

MINUTES

AVRA VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Meeting Date: Friday, September 25, 2020
Meeting Time: 8:00 AM
Location: 21021 E. Homestead Drive, Red Rock, AZ 85145

RECORDING ON.

1) **Call To Order** Chairman Castaneda called the meeting to order at 8:06 AM.

2) **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America**

3) **Roll Call and Confirmation of a Quorum**

Chairman Castaneda, Jr
Vice-Chairman Bauer (absent, excused)
Clerk Neilson
Director Armendarez
Director Haffner

In attendance:

Chief Delfs
Assistant Chief Klein
Lorrie Palmquist (present by phone)
Counsel Wencker (present by phone)

The Chairman called for a moment of silence in honor of the passing of Mrs. Keryl Bauer.

4) **Recognition of Personnel** NONE

5) **Call To The Public** NONE

6) **Announcements, Current Events & Correspondence**

- Notice of cancellation of the January 2021 AFDA Conference
Note that mandatory training classes will be offered at various times, with the closest event occurring December 10 in Tucson, place TBA.

7) **Review, Discussion and possible Action regarding the following items for consent:**

- **Minutes from the regular meeting held August 28, 2020**

Director Haffner motioned to approve the Minutes from the regular Board meeting held August 28, 2020. Director Armendarez seconded. ***Motion carried unanimously, 4:0.***

8) **Chief's Report**

The Fire Chief may update the Board on items of interest relating to but not limited to the following: Response times, vehicles, facilities, labor relations, personnel, finance, grants, communications and/or training. Alternatively, the Fire Chief may provide written comments in the Board Member's packets or by email. The Board Members may ask clarifying questions and they may direct the Chief to place items on future agendas for further discussion or action.

The Chief highlighted the following items from his report:

- Our District was awarded a SAFER Grant which will provide grant funding over a three year period to cover the cost of 13 firefighters. In addition, Chief Klein was able to secure a change in the time period for the grant award. The District will be able to put the new staff in place in January 2021, rather than March 2021. Sincere congratulations to Chief Klein for his diligent efforts!

- The District deployed one crew to California, and their deployment has been extended for another week.
- Our new ambulance was placed in service, but taken out of service to address suspension problems. It will be placed back in service soon.

9) Review, Discussion and possible Action to approve the August 2020 Financial Reports and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to sign the Certificate of Review.

Clerk Neilson motioned to approve the August 2020 financial reports and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to sign the Certificate of Review. Director Haffner seconded. ***Motion carried unanimously, 4:0.***

10) Review, Discussion and possible Action to consider and approve the ALS Base Hospital Affiliation Agreement between SMSJ Tucson Holdings, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, doing business as St. Mary's Hospital and Avra Valley Fire District.

Chief Delfs respectfully requested that this item be tabled until next month. Our attorney has reviewed the contract and suggested a couple of changes which are being considered by St. Mary's Hospital. The Chief stated that Northwest Hospital has approached our District regarding serving as our base hospital, but that their base fee per year is \$11,000 for the same services.

11) Review, Discussion and possible Action to consider and accept or deny the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant funding in the amount of \$2,463,240.00 in Federal funding. The grant will fund 13 firefighter or paramedic positions over a three calendar year period.

Chief Delfs reiterated that the SAFER Grant will pay for payroll and benefits, but not for extra items such as turnouts. The Chief reminded the Board that when the District hired under the last SAFER grant, we did ask the candidates to sign a statement prepared by Counsel Wencker stating that there was a possibility that employment would not continue after the grant period. This did not occur, and we were successfully able to retain all hirees under that grant. We will issue the same statement to all candidates in conjunction with the current grant hiring process. Director Haffner motioned to accept the FY2019 SAFER Grant funding in the amount of \$2,463,240 to fund 13 firefighter or paramedic positions over a three year period. Clerk Neilson seconded. ***Motion carried unanimously, 4:0.***

12) Reports of Board Members and Staff

The Board offered congratulations to Chief Klein and the District on the SAFER Grant award.

13) Future Agenda Items ALS Base Hospital Affiliation Agreement with St. Mary's Hospital

14) Date of Next Board Meeting October 22, 2020 4:00 PM

15) Adjournment

Director Haffner motioned to adjourn the meeting. Director Armendarez seconded. Motion carried unanimously, 4:0. Meeting adjourned at 8:26 AM.

RECORDING OFF.

SIGNED

DATE

Board Members

Luis Castaneda, Jr. Sara Bauer Eric Neilson Thomas Armendarez James Haffner

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