



MEETING MINUTES

The Fire Board of the Rio Rico Medical and Fire District (RRMFD) met in regular session on Wednesday, June 26, 2024 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 is being recorded
 - Meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by Hank Thysell
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS
 - Present: Brad Beach, Frank Bejarano, Michael Carlson
 - Absent: Dora Urias
4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC
 - None
5. CONSENT AGENDA
 - a. Approval of minutes
 - i. Regular Session of May 29, 2024
 - Motion to approve minutes of the Regular Session of May 29, 2024 made by Michael Carlson, Second by Brad Beach
 - Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote
6. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE:
 - a. Correspondence
 - Letter received from Anne Lopes thanking Ricardo Ugarte and Luis Saenz
 - b. Fire Chief's Report
 - Fire Chief power point report presented by Fire Chief Amezaga. Copy of report on file and posted on the District website
 - i. Emergency calls summary
 - ii. Operational
 1. Equipment, vehicle, station
 2. Training
 3. Operations
 4. Personnel
 - c. Fire Marshal Report
 - Fire Marshal power point report presented by Fire Marshal George Cluff. Copy of report on file and posted on the District website
 - d. Fire Board Member Report
 - Brad Beach noted at the School Board meeting held last night stated the pool will open in about 5 weeks and will be available to RRMFD for training

- Hank Thysell extended compliment to George Cluff from Linda at Desert Dawn for information and suggestions given due to three years of neglect of grounds

e. Financial Report

i. Presentation of Financial Reports up to May 2024

- Financial Reports presented by Ana Holman
- Election timeline reviewed
- Chief Amezaga and Ana Holman had a meeting with the County Manager who stated RRMFD's fund are available; missing funds will not affect RRMFD operations. Board discussion included questions and concerns regarding ongoing investigation; tax forecast reports; calculation of income and percentage received during the 10 years being investigated; investment return; lack of responsibility by Board of Supervisors, collusion between assessor/treasurer; proper checks and balances, outdated system at county.
- Louie Chaboya noted Tyler Software has been utilized throughout the country to assist with situations such as that with the county.
- Brad Beach stated schools are in the process of contacting legal regarding possible steps to be taken but at the present, everything regarding checks and balances is matching
- Ana Holman noted the county works similar to RRMFD with an operational account and the capital replacement investment account. Operational account is matching; the investment account is the one the transfers were made from which affects the investment return. Last year the investment account had 38 million – 4 million is missing. No outside audits performed at county – Auditor General conducts the audit for the county
- Amazon Prime donated five boxes of meat to RRMFD

7. OLD BUSINESS

- None

8. NEW BUSINESS

- Discussion and possible action re: Approval of financial reports for May 2024.
 - Motion to approve financial reports for May 2024 made by Brad Beach, second by Michael Carlson
 - Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote
- Discussion and possible action re: Approval of Beach Fleischman FY23-24 Audit Engagement Letter for an estimated fee, excluding expenses, of \$25,500.
 - Ana Holman noted the invoice is \$1,000 more than prior year
 - Motion to approve BeachFleischman FY23-24 Audit Engagement Letter for an estimated fee, excluding expenses, of \$25,500 made by Brad Beach, second by Michael Carlson
 - Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote
- Discussion and possible action re: Approval to add TRT Specialist Certification to the stipend rates schedule effective July 1, 2024 at the hourly rate of \$.32
 - Chief Amezaga noted we have compensated Hazmat certification which is a 200 hour course to be completed for stipend similar to course for TRT certification (equivalent to \$1,000/yr stipend)
 - Motion to approve adding TRT Specialist Certification stipend rate of \$.32/hour to the stipend rate schedule effective July 1, 2024 made by Michael Carlson, second by Frank Bejarano
 - Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote
- Public Hearing re: Rio Rico Medical and Fire District fiscal year 2024-2025 Budget
 - Chairman will open the hearing
 - Hearing opened by Hank Thysell at 6:42 p.m.
 - Chairman will call to all present for those who wish to comment on the budget and each person

desiring to speak will be provided 3 minutes.

- No comments received from the public for posted proposed budget

iii. Chairman will close the hearing

- Hearing closed by Hank Thysell at 6:43 p.m.

e. Discussion and possible action re: Approval of Resolution 2024-02 approving and formally adopting the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget

- Motion to approve Resolution 2024-02 approving and adopting the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget made by Michael Carlson, second by Brad Beach
- Motion passed unanimously by verbal vote

f. Discussion and review re: Annexation of certain properties within Santa Cruz County and adjacent to the southeastern boundaries of the Rio Rico Medical and Fire District.

- Chief Amezaga stated we hired Louie Chaboya to help us clean up NSFD properties within District. Calling this annexation for RRMFD the River Road Annexation; property owners in some of these areas have expressed concerns for response and with the IGA with NSFD we have a station in the area to respond, with development may be able to support a satellite station.
- Louie Chaboya has researched with the assessors office and has retained a list of all property owners – there are 38 properties some of which are state land. Several steps will need to be taken: Board approval for annexation; legal description of area for impact statement; additional approval by the board; public hearings, gathering of signatures, presentation of signatures for approval of county board.
- State property will not require signatures; should there be a fire, state will reimburse for services
- Action not listed and resolution not formatted due to some missing information. Board suggests having a special telephonic meeting Friday to take action

g. Discussion and review: Steps for prior years of service in the fire service up to ten years at the Chief's discretion

- Brad Beach brought this to the board as an incentive to attract experienced personnel. Can't start at current rate but could start within a range-discretionary. Michael Carlson noted it would need to be addressed by legal to alleviate possible discrimination situations
- Chief Amezaga noted this is not in our policy and Ana Holman noted new employees start at Step 1. Chief Amezaga will contact legal and bring information to next meeting.

9. FUTURE MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

a. Next Board Meeting July 31, 2024 5:30 p.m.

- Special meeting Friday June 28, 2024 2:00 pm. Telephonically
- Update on county situation


Update on county situation

10. ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Dated this 31 day of July, 2024.

Rio Rico Medical & Fire District Elected Official

Hank Thysell,  Clerk of the Board

