



Rio Verde Fire District
17619 E. Rio Verde Drive
Rio Verde, AZ 85263
Phone: (480) 471-2304
Fax: (480) 471-1821

**MINUTES OF THE
RIO VERDE FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS GENERAL SESSION**

August 26, 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. CALL TO ORDER.....	2
II. ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS.....	2
III. CERTIFICATE OF POSTING.....	2
IV. CALL TO THE PUBLIC.....	2
V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.....	3
VI. CLERK’S REPORT.....	3
VII. FINANCIAL REPORTS.....	3
VIII. COMMISSIONER OVERSEEING EMS.....	4
IX. DISCUSSION OF HEART FIT FOR DUTY CONTRACT.....	5
X. CHIEF’S REPORT.....	5
XI. DEPUTY CHIEF’S REPORT.....	6
XII. FIRE MARSHAL’S REPORT.....	6
XIII. ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER’S REPORT.....	7
XIV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.....	7
XV. BOARD COMMENTS.....	8
XVI. CHAIRPERSON COMMENTS.....	8
XVII. ADJOURNMENT.....	8



Rio Verde Fire District
17619 E. Rio Verde Drive
Rio Verde, AZ 85263
Phone: (480) 471-2304
Fax: (480) 471-1821

MINUTES OF THE RIO VERDE FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS GENERAL SESSION

August 26, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Monday, August 26, 2024, General Session of the Board of Directors was called to order by Chairperson George Kattermann at 9:00 a.m. in the RVFD Fire Station #442 Community Room, located at 17619 E. Rio Verde Dr., Rio Verde, AZ 85263.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Marty Bowin, Jeanne Finney, George Kattermann, Nancy Sewell (via telephone), and Pete Sturman

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Scott Krushak, Deputy Chief Kelvin Bartee, Fire Marshal Chris Cavanaugh, Administrative Manager Jennifer Jacobs, and Administrative Assistant Tatum Heinrich, Rio Verde Fire District

II. ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS

All commissioners were present, Commissioner Sewell by telephone.

III. CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

The District's Certificate of Posting was presented, certifying that the meeting's agenda had been posted at least twenty-four hours prior to the meeting. This certificate was posted at the fire station, Rio Verde Post Office, Rio Verde Community Center, the Tonto Verde Community Center, and on the Verde River website.

IV. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There was no response to the Call to the Public.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 29, 2024 – General Session

Commissioner Finney moved that the Board approve the July 29, 2024, General Session minutes as submitted. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Sewell and passed unanimously.

July 29, 2024 – Executive Session

Commissioner Sewell moved that the minutes of the July 29, 2024, Executive Session be approved as submitted. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Finney and passed unanimously.

VI. CLERK’S REPORT

The following meeting dates were listed:

- Monday, September 23, 2024, 9 a.m.
- Monday, October 28, 2024, 9 a.m.
- Monday, November 18, 2024, 9 a.m.

All meetings will be held in the Community Room at F/S #442, 17619 E. Rio Verde Drive, Rio Verde, AZ 85263.

Commissioner Sewell will attend the September session via telephone.

Since the three commissioners running for re-election are unopposed, there is no need for a formal fire district election.

VII. FINANCIAL REPORTS

Commissioner Sewell reported on the July 2024 financials:

Revenue	\$157,840.10
Expenses	\$404,371.78
Other Income (Expense)	\$419,884.93
Net Income (Loss)	\$173,353.25
Transfers to (from) Capital Fund	\$500,000.00
Adjusted Net Income	(\$326,646.75)
Monthly Budgeted Net Income (Loss)	(\$383,996.98)
YTD Actual Net Income (Loss)	\$173,353.25

Borrowing from Capital Fund	\$500,000.00
YTD Adjusted Net Income	(\$326,646.75)
YTD Budgeted Net Income	(\$383,996.98)
General Fund Operating Cash	\$169,344.02
Capital Fund Cash	\$1,471,040.47
Capital Fund Advances to General Fund	\$500,000.00
Capital Fund Equity	\$1,971,040.47
YTD Funds Borrowed from Capital Fund	\$500,000.00
YTD Funds Repaid to Capital Fund	0.00
Funds Owed to Capital Fund	\$500,000.00
Total Bond Fund Authorization*	\$5,101,858.64
Total Expenditures to Date	\$5,146,992.48
Total Interest to Date (Interest Earned)	\$47,801.46
Current Month Expenditures	-0-
Remaining Bond Equity	\$65.05

*The “Total Bond Fund Authorization” includes the \$5,000,000 bond, plus the cost of issuance.

Commissioner Sewell moved that the Board accept the July 2024 Financial Report as submitted. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Finney and passed unanimously.

Two hundred fifty-thousand (\$250,000) has been transferred from the capital to the general fund to cover expenses for the current month.

Commissioner Sewell moved that the Board accept the July 2024 Monthly Transaction Report as submitted. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Bowin and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Sewell moved that the Board accept the July 2024 bank reconciliations as submitted. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Bowin and passed unanimously.

