

Minutes to the Regular Meeting of the Sonoita-Elgin Fire District Board of Directors
Monday, 16 Sept 2013
6 p.m.

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call – Pfitzenmaier, Rinaldi, Berry, Bianchi, present; Izzo absent (with notice).

Approval of Minutes to meeting of Meetings of Aug 19, 2013; motion by Pfitzenmaier, seconded by Rinaldi; change approve for name change for approval of motion to adjourn from Rinaldi to Pfitzenmaier; Motion carried.

Call to the Public – none signed in.

Chief's Report – Chief De Wolf advised the Board on the following; Website visits, call load (run report), report on Fuels Treatment Grant status, Chipper Day status – probably around the end of October /first of November; Financials, All of you received a packet of the new financials we'll be sending out. The first thing in your packet is the paper that is for the Board members present to sign that they have reviewed the financials, it includes Balance Sheet, P & L, reconciled bank accounts and reports from county financial statements and a Cash Flow Forecast. Are there any questions? Pfitzenmaier – I was overwhelmed and wondered if we had to do this? De Wolf – Yes. Every month you will email the packet so you can sign the document that you reviewed the packet. The Cash Flow Forecast will show if we're falling behind on any budget item. Bianchi - The comment I would like to make is that the Board recognize Vicki Rutter's help in us get this all together. De Wolf – Now, I'm saying this for the public that is here; every month the Board will receive these financials. Once the Board signs this paper, we'll send the documents to our webmaster and they should be up within 48 hours of so, they'll be up on our website for the public to view each month. For the public's view we will continue to go through the regular financials as we've done in the past; balance sheet and P&L statement. De Wolf went over the basic P & L (public view) for the Board and public that was present. Grants – De Wolf reviewed the current grants the District holds; Fuels Mitigation, SAFER R & R (closing out), and the Repeater grant, Upcoming grants – FEMA claims the grant will open in October/November.

Current Events – None

New Business - Change of meeting Date from third Monday to forth Monday of every month: For last twenty years we've met for the third Monday of every month. I've gone through our policies and we have no date listed, so we don't have to make a policy change. Therefore we can vote on this tonight. With the changes made with HB2572, we're asking to move the Board Meeting time to the forth Monday of the month instead of the third Monday, to give us time to meet the new requirements relating to HB 2572 and our constraints by arrival dates of bank statements, to give management more time to meet the requirements. Bianchi, motion to discuss the issue of changing our normal meeting date to the forth Monday of the month and vote on that. Seconded by Berry. Pfitzenmaier; okay with me. Rinaldi, Okay. Berry – it's fine with me. Berry – I would like to say that when the Budget and Finance Committee meet, we felt that it was putting too much pressure on the administrative staff and we recommended moving the date. Pfitzenmaier – All in favor of moving the monthly Board meeting from the third Monday of the month to the forth Monday of the month say aye; Aye (Bianchi, Rinaldi, Berry, Pfitzenmaier), motion carried.

Budget & Finance Committee – We met with the Chief to go over the financial reports in detail to see if there were any issues that were not addressed, made a couple of suggestions, and I guess the most important thing is for Board members to be sure you read these things ‘cause you’re signing off on them. Then we discussed adding a member from the public on the committee, I’ve spoken to John Fink, so we are recommending the Board add John Fink to the committee. Rinaldi, I have one comment, there is a lot of paperwork to read and I just hope every Board member reads this, it’s a lot of responsibility. Vote for John Fink joining the Budget & Finance Committee... Aye by all, motion carried. Reminder by Bianchi that committee members being held to Arizona’s Open Meeting Laws.

Audience Comments – Richard Cardillo – Chief kind of answered part of my questions in reference to the new finances. My suggestions would be is that going to be available before the meeting so the public will have the records in hand. De Wolf – the documents will be available to the public after the board has approved them. De Wolf explained how the public is able to obtain a copy. He went on to explain that the District will be placing the approved financials on the internet for public access.

Board member comments - Pfitzenmaier – I would like to thank John, Vicki and these three folks sitting next to Vicki for all the work done on this finances 2572. This is burdensome and got to be done and bet you there isn’t another fire district in the state that’s as ready to go as we are.

Motion for adjournment by Rinaldi, seconded by Bianchi,. Meeting adjourned.