



SUNSTITES-PEARCE FIRE DISTRICT

SERVING RESIDENTS OF THE SUNSTITES-PEARCE FIRE DISTRICT,
AND NEIGHBORING COCHISE COUNTY

Mailing Address: PO Box 507, 105 TRACY ROAD PEARCE, AZ 85625
PHONE: (520) 826-3645 FAX: (520) 826-3586

Sunsites-Pearce Fire District Governing Board of Directors Meeting March 20, 2012

- I. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 5:02 pm by Chairman Fino. There were no conflicts of interest to declare.
- II. Roll Call – Board Members present were:
 - Robert Fino
 - Rebel Jones
 - Bill McCarter
 - Candace Roll
- III. Pledge of Allegiance – Interim Fire Chief Paul Petersen led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- IV. Consent Agenda – Mr. McCarter moved to approve the minutes of the March 6th, February 21st and February 27th meetings. Ms. Roll seconded. Discussion followed. Vote: all in favor. Motion carried. There was no quorum of members who had attended the March 9th meeting to vote on approving those minutes. They were tabled until the next meeting.
- V. Call to the Public – none
- VI. Reports
 - A. Fire Chief's Report was presented by Interim Chief Paul Petersen. Mr. Petersen then introduced the Board to the District's new website. Mr. Petersen then made a presentation on "Fire Ops 101", a program that allows administrators and policy makers to experience "a day in the life of a fireman". The Board expressed interest in participating in the upcoming Fire Ops 101 to be held in Palominas in the near future.
 - B. Financial Reports were presented by Sherry Evertson. Discussion followed.
 - Action Item: Mr. Petersen was asked to talk to the County about the possibility of borrowing money to pay off our back taxes debt to the IRS.
 - Action Item: The Board asked for an itemized accounting of the cost of the errors made by the previous administrative staff.
 - Action Item: The Board asked Mr. Petersen to find out if proceeds from selling M-304 could be used for operations or if it would have to be put back in the reserve fund.

VII. Old Business

A. Fire Chief Candidates - Mr. Fino moved to take a preliminary vote of the members present to see if they had a quorum for the Chief position before deciding if the Board needed to go into executive session. Ms. Roll seconded. Discussion was held. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Votes were turned in by ballot. Results: Candidate Winston – 2
Candidate Wertz – 1
Candidate Petersen – 1

Since there was no consensus, Mr. Fino moved to table the decision until a special meeting to be held on March 29th at 5:00 pm. Mr. McCarter seconded. Vote: all members in favor. Motion carried.

B. Discuss/vote on going into executive session - Agenda item was bypassed.

C. Discussion of the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 budget process was held.

Action Item: Mr. Fino will add “plan a budget workshop meeting” to the agenda for the March 29th meeting.

D. Discussion of whether or not to retain Jo Green or Jo Carol Grizzle as consultant was discussed. Mr. McCarter moved to not retain either but instead to use our accounting firm on a quarterly basis to assure financial oversight. Ms. Roll seconded. Discussion followed. Vote: all in favor. Motion carried.

VIII. Call to the Public

Paul Petersen told the Board that he, and most of the SPFD firefighters he has spoken to, feel that Candidate Wertz would be the best choice for new Chief based on his qualifications.

Dominic Rydzak told the Board that he feels that Candidate Wertz has the best credentials to be the new Chief. He said that Mr. Wertz’s teaching experience would be beneficial in training new staff and volunteers to insure maximum safety of all employees.

Chris Waters told the Board that he, as well as Captain Steinberg through their discussions, supports Candidate Wertz for the new Chief position.

Chris Escarcega told the Board that he agrees with the previous speakers that Mr. Wertz has the best credentials to lead the staff of SPFD.

IX. Adjourn – There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Evertson