VIII. COMMISSIONER OVERSEEING EMS

Commissioner Clerk Jeanne Finney reported the following:

Twelve (12) surveys (out of 24) were returned, 11 claiming “Outstanding” service, and one indicating “Needs Improvement.” The resident citing “Needs Improvement” explained that she was injured, and her friend arrived at FS #441 at 5 a.m. for assistance, and no one was immediately available to answer the door. A sign on the door states that anyone with an

emergency should call 9-1-1 for assistance, and she did not do so. Staff saw this as an isolated incident, and no further communication will be made with the injured resident.

It was recommended that an article be placed in each of the community publications this fall with information as to what to do in case of emergency or injury. It should describe the basics of how the stations respond and explain that if a (full) crew from one station is out on a call, the other station would respond in the event of a 9-1-1 call.

IX. DISCUSSION OF HEART FIT FOR DUTY CONTRACT

Chief Scott Krushak reviewed the healthy screening contract for Heart Fit for Duty, taking the place of the Banner Health contract previously used for occupational health. Heart Fit for Duty is more aligned with the NFPA standards, and the sole purpose of the company is to manage physicals, work-related illness or injury, and fitness for duty for firefighters. The proposed plan covers only sworn-in firefighters, though there is an option to include civilian employees.

Commissioner Finney moved that the Heart Fit for Duty medical contract be approved as submitted and reviewed within one year. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Bowin and passed unanimously.

X. CHIEF'S REPORT

Legislative Update

Chief Krushak mentioned that the legislature is not in session at this time but will reconvene on September 14, 2024. November 5 is the next general election, and all 90 of the state's legislative seats are up for election as well.

Type 3 Engine

The new Type 3 engine has been tested and is located in the bay for those wishing to view it after the meeting.

Staffing

Staff been successful in hiring the next four (4) employees, currently EMS workers going into the Phoenix Fire Academy. Two (2) will begin the academy on September 16, 2024, and the other two (2) will attend the academy in January 2025.

Two (2) paramedics will soon retire, one in October and the second on December 31. Since we have a minimum staffing requirement for paramedics, we will need to use overtime staffing for the number of paramedics required (2 on the engine and 1 on the ambulance with an EMT.) Two firefighters will soon go to paramedic training. For three months (September into December) we will be in a P&L payroll deficit until the number of credentialed paramedics is met.

House Fire

There was a total house fire in Trilogy recently, believed to have been caused by a lightning strike. The firefighters acted defensively, since the roof was collapsing. It was an unoccupied model home, and no one was injured.

The fire was located in the attic space; consequently, there are no sprinklers located in that space. Water pressure was not a problem; all operations went smoothly.

Qasimyar vs. Maricopa County

The next step in Qasimyar vs. Maricopa County is that the Maricopa County Treasurer's Office will deposit money into the district's account and debit it within minutes in order to pay the tax due. This will be completed by the end of the year.

Search and Rescue

Commissioner Bowin asked if the district had any plans to deploy drones as a means of locating lost individuals. Chief Krushak replied that "search and rescue" actually lies within the jurisdiction of the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office. In the case of a missing person, the district would use the automatic aid system, sending the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office as the primary responder. The district would then ask the Scottsdale Fire District or the Phoenix Fire District to deliver a drone and drone handler. (An FAA license is required to fly a drone.)

XI. DEPUTY CHIEF'S REPORT

Boundary Change Update

Paperwork for the two properties that are adjacent has been sent. Once that paperwork is returned, they will be included in the Rio Verde Fire District.

Brush Truck

The new brush truck was delivered fully functional on August 16. Each shift is being trained on every operation of the truck.

Brush Fire

On August 21 there was a brush fire in the McDowell Mountains. It encompassed approximately 90 acres total and was believed to be caused by lightning.

XII. FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

Fire Marshal Chris Cavanaugh reported the following for the month of July:

Permits issued:

Sprinklers	0	12
Propane	0	12
Other	0	0
YTD (All Types)	89	111
Project Review	1	
Total Inspections	25	

Nine hundred and sixty-six (966) homes have been closed by Trilogy as of the end of July.

XIII. ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER'S REPORT

Wildland Expense Update

Administrative Manager Jennifer Jacobs advised there was \$14,195.34 billed for the Boulder View fire on August 14, 2024. An additional \$78, an administrative cost, was also billed for a total of \$14,266.32. There is a deposit pending.

Budget Overview

The new budget overview will be disseminated to staff and Board members.

Draft Audit

A draft audit may be received within one or two weeks.

Retirement Funding

Commissioner Bowin asked when the Board might see a funding level for the Local PSPRS; the chief will update the Board as soon as a pension meeting is held.

Workers' Compensation

A total of \$90,000 was budgeted for the current fiscal year for the audit of the prior fiscal year for "Workers' Compensation." Because the actual amount for workers' compensation was only \$16,000, the district will be under budget for the current fiscal year.

XIV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

XV. BOARD COMMENTS

There were no further Board comments.

XVI. CHAIRPERSON COMMENTS

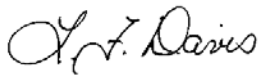
There were no further chairperson comments.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

At the conclusion of agenda item, Commissioner Sewell signed off, and the rest of the staff and Board moved to the bays to view the new brush truck.

At 10:25 Commissioner Bowin moved that the Board adjourn. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Finney and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Libby Floyd Davis
My Personal Secretary (From Voice Recording)