



MEETING MINUTES

The Fire Board of the Rio Rico Medical and Fire District (RRMFD) met in regular session on Wednesday, July 30, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was held at Rio Rico Medical and Fire District administrative office, 822 Pendleton Drive, Rio Rico, AZ.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

- Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Henry Thysell

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS

- Brad Beach, Frank Bejarano, Michael Carlson, Henry Thysell & Dora Urias

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

- None

5. CONSENT AGENDA

a. Approval of minutes

i. Regular Session and Executive Sessions of June 25, 2025

- Motion to approve Regular Session and Executive Sessions of June 25, 2025 made by Michael Carlson, second by Brad Beach
- Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote

6. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

a. Correspondence

- Thank you card received from Linda McHart for quick response, stopping the fire and keeping residents safe from the truck vehicle fire on exit 29

b. Fire Chief's Report

- Report presented by Chief Amezaga. Copy of report on file and posted on website

c. Fire Marshal Report

- Report presented by Fire Marshal Cluff. Copy of report on file

d. Fire Board Member Report

- Brad Beach noted the pictures of the tower don't do it justice; going up at rapid rate. Saw and spoke with the Cadets at the academy and complimented the many community events we have been involved with.
- Frank Bejarano queried regarding car seats and possible use for MCH van transports
- Michael Carlson stated during his holiday, he met with a Deputy Chief of the Yakima Valley Fire Department and discussed and showed pictures of the training tower, trainings and spoke of the size of the District and what we offer to our surrounding community fire departments. In awe for all RRMFD does as a small district
- Hank Thysell noted he attended the AFDA conference and went to the mandatory statutory trainings and a wildland presentation

e. Financial Report

i. Presentation of Financial Reports of May 2025 up to June 2025

- Reports presented by Ana Holman. Copy of reports on file.
- Medicare making changes due to the Big Beautiful Bill, trying to reduce their deficit, very conscious, more documentation audits, more denials, reduction in payments; grants available to rural areas with medical and fire services. Standards need to be set up; proper documentation of reason for call to prevent denial (using AI for reading of reports). Captains will be doing QA prior to submission to billing. Dr. Bejarano offered assistance from MCH personnel for Ruth if we should like to speak with them
- Michael Carlson noted RRMFD investing in Triple A bonds, the county is an A+ rating, sound decision to move funds
- Approximately \$1 million excess after expenses – Michael Carlson suggested funds be used for PSPRS shortfall, sick and vacation accruals, opportunity for additional income should the county prevail and RRMFD has to give back; some wildland expense needed to increase wildland revenue. Frank Bejarano would like to see money placed in the contingency fund. Should the county request repayment, no stipulation on time element to pay. Ana Holman suggested we replenish the contingency fund (10% of Budget) first.
- County has created a new account for the loss allocation – Extraordinary Loss Allocation account to include loss amount and percentage of funds from receivership
- RRMFD tax revenue collection has stayed within the 98% range; NSFD tax revenue collection rate has been decreasing – this year 92%

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. Discussion, update and review re: Consolidation of NSFD and RRMFD

i. This is a continuation of previous discussion related to the NSFD and RRMFD consolidation

- Chief Amezaga stated the mailing has been completed, maps have been created, venue has been secured. Public Hearing and Special Meeting for the consolidation is scheduled for July 31, 2025, 6:00 p.m. at Calabasas Middle School. Has invited Board Supervisors Rudy Molera and John Fanning to attend (John Fanning has confirmed attendance) and requested both Fire Boards (NSFD and RRMFD) members be present.
- Chief Amezaga will have a power point presentation addressing concerns, pros and cons, questions and answers regarding the consolidation. Following public hearing, vote will be taken from both boards – unanimous we move forward; not unanimous, will be presented to the county for decision.
- Chief Amezaga gave kudos to his staff for their work on the consolidation process

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. Discussion and possible action re: Approval of financial reports for May and June 2025.

- Motion to approve the financial reports for May and June 2025 made by Frank Bejarano, second by Dora Urias
- Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote

b. Discussion and possible action re: Approval of change to the Wildland SOG

- Chief Amezaga stated RRMFD follows the NWCG as the state requirement for our wildland personnel and there has been an update for time off compensation upon return from assignment
- Motion to approve change to the Wildland SOG made by Brad Beach, second by Dora Urias
- Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote

c. Discussion and possible action re: Approval to purchase two cardiac monitors for the Wildland EMS units per proposal

- Chief Amezaga noted the state is requiring a cardiac monitor on the Wildland EMS units (REMS Team & IMed Team). Two refurbished models \$39,689.85 with a one year warranty; new models \$63,538 for one. After one year warranty, would need to put on service contract which are very costly; funding to purchase monitors will come from the wildland income.
- Motion to approve purchase of two cardiac monitors for the Wildland EMS units per proposal in the amount of \$39,689.85 with a 5% variance made by Brad Beach, second by Frank Bejarano
- Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote

d. Discussion and possible action re: Property Annexation Request

- Chief Amezaga had a property owner not within our area request a Burn permit. Researched possible information/forms to meet request - member request must be contiguous to the district. Document required per A.R.S. with information regarding property; request placed on consent agenda for vote, if approved they will be included within the district for tax determination (residential, commercial or agricultural).
- Motion to give Chief Amezaga the authority to put together the process of property annexation request made by Michael Carlson, second by Dora Urias
- Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote

9. FUTURE MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

a. Next Board Meeting August 27, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

- Michael Carlson would like to discuss and consider Double A rated investments due to the volatility of the market in the Triple A rated investments which have dropped to Double A rates

10. ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Dated this 27th day of August, 2025.
 Rio Rico Medical & Fire District Elected Official

Michael Carlson,  Clerk of the Board