

**ORACLE FIRE DISTRICT SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
(Public Hearing for Proposed Annexation
of Campo Bonito Area)**

October 2, 2019 / Approved October 9, 2019

Meeting was officially called to order at 6:07 pm, Wednesday October 2, 2019 at 1475 W. American Ave., Oracle, AZ.

CALL TO ORDER:

Board members present: Clerk Walker, OFDBMs Arias and Bristow

Board members absent: Chairman Brown, OFDBM Hill

Staff Present: Chief Jennings, Admin. Manager Acosta

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. CALL TO PUBLIC No response.

3. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED ANNEXATION FOR THE CAMPO BONITO AREA, PER ARS 48-262.

Chief Jennings gave a presentation to the public, during which, a few questions were allowed.

- Steve Philpott of 33724 S. Huggett Trail, Oracle, Az. (proposed annexation area) inquired about the approximate cost of the proposed tax. Chief Jennings responded that it was based upon the secondary assessed value of each property and proceeded to read the example provided in the Impact Statement. Kevin Armbrust of 1813 Ventana Vista, Oracle, Az. (current fire district), who has volunteered his time and expertise from working at both the Pima and Pinal County Assessor's Offices, helped explain how to determine the secondary assessed values.
- Susan Schiek of 34450 S. Mt. Lemmon Rd., Oracle, Az. (proposed annexation area) asked for an explanation of the process of annexation. Chief Jennings referred to ARS 48-262 to explain.
- OFDBM Bristow asked Chief Jennings to provide the timeline for the annexation, which he did, along with the petition requirements.
- John Hernandez of 245 W. Grant St., Oracle, Az. (current fire district) wanted to know if there would be a financial impact to residents in the current fire district, to which Chief Jennings assured that there would be none.
- Bill Hernden of 39989 Apache Girl Trail, Oracle, Az. (proposed annexation area) inquired about the water source for fighting fire. Chief Jennings explained that the district currently has one water tender and that a second tender was authorized and is on order. Both of these are and will be equipped with foldable tanks into which the water from the tender can be dumped, allowing the tender to leave the fire scene to fill up with more water at the closest fire hydrant, while the fire engines pump from the tanks. Ms. Schiek stated that the YMCA Camp has a swimming pool, which could be pumped in an

emergency, to which Chief Jennings replied that Oracle Fire District (OFD) is already aware of this possibility.

Mr. Hernden's second question was if the district was going to provide ambulance service. Chief Jennings explained that the company AMR currently holds the "Certificate of Necessity" (CON) for this area, as well as for the current OFD, so OFD is not allowed to transport patients.

- Tim Bedingham of 34094 Apache Girl Trail (proposed annexation area) wanted confirmation that residents within the existing fire district are paying the same tax rate as what is proposed for them: 3.144. Chief Jennings assured him that they are.
- Susan Schiek asked if the OFD would be eligible for more grants since it would be geographically larger with the proposed annexation area. Chief Jennings replied that this might help and that the additional revenue would help pay for increased expenses and could possibly provide for more personnel in the future.
- Susie Bedingham of 34094 Apache Girl Trail (proposed annexation area) wanted to know how far up highway 77 is the current OFD boundary. Chief Jennings stated that the district ends to the northeast at milepost 107.5 and to the southwest on the north side of the Biosphere road.
- Tim Bedingham inquired about the number of households in the proposed area. Chief Jennings explained that since they are not currently in our district that he does not have those numbers. He continued to say that once this area was in the fire district, it would affect our ISO rating, which could possibly improve the homeowner's insurance rates, depending upon the carrier.

4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING CONSIDERATION OF COMMENTS FROM PINAL COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS (ARS 48-262, paragraph 5).

Upon receipt of the boundary change impact statement, the clerk of the (OFD) governing board mailed, certified mail dated September 11, 2019, written notice of the statement, along with a copy of the impact statement, and map with the general description of the proposed annexation area to the Chairman of the Pinal County Board of Supervisors. The date stamp of receipt was September 16, 2019. Per ARS 48-262 A. paragraph 4. The Pinal County Board of Supervisors may submit written comments to the governing body of the district within ten days after receipt of the notice. No written comments were received by the date of the public hearing, October 2, 2019: twelve business days after receipt of the impact statement.

5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING CONSIDERATION OF COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC WHO APPEAR FOR AND AGAINST THE PROPOSED CHANGE (ARS 48-262, paragraph 5). (Board will determine amount of time for each person to speak).

The public stated that they had no further comments.

6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING WHETHER THE PROPOSED CHANGE WILL PROMOTE THE PUBLIC HEALTH, COMFORT, CONVENIENCE,

NECESSITY OR WELFARE (ARS 48-262, paragraph 5).

After stating that the OFD Governing Board had discussed the proposed annexation numerous times, Clerk Walker motioned that the proposed annexation would promote the public health, comfort, convenience, necessity and welfare of the residents within this area. OFDBM Arias seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion was passed.

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPROVAL OF IMPACT STATEMENT SUBMITTED ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2019 BY CHIEF ROBERT JENNINGS AND AUTHORIZE THE CIRCULATION OF PETITIONS (ARS 48-262, paragraph 5).

Clerk Walker moved to approve the impact statement as submitted on September 10, 2019 and to authorize the circulation of petitions. This was seconded by OFDBM Arias. All were in favor. Motion was passed.

8. ADJOURNMENT.

OFDBM Arias made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Clerk Walker. All were in favor. Motion was passed at 6:55pm.

Next REGULAR Board Meeting – Wednesday, October 9, 2019 at 6pm

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Tina Acosta – Administrative Manager
Reviewed by OFD Chairman Brown or Clerk Walker: