



# Lake Mohave Ranchos Fire District



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## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LAKE MOHAVE RANCHOS FIRE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD

The Governing Board of the Lake Mohave Ranchos Fire District met in Regular Session on **02/17/2022** at **10:00 a.m.** The Meeting was held at the **Meadview Civic Association (247 Meadview Blvd, Meadview, AZ 86444)**. 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 and A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(4) for legal direction with the District's Attorney on matters as set forth in the Agenda item. 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.

**1) CALL TO ORDER at 10:03**

**2) ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS**

**Directors Aitken, Braaten, Garza, Karash, and Chairperson Koeppen- PRESENT**

**3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE** (*To honor those who serve our Country and within Public Safety and to those we've lost*)

Led by Director Karash.

**4) EXECUTIVE BUSINESS** (*Board of Directors may vote to go into Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S §38.431.03 (A) (3) )*

**Old Business:**

- a. **Discussion regarding:** Update from Mr. Matura regarding Jackson complaint (Director Aitken)

**Motion to enter executive session: Director Karash**

**Seconded: Director Garza**

**Vote: Directors Aitken, Braaten, Garza, Karash, and Chairperson Koeppen- AYE**

**5) MINUTES**

01/27/2022 Regular and Executive Minutes

**Motion to accept both regular and executive minutes as presented: Director Aitken**

**Seconded: Director Braaten**

**Vote: Directors Aitken, Braaten, Garza, Karash, and Chairperson Koeppen- AYE**

## 6) CONSENT AGENDA

### a. **Financial Report:** Gabe Buldra will review monthly financials and amended budget request

The following figures are rounded.

Revenue for the month of January is 102K, which is over budget by 59K. This was driven by tax revenue collection. Tax revenue for January is 54K, which is over by 37K.

Non-tax revenue is at 48K, which is over budget by 22K. Ambulance revenue is over budget by 18K.

Expenses for January are 72K, which is over budget by 1.5K.

Year-to-date revenue is 1 million, which is 385K over budget due to Grant income of 201K.

Year-to-date expense is 836K, which is 282K over budget. This is because of Grant expenses totaling 195K, and personnel expenses related to wildland deployments totaling 42K.

Note that the grant in question was awarded to the District after the budget was accepted in July 2021. Also, all wildland personnel expenses are reimbursed by the state.

Mr. Buldra stated that the District has netted 60K in wildland deployments so far. Fire Chief Bonnee added that the upcoming wildland season is projected to be much worse than last season, which would bring more revenue to the District. He also informed the Board that this is the first time the District has ever participated in the Wildland program.

James Vincent Group shared the proposed amended budget for the Board's review. With the unexpected Grant revenue and expenses at the beginning of the fiscal year, wildland deployments, staff raises, vehicle maintenance, and more, it is important that all the changes are reflected in the budget. They are recommending that revenue is increased by 318K, with 100K in wildland alone.

The amended budget will be posted for 20 days, and will be brought before the Board again at the next regular meeting.

### b. **Chief Report:** Fire Chief Tim Bonnee will review chief's report

**AMR Transports:** 0

**Med Calls:** 101

**Dolan Transports:** 85

**Dolan Refusals:** 3

**Dolan Public Assists:** 3

**Fire Calls:** 17

**Mutual Aid Calls:** 0

**Highway 93 Calls:** 31

**Meadview Calls:** 9

**Meadview Transports:** 7

**Meadview Refusals:** 2

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**Updated:** 3/21/2022

**Meadview Public Assists: 0**

**Meadview Coverage Days: 18**

### **Meetings/Conferences/Trainings**

The run review was on 01/11/2022

### **District Vehicles:**

The Chevy ambulance went into the shop for a non-functioning DEF filter and broken catalytic converter. It is thought that the damage was caused by bottoming out on rough terrain while responding to a medical call out in the desert. There was no helicopter available at the time and it was necessary to get the ambulance to the scene.

### **District Properties:**

A wall at Station 43 in Meadview has been repaired and reattached to the foundation. Also, the water line that fills the trucks at Station 43 has degraded due to sun damage. Since the water is gravity fed, the line has been bypassed and the trucks are being filled from the tank directly.

