



Yucca Fire District
12349 Frontage Rd., PO Box 327
Yucca, Arizona 86438
(928) 766-2300
www.yuccafire.com

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE
YUCCA FIRE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD**

The Governing Board of the Yucca Fire District met in regular session on **March 21, 2022 at 8:00 a.m.** The meeting was held at the Yucca Fire Station #1 located at 12349 Frontage Road, Yucca, AZ 96438. The Board may vote to go into executive session on any agenda item, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A) (3) for legal advice with the District's attorney on matters as set forth in the agenda item. Board members or other participants may attend by telephonic conference. The following topics and any variables thereto, will be subject to Board consideration, discussion, approval, or other action. All items are set for possible action.

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER.

- Chairman Knowles called the meeting to order at approximately 8:00 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS.

- Clerk Kayla Carr, Director Jim Fox and Chairman Richard Knowles were present.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES ~ Consent Agenda

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes of January 20, 2022
- B. Special Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2022
- C. Executive Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2022

- Clerk Carr noted that there is an error on the January 20, 2022 minutes, item 7 call to the public says Golden Valley Fire District instead of Yucca Fire District.
 - Clerk Carr motioned to approve the minutes of January 20, 2022 with the noted correction. Director Fox 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.
 - Clerk Carr motioned to approve the remaining minutes on the consent agenda as written. Director Fox 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.

5. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE.

- A. January and February 2022 Operational Report. (Chief Martin)
 - Chief Martin reported the call summary for January and February were 4 total calls. 3 EMS calls, 1 fire calls that Yucca responded to. Three calls were mutual aid from Golden Valley Fire.
- B. Fire Chief's Report. *The governing body may not propose, discuss, deliberate or take legal action on this matter unless the specific matter is described in detail. Therefore, action taken as a result of the Chief's report will be limited to directing staff to study the matter or scheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date. (A.R.S. 38-431.02. K)*
 - District properties
 - Repairs are being done on the station generator, when the building was torn down the power wires for the generator were left protruding from underground. If the generator had been started those wire would have been live wires. Also, the there was no power to keep the battery charged to the generator, so a solar panel was added which had failed. Devault Electric will finish the repairs this week.
 - No other issues
 - Equipment
 - Attack 1315 the air conditioning has gone out. Mechanic will be coming to look at the issue.

