**Sonoita-Elgin Fire District**

**Special Meeting Agenda**

**October 1, 2024, at 10:30 am**

**PURSUANT TO A.R.S. §38.431.02**

**Notice is hereby given to the General Public that the Sonoita-Elgin Fire District (SEFD) Board of Directors (SEFD is governed by a five-member Board pursuant to A.R.S. §48-803.B) will hold a special meeting on the date noted above. The meeting will be held in the Meeting Room at the Fire Station at 3173 N. Highway 83, Sonoita, AZ. The meeting is open to the general public and will begin at 10:30 am. Local time**

The following agenda items are scheduled for consideration by the SEFD Board of Directors at the board meeting. Action or decisions may or may not be taken on any or all items. Agenda items may or may not be considered in the order listed:

1. Roll Call and Confirmation of Quorum

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

3. Call to the Public

• Members of the public are invited to address the Board and/or submit written comments for inclusion in the minutes. Members of the Board shall not discuss or take legal action on matters raised during an open call to the public, unless the matters are properly noticed on the agenda for discussion and legal action.

4. Review, discussion and possible action - Santa Cruz County litigation timeline Tolling Agreements - Beginning around 2014 and continuing through April 2024, former Santa Cruz County Treasurer Elizabeth Gutfahr (“Gutfahr”) is alleged to have embezzled approximately $38,712,371 of funds held by the Treasurer (“Gutfahr’s Fraud”). These funds were taken from the County, the Treasurer, and the school and fire districts within the County. The districts, including SEFD, may have legal claims or causes of action against Gutfahr, the County, the Treasurer, the State of Arizona and the Auditor General arising from Gutfahr’s Fraud.

To give all the parties time to investigate and research the legal issues, the parties wish to toll the legal deadlines for filing certain claims and or lawsuits to recover losses from Gutfahr’s Fraud. Presently, SEFD estimates its losses at approximately $40,000 over the ten-year period of Gutfahr’s Fraud. The Board might meet in executive, [closed] session, pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03 (A)(3) and (4), for legal advice and to consider its position with respect to litigation and the proposed agreements to toll the applicable litigation timelines. Any legal action will be taken in open session.

The Board previously approved tolling agreements with Gutfahr, the County, the Treasurer, the State of Arizona and the Auditor General arising from Gutfahr’s Fraud. However, the State and Auditor General are requiring changes to their tolling agreement. The Board must determine whether to accept the terms of the revised tolling agreement or proceed with filing a notice of claim against the state parties.

5. Consideration of agenda items for future meetings

Governing board members, legal counsel and/or members of the public may attend via SEFD Zoom account. Meeting invite-   
  
Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81911501312>  
  
Meeting ID: 819 1150 1312

*NOTICE: The Sonoita-Elgin Fire District Board of Directors may go into executive session for*

*the purpose of obtaining legal advice from the fire district's attorney(s) on any of the above*

*agenda items pursuant to A.R.S.§38-431.03(A)(3).*

The undersigned hereby attests that a copy of this meeting agenda was duly posted at the

following locations:

A) Sonoita Post Office – 3166 N. Highway 83, Suite 1, Sonoita, AZ

B) [Sonoita-Elgin](http://www.sefd911.org) Fire Station – 3173 N. Highway 83, Sonoita, AZ

Governing board meeting agenda dated and posted:

Date/Time: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Individuals with disabilities who need reasonable accommodations to attend or communicate at a District meeting, or who require this information in alternate format, may contact the District at (520) 455-5854 to make their needs known. Requests should be made as early as possible so there is sufficient time to make accommodations.**