



NORTHWEST FIRE/RESCUE DISTRICT

SERVING RESIDENTS OF THE NORTHWEST FIRE DISTRICT, THE FLOWING WELLS
COMMUNITY AND THE TOWN OF MARANA
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MINUTES OF THE NORTHWEST FIRE DISTRICT REGULAR GOVERNING BOARD MEETING August 23, 2011

Call to Order/Roll Call/Affirmation of Quorum

Vice Chairman Nassi called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Northwest Fire District Training Facility Conference Room, 8165 N. Wade Road, Marana, Arizona.

Present: Richard Nassi, Vice Chairman
Bruce A. Kaplan, Clerk
Anka Mischel
Bill Daniell

Absent: George Carter, Chairman (excused)

It was determined a quorum existed with four of five members present at 6:00 p.m.

Salute to the Flag of the United States of America

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Richard Nassi.

Presentation of Service Awards

Assistant Chief Brandt presented Kyle Canty with a Captain's badge and congratulated him on his promotion and for 10 years of service with NWFD; Captain Canty's wife was present to pin his badge.

Public Forum

Patty Miller, resident in the Camino De Oeste area, spoke about her concerns that Rural Metro will be discontinuing fire protection services in her area. She stated that NWFD has provided information regarding this situation, but many of the residents are still questioning how everything will be handled. She asked the following two questions:

1. What will happen to the residents who had prior contracts with Rural Metro and the proposed annexation is not completed by September 30?



2. If the annexation was moving forward, would it move forward as stated or will there be talk about changing the districting of the annexation to help it go through easier if certain areas are causing it not to go through?

Richard Nassi invited Ms. Miller to meet with Carla Reece to answer her questions. Attorney Benavidez advised that because the annexation was not on the agenda, Board members could not engage in discussion on this item.

Lee Mellor, District resident, spoke about the vacated position on the Pension Board that was created by Dr. Pedicone's resignation and announced that he would like to submit his name for consideration to be appointed to the position. He remarked that he has over 40 years experience in public service.

Captain Canty, President of Local Union 3572, was present to answer any questions.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Minutes of the July 26, 2011, Regular Governing Board Meeting

Approval of a Pay Increase of 50 Cents an Hour for the Seasonal Wildland Firefighter Positions

Adoption of Resolution No. 2011-032 Approving Amendment No. 1 to the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Pima County Community College District for Provision of Fire Science Education and Emergency Medical Training Programs

Richard Nassi made the following motion, seconded by Anka Mischel and approved unanimously with four ayes:

Move to approve items A through C on the August 23, 2011, Consent Agenda as presented.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Fire Chief's Report – This is a summary of the activities of the Fire Chief and Administrative Staff concerning each of the District's Divisions including: Fire Suppression, Emergency Medical Services, Administrative Services, Finance, Human Resources, Special Projects, Logistics, Life Safety Services and Wild Land Fire Fighting; the report might also include Administrative Activities in Annexations, Intergovernmental Relations, Community Assistance Programs, Fleet and Equipment, Labor and Management Relations, District Revenues and Expenditures, Strategic Planning, Information Technology, Status of Construction Projects, Status of Facilities, Public Outreach and Training

The reports were provided in the packet; there was no discussion.

Finance Director's Reports – This report is a summary of the District's Financial Status including: Monthly Disbursements Report, Revenue and Expenditure Reports, and Real Estate Tax Revenue Spreadsheets. The Board will be asked to approve the District's Monthly Disbursements Report

Monthly financial reports were provided in the packet. Dave Gephart explained that some difficulties were encountered, coupled with the timing of the Governing Board meeting, and when reports needed to be submitted for the agenda, it contributed to many of the standard reports not being able to be included in the packet. He spoke about the following:

- We will be drawing off reserves for several months.
- Property tax collections will be significantly curtailed over the next 2 to 3 months.
- Beginning fund balances were not on the report because last fiscal year has not yet closed.
- Complete financial reports are anticipated to be presented at the September meeting.
- The pooled cash report showed total reconciled bank balances as of July 31; total for combined accounts is slightly over \$16.5 million.
- Cash on deposit dedicated to bond projects is approximately one-half of the \$16.5 million, with the other half consisting of operating funds.
- \$8.5 million will be sufficient funds to carry us through the next few months.
- Taxes will be levied in September; tax revenue will be remitted to the District in October.

Richard Nassi made the following motion, seconded by Anka Mischel and approved unanimously with four ayes:

Move to approve the District's monthly disbursements report as presented.

BUSINESS

Discussion, Presentation, and Possible Direction to Staff regarding Senate Bill No. 1609 and its Financial Impact on the District and to the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System's (PSPRS) Employees and Retirees

Carla Reece introduced Robert Ortega, PSPRS Local Board and Employer Liaison, who spoke about the impact of Senate Bill No. 1609 on current and future District employees and retirees.

In response to Richard Nassi asking what NWFD's contributions would be for retired firefighters who were in PSPRS in another organization and joined NWFD in a position covered by PSPRS, Mr. Ortega explained that NWFD would be required to participate in the PSPRS Alternate Contribution Rate. Areas that would determine if the Alternate

Contribution Rate would be utilized are: (1) is that person a retiree (2) what position the person will be in and (3) if they will be contributing to PSPRS. The rate is 10.51% per retiree; employer contribution would be \$27,000. This would not apply to part-time contract persons.

Bill Daniell asked if an employee could participate in PSPRS if they entered DROP after December 31. Mr. Ortega explained that it depended on their credit service, and anyone with less than 20 years of credited service on or after January 1, 2011, would have an opportunity to participate in DROP and would be required to contribute at the regular rate that active members contribute.