- 6. BUSINESS.** *Public wishing to speak on agenda items must complete a speaker card and present to the Board Clerk prior to the start of the meeting.*
- A. Discussion and possible action regarding: Approval of the January and February 2022 financial reports. (Administration)
- Comptroller Kindelberger stated the January income \$15,275.74, expenses \$16,079.75; February income \$2,946.59, expenses \$8,321.99. Bank balances ending February 28, 2022, warrant account \$190,450.94; payroll account \$8,616.16; petty cash \$23.00. Total cash on hand \$199,090.10.
 - Director Fox motioned the Board approve the January and February 2022 financials as presented. Clerk Carr 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.
- B. Discussion and possible action regarding: Determination letter from Secretary of State regarding complaint filed against notary Sheri Robbins. (Knowles)
- Chairman Knowles motioned to take no action. Clerk Carr 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.
- 7. CALL TO THE PUBLIC.** *Consideration and discussion of comments and complaints from the public. Those wishing to address the Yucca Fire District Board need not request permission in advance. The Fire District Board is not permitted to discuss or take action on any item raised in the call to the public, unless the item is specifically noticed for discussion or legal action. However, individual Board members may be permitted to respond to criticism directed to them. Otherwise, the Board may direct that staff review the matter or that the matter be placed on a future agenda. The Fire District Board cannot discuss or take legal action on any issue raised during the Call to the Public that is not on the Agenda due to restrictions of the Open Meeting Law.*
- Bruce Tennant – I own a propane business in Yucca and a lot of customers ask me questions, which I will ask the Board. Comptroller Kindelberger informed the public that the board can not answer any questions that are not on the agenda. Mr. Tennant stated he would like these questions to be answered at the next board meeting. How does the public get the last 6 board meeting minutes in a digital format? How does the public get the rules that govern the board? How do we change back to a five-member board? Why don't we have meetings each month? Mr. Tennant suggested that during the 20 days a month that the fire station is not staffed that we open the station as a volunteer fire department. Start training the volunteers with the monies in the Arizona Funds for volunteer firefighter training. So, the district will be always manned. I personally had a medical emergency and had a customer drive me to the hospital, if I had called 911 it would have been an hour to respond and another 40 minutes to the hospital. We need changes, Golden Valley Fire is not working. One of my customers had a mobile home fire and lost everything by the time Golden Valley Fire got there. We need to get the money transferred back to Yucca and make it a 100% volunteer department or get something changed. I worked hard to get you elected, I thought you were going to kick a** and take names. How did we end up with Golden Valley Fire? Desert Hill Fire has beat us to the fires and car accidents even when we had a full-time fire department.
 - Sandy Samuels – (addressed Mr. Tennant's comments) At one point in time this fire department had \$1 million dollars in the bank. They had a radio company that robbed the district, they had a Chief that went to jail, another Chief robbed the district blind with her housing expense. Then some guy tells the department he is going to build a high rise, so the district goes out and spends \$356k on a ladder truck, and the guy never build nothing. I'm not speaking about this board. Five-member board is good but now you have five people arguing instead of three. Those people (prior boards) had no fiscal responsibility, no understand, nothing; they were idiots. That's how you got to Golden Valley Fire, somebody had to step in, and they were willing. As far as Desert Hills Fire getting here first, you are getting a free ride, Desert Hills doesn't even ask for gas money. There are hundreds of residents at Santa Fe 25 miles outside the district and they are getting services. Remember what Rural Metro did in Scottsdale, only protecting properties that pay their fee. These residents in Santa Fe aren't paying into the district, why should they get service? How should Santa Fe get services and who should pay for the services? Thank you very much.
 - Donald Perkins – We talk about the expenses and the balances due of this department, where are those expenses being spent? Where is this money coming from? What are we paying for here? What is going to happen to this building, is this building going to be sold to somebody? What is the future of this department? Nobody has any idea. Nobody knows where these expenses are going. The last gentleman

talks about people stealing money from the district, who is responsible for that? How come people on the board are not standing up for the district and ensuring that these people are not ripping us off? That is what is relevant, not what is happening in Scottsdale. This is my opinion, that is why I am here, because I am looking at property here. I don't want to build a house that is burning, and no one is going to be able to get to the fire. I am mad at the board; you are approving minutes of the meeting in January and don't even have the agenda available. Where do I find the list of expenses and income? Comptroller Kindelberger replied she would get him a records request form after the meeting.


- Matthew Espinoza – In the Chief's report we did not hear about the calls that Golden Valley Fire did not respond to that were in Yucca's district that were handled by Desert Hills Fire. I think that is important when you are reporting to the board. That there are things beyond what Golden Valley Fire can provide that are being handled by somebody else; that ultimately falls on the board of the Yucca Fire District. You need to remember that your first duty is to the citizens of the district and look out for them. I am a taxpayer in Mohave County and pay the fire district assistance tax. The people in Santa Fe chose to live outside a fire district. They chose a lower tax rate and increased their exposure. You talk about selling equipment, as a former firefighter, I can tell you that you need housing, equipment, and personnel. You can pay off your buildings and pay off your equipment, but personnel cost is forever. If you sell off all your assets it makes it impossible to rebuild those assets. I know Yucca was all volunteer at one time. I agree with Bruce that you can still have full-time and supplement with volunteers. It is harder in smaller towns to find volunteers. Keep in mind that if this department gets to a point where it cannot operate at all, you will have almost an impossible time rebuilding it.

8. ADJOURNMENT.

- Chairman Knowles motioned to adjourn the meeting. Director Fox 2nd. All in favor, motion carried. Chairman Knowles adjourned the meeting at 8:22 a.m.

MINUTES prepared by: Mindy Kindelberger

Date: 03/21/2022

By: 
Board Clerk, Kayla Carr

Approved: 05/16/2022