### **Projects in the Works:**

The District is having difficulty getting a hard quote from the vendor we will have to use to install the fuel system. Admin Glenn Gardner is continuing to push them for numbers that can be brought to the Board.

The District has applied for an automatic rate adjustment from DHS for ambulance services. All ambulance rates are set by the State and the District must follow the fee schedule. If the automatic rate adjustment is accepted, then the District may see an increase of about 2% to the ambulance service rate.

**Motion to accept consent agenda: Director Aitken**

**Seconded: Director Karash**

**Vote: Directors Aitken, Braaten, Garza, Karash, and Chairperson Koeppen- AYE**

## **7) REGULAR SESSION**

### **New Business:**

**a. Discussion:** Representative from BDR Richards will attend the meeting and present the Financial Audit Report

Mr. Richards presented his findings to the Board for the fiscal period of 2020-2021. It is his firm's opinion that the financial statements were fairly presented and clean. They did not find any internal control weaknesses or deficiencies.

It was also of the firm's opinion that the financial state of the District has improved considerably since pension liability decreased by 2.5 million. This is due to hiring more personnel.

**b. Discussion and possible action: Sales tax funding for fire districts (Chief Bonnee)**

Fire Chief Bonnee notified the Board of the Arizona Fire District Safety Act. This act would route 1/10<sup>th</sup> of a penny of Arizona sales tax to fire districts across the state, with an emphasis on smaller districts such as LMRFD. If such a measure were to be passed, LMRFD may see between 725K to 2.5 million in extra revenue each year.

The first attempt of the Act failed to pass in state legislature. However, there is a petition to put it on the ballots this coming year. The team of lawyers supporting this signature ballot say it is the best they've seen and are confident it will go through with enough signatures.

**8) CALL to the PUBLIC.** *(The Fire District Board is not permitted to discuss or take action on any item(s) that are not on the Agenda that are raised in the call to the public. 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 due to restriction of the Opening Meeting Law).*

**Susan De Lara of W Palomino Rd, Dolan Springs:** She is involved with the Dolan Springs Community Council. She would like to discuss the possibility of holding a town hall meeting to give a presentation on the Arizona Fire District Safety Act. They currently have an email list of 91 people that they could contact about it. Also, if there are brochures, they may be given out at St. Vincent's during the food pantry operations.

She also said she would like to work with the District to set up more CPR and First Aid training for the public.

**9) CONSIDERATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.**

Specified tabled items will move to following month's Regular Meeting, unless noted otherwise and/or pending additional information.

Discussion and possible action: Options the District may take to obtain signatures for the Arizona Fire District Safety Act petition.

**10) NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING DATE & LOCATION.** (Subject to change, notice/announcement will be posted via District Website, if any changes occur.) **03/17/2022 at 10:00 a.m.** at the **Dolan Springs Chamber of Commerce (16154 Pierce Ferry Rd Dolan Springs, AZ)**

**Motion to close the February 2022 regular meeting at 11:27am: Director Aitken  
Seconded: Director Braaten**

**Vote: Directors Aitken, Braaten, Garza, Karash, and Chairperson Koeppen- AYE**

MINUTES prepared by: Jen Gardner

Date: 02/21/22

APPROVED MINUTES signed/posted by: Jen Gardner

Date: 03/21/22

Time: 8:45 am

*Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Lake Mohave Ranchos Fire District endeavors to ensure accessibility of all its programs, facilities, and services to all persons with disabilities. If any disabled person needs an accommodation, please notify the Lake Mohave Ranchos Fire District at: (928) 767-3300, prior to the scheduled meeting time.*

**LMRFD Official Posting Locations:**

Administration / St. 41 (16126 Pierce Ferry Rd Dolan Springs, AZ)  
Dolan Springs Chamber of Commerce (16154 Pierce Ferry Rd Dolan Springs, AZ)

St. 43 (30250 Stillwater Meadview, AZ)  
Meadview Civic Association (247 Meadview Blvd, Meadview, AZ 86444)

LMRFD Website ([www.lmrfd.org](http://www.lmrfd.org))