Discussion and Possible Action Approving the Resignation of Dr. John Pedicone from the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System Local Pension Board and Discussion and Possible Action to Appoint a Pension Board Citizen Representative to Fill the Vacancy

Richard Nassi made the following motion, seconded by Anka Mischel and approved unanimously with four ayes:

Move to accept Dr. Pedicone's resignation as a member of the Local Pension Board.

During discussion of the motion, Mr. Nassi asked if the Board would like to receive letters of interest from additional applicants interested in applying for the position. Ms. Reece commented that nobody else had applied. Attorney Benavidez explained that the bylaws require an appointment within 60 days, and no formal procedure was required. Ms. Mischel felt that Mr. Mellor should be appointed because of his experience.

Anka Mischel made the following motion, seconded by Bruce Kaplan and approved unanimously with four ayes:

Move to approve Lee Mellor's appointment to serve the remainder of Dr. Pedicone's term until December 31, 2011, as a member of the Local Pension Board, effective the next Pension Board Meeting.

Discussion and Update regarding the City of Tucson's 9-1-1 Dispatching Telephone System, which is the System used for Dispatching the District's Emergency Services; Possible Discussion concerning the Agreement the District has with the City of Tucson for Dispatching Services; and the Board may vote to go into Executive Session on this Item, Pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03 (A)(1) and (2), for the Purposes of Receiving Legal Advice and to Discuss Medical Records which are Protected by Law from Disclosure

Richard Nassi made the following motion, seconded by Anka Mischel and approved unanimously with four ayes:

Move to go into executive session, pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03 (A)(1) and (2), for the purposes of receiving legal advice and to discuss medical records which are protected by law from disclosure.

Invited to attend the executive session were Attorney Benavidez, Administrative Manager Carla Reece, Assistant Chief Pesqueira, and Assistant Chief Brandt.

The meeting recessed at 6:40 p.m. to go into executive session and reconvened at 7:06 p.m.

Richard Nassi made the following motion, seconded by Anka Mischel and approved unanimously with four ayes:

Move to close the executive session.

Richard Nassi made the following motion, seconded by Anka Mischel and approved unanimously with four ayes:

Move to direct staff to monitor closely the City's 9-1-1 system, and the City's progress in resolving any deficiencies in the system, and report back to the Board.

There was no discussion on this item.

Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Purchase of 23 Mobile Vehicle Data Modems from Nexus iSR, Inc.

Jim Long explained that the purchase of 39 modems last March was funded through a Tucson Urban Area Security Grant. The units were installed in District and consortium vehicles. Additional modems are still needed in the District's remaining vehicles in order to connect to the new computer aided dispatch system.

Richard Nassi made the following motion, seconded by Bruce Kaplan and approved unanimously with four ayes:

Move to purchase 23 Nexus Hawk Mobile Vehicle Data modems for the connection of District apparatus to the computer aided dispatch system.

Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Purchase of 39 Mobile Computers and Accessories for the Replacement of Obsolete Systems

Jim Long explained that 50 computers were purchased in 2006 which cannot be upgraded with the necessary specifications to operate with the new software. The new computers will be sufficient to install in all fleet and reserve trucks. The total price includes a no-fault, three-year warranty.

There was discussion that the computers are permanently mounted into the vehicles, but it is possible for computers in administrative vehicles to be removed and used in the stations if needed, but it was unlikely that would occur. It was suggested that the old computers could possibly be utilized for training purposes.

Richard Nassi made the following motion, seconded by Bruce Kaplan and approved unanimously with four ayes:

Move to purchase 39 General Dynamics GD8000 ruggedized computers at the price of \$3,635 for the device, 39 three year no fault warranties at \$280.25 for each and 34 Docking units each at \$524.69. This includes sales taxes in the amount of \$14,524.01. This procurement will be through The Cooperative Purchasing Network (TCPN). Grand total to be funded from Capital improvement funds is \$185,058.22.

Adoption of Resolution No. 2011-033 Approving a Revised Fee Schedule for Emergency and Non-Emergency District Services, including: Fees for Use of District Facilities, Standby Fees, Fleet Services Fees, Public Records Fees, Community Outreach and Training Fees, Fire Code Compliance and Inspection Fees, and Fees for Response Capability

Assistant Chief Pesqueira reported the following revisions to the fee schedule that was provided in the packet:

- Page 9 – Fleet mechanic rate to \$100 per hour and various parts adjustments
- Page 13 – residential plats have been added
- Page 14 – out-of-district inspection fees were added

Richard Nassi made the following motion, seconded by Bill Daniel and approved unanimously with four ayes:

Move to adopt Resolution No. 2011-033 approving a revised Fee Schedule for emergency and non-emergency District services, including: fees for use of District facilities, standby fees, Fleet Services fees, public records fees, community outreach and Training fees, fire code compliance and inspection fees, and fees for response capability.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Future Agenda Items [A Governing Board Member may bring forth general topics for a future meeting agenda. The Governing Board may not discuss, deliberate or take any action on the topics presented, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02 (H).]

1. Discussion and possible action for options to utilize the 2006 mobile data terminals

ADJOURNMENT

Richard Nassi made the following motion, seconded by Bill Daniell and approved unanimously with four ayes:

Move to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 p.m.

Minutes approved by the Northwest Fire District Board at its September 27, 2011, Regular Governing Board Meeting.



Bruce A. Kaplan, Board Clerk