

**MINUTES OF THE WHETSTONE FIRE DISTRICT
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING, June 8th 2022**

1. CALL TO ORDER: 6:36PM

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL/ AFFIRMATION OF QUORUM:

Chairperson Steve Hasson called the meeting to order at 6:36pm. The meeting was held in the Whetstone Fire District Station 321 classroom, 2422 N Firehouse Lane, Huachuca City, Arizona.

Members Present: Chairperson Steve Hasson
Clerk, Scott Wayne [Takes his seat following being appointed]
Board Member, Rodney Weichelt
Board Member, Michael Estrada
Board Member, Bruce Harris [Telephonic Attendance]

Staff Present: Chief Robert Jarvis, CFO Cathy Dyer, Assistant Chief Sam Foster

Absent:

It was determined a quorum existed with four board members present.

4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST: NONE

5. CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

No members of the public wished to address the board.

6. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDANCE:

A. CHIEF'S REPORT: NONE

B. FIRE BOARD CHAIRMAN REPORT: NONE

7. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Review, Amendment, Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Tabled Agenda Item Candidate Appointment to the Fire Board;

- Review and Decision of Appointment of Candidate Brent Kusama to the Fire Board.

The Board had previously tabled the possible appointment of Brent Kusama at the special meeting held on June 1st, pending the review of information shared to the Board during the call to the public.

MOTION:	Motion made to not accept Brent Kusama as a Whetstone Fire Board Participant/Member.
RESULT:	Approved, or denied all in favor none opposed
MOVED BY:	Motion made by Rodney Weichelt
SECONDED:	Motion seconded by Michael Estrada

8. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Review, Amendment, Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Official Swearing in of Newly Appointed Board Member Wm Michael Estrada; Chairman Steve Hasson Swears in Wm Michael Estrada. His Oath is stated and Member Estrada is officially sworn in and welcomed.

MOTION:	No Motion made at this time
RESULT:	
MOVED BY:	
SECONDED:	

B. Review, Amendment, Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Candidate Appointment and Swearing-in onto the Fire Board;

- Scott Wagner

Chairman Hasson invites candidate Scott Wagner to address the Fire Board. Hasson asks Mr. Wagner if he has anything in his past that could be brought to the Fire Boards attention that could be a conflict with either, he, the Fire Board or with our general public of whom we are here to serve. Mr. Wagner States no. After appointment to the Board Chairman Hasson Swears in Scott Wagner. His Oath is stated and Member Wagner is officially sworn in and welcomed.

MOTION:	Motion made to Appoint Scott Wagner to the Fire Board as a Fire Board Member/ Clerk
RESULT:	Approved, or denied all in favor none opposed
MOVED BY:	Motion made by Rodney Weichelt
SECONDED:	Motion seconded by Michael Estrada

C. Review, Amendment, Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Selection of the Proposed Budget for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 for Posting; Chairman Hasson Presents with the two (2) budget proposals to the Board and asks for a motion of which budget the Board would like to move forward with for posting for new Fiscal Year. Member Weichelt motions to accept budget two for posting. Member Estrada comments he will second it with stipulation in regards to possible violations regarding the Chief's contract and review. Member Weichelt asks if we have reached out to our attorney regarding his contract.

Chairman Hasson comments he knows the Chief is due a review and due process. Member Weichelt asks Chief Jarvis if he recalls his contract stating a twelve month review, Chief Jarvis states yes that is his understanding as far as performance reviews and that his contract is a five (5) year contract with but it is modifiable. Additional discussion takes place on the budget selection options regarding the staffing along with some employment/ contract stipulations and concerns as well as future performance reviews that the District may be expect depending on the budget proposal selected. After that discussion and concerns are shared the motion is made to move forward with the proposed budget selection number two (2). The board Members comment on their reasoning for their selection of Budget Proposal Two (2); Member Weichelt comments that he feels it is important that there is further discussion about the Chief's review and the timeliness of it and potential repercussions if any in the event of modification to the contract, this is nothing personal, this is the matter of boots on the ground and making the most sense. Weichelt comments if there is a modification to Chief's contract other than what he would stipulate that he would like to be able to reevaluate at a later time in fairness to Chief Jarvis and to the members of the Whetstone Fire District.

MOTION:	Motion made to select Budget Proposal Two (2) for Posting
RESULT:	3 Members Voted Yes, 2 Members Voted No, Motion Approved by Majority Vote to Move Forward with the Posting of the Budget Proposal Two (2)
MOVED BY:	Motion made by Rodney Weichelt
SECONDED:	Motion seconded by Michael Estrada

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: Chairman Hasson asks about possible modification procedures of the budget, CFO Dyer informs that once the board approves the budget the income revenue and expense revenue amounts must remain the same, however, the internal structure of the budget can be modified throughout the year as the board and Chief see necessary. Member Estrada comments that he agrees with Member Weichelt, that this decision isn't anything personal and that this isn't an easy decision, but understands that morale is important as well as having what you need to do the job at a high level with the proper tools. He states that he hasn't been on the board long but within the last three meeting he has heard a lot of conflict and why were are trying to get the budget down to where it makes sense on paper and not just hearsay. Taking everyone's concerns and discussions and trying to answer everyone's questions, ultimately what is going to benefit the community better? This budget is the one that makes the most sense right now, this budget keeps us where we need to be with the supplies that we need and has less of an effect on the staff's salaries, as any reduction in their pay is huge, even at the 2 %. So taking everything into consideration, he feels the boots on the ground with proper budgeted supplies is where we need to be and agrees that desperate times call for desperate measures. Board Member Harris comments that this is a difficult decision but we have to do what is right for the community and although not

being happy with either of the budget proposals knows a choice has to be made that gives the crew the best chance to support the community.

Adjournment: 6:58pm

MOTION:	Motion made at this time Adjourn the meeting at 6:58pm
RESULT:	Approved, meeting adjourned all in favor none opposed
MOVED BY:	Motion made by Rodney Weichelt
SECONDED:	Motion seconded by Michael Estrada

Bruce Harris, Chairperson

Cathy Dyer, CFO

Approved: _____