



2422 N Firehouse Lane - Huachuca City, AZ 85616

**MINUTES OF THE WHETSTONE FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING 25TH FEBRUARY 2020; 0500 HOURS**

Call to Order/Roll Call/Affirmation of Quorum/Pledge of Allegiance:

Members Present: Dave Johnson, Steven Hasson, Donna Graybill, Michelle Bell, Pamela Cohen

Staff Present: Chief Bidon

Absent: None

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

Call to the Public: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

-Review Amendment and Discussion of Possible Action of Pubic Session Minutes from January 7th, 2020

No discussion

MOTION: Motion to approve the January 2020 Board Meeting Minutes

RESULT: All in favor; none opposed

MOVED BY: Steven Hasson

SECONDED: Donna Graybill

-Review Amendment and Discussion of Possible Action of Financial Reports

*Cathy Dyer was not present for this meeting and all members present had multiple questions regarding the financial reports. It was decided to hold off further review until Cathy could be consulted regarding the matter.”

MOTION: Move to continue discussion during the next meeting

RESULT: All in favor; none opposed

MOVED BY: Steven Hasson

SECONDED: Dave Johnson



Information regarding the following topic(s) presented by the fire chief:

Chief Bidon: We are currently at 174 calls for the year and finished January off with 85 calls. We have been called into the city multiple times to assist with calls and it has been working out very well. We had a barn fire last week- everyone did well on the incident. The Arizona State legislature passed a bill in the State House regarding firefighters and cancer, which resulted in insurance companies dropping firefighters from their plans. Our insurance has notified us that as of July 1st 2020 they will no longer be underwrite for fire departments or fire districts. We are currently looking for a new plan. We are currently spending about \$33,000 a year and this will go up because of this bill. I will pass on new information as I get it. We did nothing to cause our insurance company to drop us- this is purely due to the new bill. Additionally we have two full-timers and a part-timer leaving and we will be looking to fill these positions. We will be looking to hire two Captains and will be looking for candidates with degrees.

Michelle Bell: How is our truck?

Chief Bidon: It's there and the damage isn't as bad as we thought and we will be getting more information soon.

Michelle Bell: What's going on with the fence that was hit?

Chief Bidon: BC Foster has more information on that but I believe the cost was about \$2,000 and once we pay the owner we should be good.

Dave Johnson: Have we gotten cameras for the trucks yet?

Chief Bidon: I have not had a chance to do so. Chief Foster and I have been covering shifts but I will be getting to that as soon as I can.

Dave Johnson: I've seen some things recently about harm to firefighters caused by foam and I was wondering what we are doing to mitigate that?

Chief Bidon: We don't use foam.

Chief Bidon: Our hiring process takes at least 6 weeks because we have to post the job and then go through testing. We have posted the listing online on multiple websites.

Steven Hasson: Where are we on the ISO rating process.

Chief Bidon: We have all the information in and are waiting for them. I'm hoping that we will have it by July.

Board Members' Comments: None



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Future Agenda Items: None

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 0531 Hours

MOTION: Motion to adjourn the meeting

RESULT: All in favor; none opposed

MOVED BY: Donna Graybill

SECONDED: Steven Hasson

Michelle Bell, Chairperson

Hannah Sovar-Knox, Firefighter/CEP