

ORACLE FIRE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 2, 2014 / Approved January 6, 2015

Meeting was officially called to order at 6:06pm, Tuesday December 2, 2014 at
1475 W. American Ave., Oracle, AZ.

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Chairman Navarro, OFDBMs McMurry and Bristow.

Members Absent: Clerk Brown

Elected member to be sworn in: Chuck Smallhouse

Staff Present: Chief Larry Southard, Admin. Chief Acosta, 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 Tuesday November 4, 2014 minutes. There were none. OFDBM Bristow made a motion to accept these minutes as provided. The motion was seconded by OFDBM McMurry. All were in favor. Motion passed.

3. CALL TO PUBLIC. No response from public.

4. NEWLY APPOINTED FIRE BOARD MEMBERS BUD BRISTOW AND CHUCK SMALLHOUSE WILL TAKE THE OATH OF OFFICE AND THEY WILL SERVE FOUR YEAR TERMS ON THE BOARD.

The OFD Board Oath of Office was administered by Chairman Navarro to Mr. Bud Bristow and Mr. Charles Smallhouse. Each new Board member signed the Oath, which will be sent to Pinal County.

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

6. ELECT FIRE BOARD OFFICERS.

After a brief discussion about the positions, OFDBM McMurry made a motion for himself to take over the Clerk position from Clerk Brown. OFDBM Smallhouse seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

A discussion regarding nominating Mrs. Brown for Chairman followed. OFDBM Bristow moved to postpone the election for the Chairman position until the next meeting, when OFDBM Brown could attend. Clerk McMurry seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A COMBINED RESOLUTION FROM THE PINAL COUNTY TREASURERS OFFICE.

OFDBM Bristow moved to accept the Pinal County Resolution and authorized Chief Southard and Admin. Chief Acosta to have authority to access the Pinal County Website for OFD banking information as well as to have Administrative privileges. Each Board member then signed their acceptance of the Resolution, as well as providing their signatures as signers of the OFD Treasurer's/General Fund warrants.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03pm.

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, January 6, 2015 at 6pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Tina Acosta - Administrative Chief / Reviewed by OFD Board Clerk Bill McMurry

CHIEF'S REPORT:

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

Staff Report: Staffing has improved greatly during the last two months. New Reserve Firefighters are fitting into their roles and they have really helped out a lot. Staffing throughout the holiday season should be well covered and also during February when two of our full time firefighters will be attending training at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD.

Reserve firefighter Rocky Ortiz has received his Engine Boss certification from the Arizona Division of Forestry.

Vehicle Report: The Utility truck has a broken four wheel drive mechanism and the Chevy S-10 has several mechanical issues such as a broken fuel gauge and the AC is out. Neither of these vehicles are critical to operations.

Fire Station & Equip Report: All equipment is currently in service.

Fire District: The annual AFDA Conference is being held in Laughlin during the month of January. Fire Board members are required to attend a six hour AFDA class (see enclosed info) during 2015. The next AFDA Conference will be held in June 2015.

Events: Pinal County made a presentation at the fire station on November 19th to talk about code compliance and code enforcement. About 40 people attended the 90 minute presentation.

We held a Thanksgiving dinner for the DOC wildland firefighter crew on November 25th. About 35 meals were served by Admin Chief Tina Acosta and several volunteers.

A fire department dinner will be held on December 11th beginning at 5:00.

Firefighters, Board members, CERT's and Firewise members including all families

are encouraged to attend. After the dinner we will pack goodie bags for Santa to give the children on the following day.

On December 12th, Santa will land in a helicopter at Mount Vista School and he will be shuttled to the fire station in a fire engine. Local resident Mike Guthrie has generously volunteered ... again, to be Santa.

Current Fire Conditions: Fire conditions were upgraded from Moderate to High on November 25th. This is due to the unseasonably heavy grass that is rapidly drying out.

Wildland Fire Report: None to report.

Grant Report: Several older fuel thinning grants are nearing completion and we'll soon be starting on the Firewise Grant we recently received from Pinal County.

Donations: A \$250 donation was received from the Oracle Firewise Board to provide Thanksgiving dinner to the wildland firefighters that work here all year on fuels thinning projects.

One of our regular EMS helicopter companies have offered to provide a helicopter ride for Santa on December 12th.

CERT/Firewise Report: Oracle Firewise and CERT volunteers cooked a Thanksgiving dinner for approximately 35 wildland firefighters including our on-duty crew.

Firewise held their last meeting on November 18th. The next CERT meeting scheduled for December 9th.

The Firewise Board voted during their November meeting to change the rate structure for the Brush Dump.

Training Report: A companywide training exercise was held on November 15th. An old house was partially demolished and it provided opportunities for learning forcible entry and safety.

Chief Southard and Captain Farrell attended a mandatory Ebola Training at St. Joseph's Hospital on November 20th.

SJH provided a two hour Pediatrics EMS class on November 22nd.

Brush Dump Report: The Brush Dump is getting quite full. We are trying to hold off on the next burn until the kids at Mountain Vista School are on their winter break.

The Firewise Board voted during their November meeting to change the rate structure for the Brush Dump to apply different fees for single trucks, trucks with trailers and dump trucks. The new rates will be \$3.00, \$5.00 and \$10.00 respectively. The new rates that go into effect on January 1st will be posted on the reader board during the month of December.

Call Load Report: see OFD website for information.