has been written along with a questionnaire card asking if they are interested in being annexed into the Oracle Fire District. A summary of the AFDA Redbook regarding the Fire District Assistance Tax

(FDAT) was included in the Fire Board packets.

Events: Preschool children visited the fire station on October 7th. The 30 children toured the station and got to sit in a fire engine.

The Mountain Vista School HOPE Walk was held on October 10th. We sent 2 vehicles to follow the parade across town.

An inventory of children's Fire Chief Helmets and "I Visited the Fire Station" stickers were ordered.

Current Fire Conditions: Fire conditions are currently at Moderate. The recent rains have helped the trees a lot, but the grass will become a fire hazard as it begins drying out.

Wildland Fire Report: A planning meeting for the upcoming Pinal/Pima Wildland Team Statewide Training Exercise was held at Golder Ranch Fire District on October 16th.

Grant Report: Firewise volunteers have been performing Firewise Evaluations for people interested in having fuels work done on the recently awarded Firewise Grant. We are waiting for a Crew Use Agreement from the State Forestry Division before the DOC crews can begin their next project.

The Florence DOC crews began working on a small fuels thinning project on October 28th at the west end of Linda Vista.

Donations: A donation was received from the Triangle L Ranch for \$100. We also received donations from the Firewise Board for \$250 and from the OFD Recreation Fund for \$250. These were made to fund the Company picnic, which took place last month and was a great success with a very high turnout of firefighters and volunteers. These donations will also help fund the Santa event in December, and hopefully a staff Christmas dinner and recognition.

CERT/Firewise Report: CERT's held their October meeting on the 14th and a training exercise was held after the drill.

Training Report: A companywide training exercise was held on October 18th.

Brush Dump Report: The reflective tape has been replaced on the entry gate. A free brush dump day was sponsored by the Oracle Firewise and manned by Firewise volunteers on October 25th.

Call Load: is posted on our website: www.oraclefire.org