



SUNSTITES-PEARCE FIRE DISTRICT

SERVING RESIDENTS OF THE SUNSITES-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 Regular Meeting July 21, 2020

1. **Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by Chairperson Tom Whiteman.
2. **Roll Call**
 - A. **Attendance and Confirmation of Quorum** - Chairperson Tom Whiteman, Board Clerk Lillian Reed, Board Member Albert Koester, Board Member Ralph Score and Board Member Camme Carlson-Watkins were present. Chairperson Whiteman acknowledged that a quorum was met.
 - B. **Board Members Absent** - No Board Member was absent.
 - C. **Declarations of Conflicts of Interest** - No Board Member declared a conflict of interest.
3. **The Pledge of Allegiance** - Interim Fire Chief Allen Hershey led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **Recognition of Guests** - Interim Chief Hershey acknowledged several community members were present and thanked them for their interest in the Fire District.
5. **Consent Agenda**
 - A. **Acceptance of Bank Statements.**
 - B. **Approval of Minutes** -
 - i. **June 16, 2020 Public Hearing**
 - ii. **June 16, 2020 Regular Meeting**Following discussion, Board Member Score moved to approve the consent agenda which is comprised of the Bank Statements and Minutes from the June 16, 2020 Public Hearing and the June 16, 2020 Regular Meeting. Board Clerk Reed seconded the motion.

Vote:
In favor - Chairperson Thomas Whiteman, Board Clerk Lillian Reed, Board Member Albert Koester, Board Member Ralph Score and Board Member Camme Carlson-Watkins.
Opposed - none
Motion carried
6. **Call to Public** - Ms. Joan Carlson and Ms. Joan Brown will present a donation to the District during Agenda item 9A. Mr. RA Fino and Mr. Josh Steinberg will give a brief statement on Agenda item 9H. Mr. Dan Sears and Ms. Alice Haertsch may have a question during Agenda item 9H.

Sunsites-Pearce Fire District
Regular Meeting
July 21, 2020

7. Financial Report

A Review, discuss, and possibly approve the financials for June 2020.

Following discussion, Board Member Score moved to approve the financial report for June 2020. Board Member Carlson-Watkins seconded the motion.

Vote:

In favor - Chairperson Thomas Whiteman, Board Clerk Lillian Reed, Board Member Albert Koester, Board Member Ralph Score and Board Member Camme Carlson-Watkins.

Opposed – none

Motion carried

8. Fire Chief's Report - The Fire Chief's Report was presented by Interim Fire Chief Allen Hershey. (See the attached Fire Chief's Report.)

9. New Business

A. Donation presentation by Ms. Joan Carlson and Ms. Joan Brown. Ms. Brown spoke regarding the June Dinners, held on Wednesdays at the Community Center, as they were prepared and served as a fundraising effort for the District. Ms. Brown stated how pleased she was with the showing of support and volunteerism for the District. Ms. Carlson and Ms. Brown donated the proceeds from those dinners to the District in the amount of \$3100.50.

The Interim Chief and Board acknowledged the donation and Thanked Ms. Brown and Ms. Carlson for their hard work and Thanked the community for their generosity.

B. Review and discuss updates in our Medicare situation since the last Board Meeting, including the District Court decision and our renewal with Noridian. Interim Fire Chief Hershey gave a brief overview of our Medicare situation. Our application was approved by Noridian giving us billing privileges dating back to May 2020. Our lawsuit against Medicare was ruled on and given back to the Medicare Administrative Law Judge for reconsideration regarding the advice Noridian gave us to remove Steinberg from Medicare duties, then not upholding that advice when SPFD did so. The District Court judge felt that was significant evidence in our case and wants it revisited.

C. Review, discuss and possible action to declare NET 30 as surplus and instruct the Chief on the handling of the surplus item. Following discussion, Board Member Score moved declare NET 30 as surplus and directed the Chief to post for auction on the Public Surplus website. Board Member Carlson-Watkins seconded the motion.

Vote:

In favor - Chairperson Thomas Whiteman, Board Clerk Lillian Reed, Board Member Albert Koester, Board Member Ralph Score and Board Member Camme Carlson-Watkins.

Opposed – none

Motion carried

Sunsites-Pearce Fire District
Regular Meeting
July 21, 2020

- D. Review, discuss and possible action to declare C30 as surplus and instruct the Chief on the handling of the surplus item.** Following discussion, Board Member Koester moved to declare C30 as surplus and instructed Chief Hershey to put up for auction on Public Surplus. Board Member Score seconded the motion.

Vote:

In favor - Chairperson Thomas Whiteman, Board Clerk Lillian Reed, Board Member Albert Koester, Board Member Ralph Score and Board Member Camme Carlson-Watkins.

Opposed – none

Motion carried

- E. Review, discuss and possible action to declare 13 pairs of Out dated structure boots, designated to be replaced by the 100 Club Grant as surplus and instruct the Chief on the handling of the surplus items.** Following discussion, Board Member Score moved to declare the 13 pairs of boots as surplus and left the handling of them to the discretion of the Chief. Board Clerk Reed seconded the motion.

Vote:

In favor - Chairperson Thomas Whiteman, Board Clerk Lillian Reed, Board Member Albert Koester, Board Member Ralph Score and Board Member Camme Carlson-Watkins.

Opposed – none

Motion carried

- F. Review, discuss and possible action to adopt the policy #304.4.1 Pension Funding Policy.** Following discussion, Board Member Score moved to adopt policy #304.4.1. Board Member Carlson-Watkins seconded the motion.

Vote:

In favor - Chairperson Thomas Whiteman, Board Clerk Lillian Reed, Board Member Albert Koester, Board Member Ralph Score and Board Member Camme Carlson-Watkins.

Opposed – none

Motion carried

- G. Review, discuss and possible action to approve the changes made to policy #303.3 Wildland Firefighter Job Description.** Following discussion, Board Clerk Reed moved to approve the changes to the policy #303.3 Wildland Firefighter Job Description. Board Member Score seconded the motion.

Vote:

In favor - Chairperson Thomas Whiteman, Board Clerk Lillian Reed, Board Member Albert Koester, Board Member Ralph Score and Board Member Camme Carlson-Watkins.

Opposed – none

Motion carried

- H. Review and discuss prior actions of the Board and Chief in reference to the Medicare situation since March 2017. Board may receive brief statements from former Fire Chief, Josh Steinberg and former Board Chairman, Robert Fino.** Mr. Fino gave a brief statement regarding the Board's stance at the time of the Medicare revocation. Mr. Steinberg gave a brief history of the events that led to the Medicare revocation and the

Sunsites-Pearce Fire District
Regular Meeting
July 21, 2020

steps that were taken at the time of the revocation. The public that requested to possibly address this situation had no questions regarding this Agenda item.

10. Requests from board members for future agenda items. –

- A. Board Member Score would like an agenda item to consider the use of volunteer services of community members.
- B. Board Member Koester would like an agenda item to revisit the Windsong dumpsite and what can be legally done about it.

11. Adjournment. - Board Member Score moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 p.m. Board Member Koester seconded the motion.

Vote:

In favor Chairperson Thomas Whiteman, Board Clerk Lillian Reed, Board Member Albert Koester, Board Member Ralph Score and Board Member Camme Carlson-Watkins.

Opposed – none

Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Allen