

**Minutes to the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the
Sonoita-Elgin Fire District
17 November 2008**

Meeting called to order at 6 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call – all board members present – Izzo, Rutter, Ruppel, Daniels & Parker. Also in attendance were Chief DeWolf, Matt Parrilli, Bob Barnhill, Gary Solier, Jerry Bianchi, K. Venos and K. Goodwin.

Approval of Minutes –

October 20, 2008 – Rutter – would like to correct the wording under the Treasurer’s report from “funding” to “tax revenues.” Motion by Ruppel to approve the minutes as corrected, Parker seconded, motion carried.

Special Meeting – Daniels asked to have the approval of these minutes moved up to the next regular meeting as these minutes had just this afternoon been given to the Administrative Assistant.

Scheduled Public Appearances - none

Call to the Public –

Jerry Bianchi – a couple of things –

1. Congratulations to the board on the elections. I think the result shows an affirmation of what you’ve been doing by the public and they like the direction you’re taking with the Fire District.
2. Structure Fire – A week ago Saturday I was listening to the radio (as you know I am a dispatcher for the District) when I heard the page-out for the structure fire. I went outside where I could see a red glow followed by flames. Shortly after the first unit arrived on scene. I listened to the volunteers as they arrived on scene, listened to BC Venos, listened to the vehicles responding; the thing that impressed me most was that shortly after the first unit arrived on scene, the flames were knocked down. Very professional, communications were excellent. I am very proud of the group, very proud of the District. You should be too.

Chief’s Report – Thank you, Jerry. Chief DeWolf presented information on the following topics.

Run Report – 30 calls for October, 23 daytime, 7 nighttime

Structure fire report – An achievement of 6 years building the base of professionally trained volunteers and staff to handle structure fires. This proved we have achieved one of our goals I was very impressed with how it went down – a great day for me.

Izzo – How many people responded?

DeWolf – 16.

Izzo – Was the structure a total loss?

DeWolf – Due to the smoke damage it will probably be classified as a total loss.

Izzo – Is there any one thing that would have make our response better?

DeWolf – No.

DeWolf – The other thing we achieved was due to 826. In our thinking, when we built 826, we wanted a Quick-attack truck – it did exactly what we designed it to do – to get there, knock the

fire down, the engine (821) was there shortly thereafter, they were able to make an interior attack with the engine. The knock down was all done from the exterior of the building through a window. Very little water damage.

Izzo – Was that a 911 call. (Yes – DeWolf) Do we know the time lapse from the 911 call to the dispatch?

DeWolf – It was very fast. SO Dispatch got the call at 1854, we got the dispatch at 1855, I received my telephone page at 1856. All the training of the past 6 years paid off.

Wildland Ignitions Class – held for the past two weekends, 6 attendees from the District.

Extrication Class on Tuesday – 6 will attend from the District

Structure I & II Class beginning in January at the Station.

First Wildfire – about 15 acres, started by an electric fence.

Rutter – We've budgeted money for extrication, have we worked on that?

DeWolf – we've started, but we haven't gotten quotes yet.

Daniels – Would you care to update the board on the Pima County CON?

DeWolf – talked to the DHS this afternoon; they had a question on our response time and they've asked us to lengthen them; we're hoping to hear any day now.

Chairman's Report – we will have an agenda protocol at the next meeting.

Treasurer's Report – A balance sheet and the financial statement were presented by Rutter.

Update on Elections – Yeah! As we all know, it went very well for us. Statute requires that his body canvas the results of the election before we obtain the election certificate for the board members (which has to be in hand before an elected official takes their oath of office), then submit a certified document that canvases the result of the election. We're probably going to have 2 special meetings before December 1st.

Update on Lawsuit – Our attorneys have received a letter from judge Roll requiring arguments for the continuance of the lawsuit, both sides must respond by December 15th, 2008.

Discussion & Action Calendar Items

Board Policies – chief DeWolf introduced the topic. Daniels moved to adopt the Board Policies as corrected from the last meeting, seconded by Parker. Discussion included a few minor corrections by Izzo. Motion withdrawn by Daniels, who then restated the motion – Move to adopt the board policies inclusive of the corrections made by Izzo and to include the new sentence... "if three board members submit an item to the clerk for the agenda, that item will be placed on the agenda." Parker seconded, motion carried.

Credit Cards – Rutter – we are in the process of opening a credit card account with Wells Fargo. Tuesday, Joseph, Katie and I are meeting with Tony Hannigan of Wells Fargo. We want the credit cards handled more efficiently. (DeWolf) The previous cards were rolled over from SEESI, they were in individual names. We want to close down the SEESI account. We've done a year of business with Wells Fargo and are now ready to move the credit cards to Wells Fargo. Rutter – this is an informational issue for the board.

Line of Credit – required by Santa Cruz County and Chase bank. We need to sign and notarize the letter and return it to Chase Bank. Izzo will sign and notarize the letter.

Thanking Busy Bees – Izzo – would like the board, to have some formal way of recognizing the Busy Bees. The Chief holds a thank you dinner for the volunteers; any time any group holds something for our benefit (district) we should attend. I'm thinking of something in line with a plaque. DeWolf – We still have firefighters, dispatchers, EMTs, support personnel – why are we singling out the Busy Bees. Ruppel – when you single out one group, you can create hurt feelings with other groups or individuals. We've been through difficult times; the last thinking is to create something where there is nothing. We should leave it at the dinner at year end.

Base Hospital Contract – DeWolf – Our current base-hospital contract has expired and the new one needs to be signed. Motion by Daniels to have the Chief sign the contract, seconded by Rutter, motion carried.

Radio Purchase – would like to purchase 26 new radios as budgeted. So I'm letting you know that I am going to make the purchase. Ruppel. We thank the chief for the information.

Set Organizational meeting – November 24th, 2008 at 6 p.m. Izzo asked Daniels to contact Ian Tomlinson.

Public Comments –

Gary Soliere - Vicky, are you saying that as County Treasurer Ramirez hadn't sent out the bills, you couldn't get funds? *No, because of the Line of Credit. (Rutter)*

Matt Parrilli – Vicki, on your balance sheet there is an equity transfer of \$209K. Is that cash or in kind? *Equipment and cast, all the assets that SEESI had as of May 31, 2007. (Rutter)*

DeWolf – Reminder to the board, community Thank You from 4:30 to 8 p.m., Friday, Nov. 21.

Board Comments –

Parker – would like – in some way – to have a meeting of the minds with those folks who were against the district.

DeWolf – I want to build a strategic planning committee of residents of the district, to determine How we should move forward with the district. It has got to be a meeting to put good brains together and move in a forward direction.

Ruppel – I think the committee is a healthy way to accomplish this, by requiring regular attendance, we'll weed out those who are truly interested in moving the district forward.

Daniels – I caution against action at this time

Izzo – this is not an action item, simply discussion.

Adjournment – Motion by Daniels to adjourn; seconded by Parker; motion carried.