



# 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 **Wednesday 9/21/22 at 1:00 pm**. The Meeting was held at the **Dolan Springs Chamber of Commerce (16154 Pierce Ferry Rd Dolan Springs, AZ)**. 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 1:00pm

### 2) ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS 1:00 pm

Board Clerk Aitken present  
Board Chair Koeppen present  
Director Garza present via phone  
Director Karash present via phone  
Director Braaten 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)*

Director Braaten led pledge and moment of silence

### 4) EXECUTIVE BUSINESS 10:02 pm *(Board of Directors may vote to go into Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S §38.431.03 (A) (3) )*

Director Aitken moved to enter Executive Session at 10:02 pm  
Director Braaten seconded the motion  
All directors voted AYE to enter executive session.  
Attorney Cornelius joined the session via phone at 10:03 pm

### 5) MINUTES

#### 07/21/22 Regular Minutes 10:03am

10:04am Motion to approve July 2022 Regular Minutes as presented Board Chair Koeppen:

Seconded: Board Clerk Aitken

Vote: Board Clerk Aitken, Director Braaten, Director Karash, Director Garza, and Chair Koeppen AYE

### 6) CONSENT AGENDA 10:05am

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

Run Report:

AMR Transports: 0

Med Calls: 94

Dolan Transports: 71  
Dolan Refusals: 3  
Dolan Public Assists: 2  
Fire Calls: 15  
Mutual Aid Calls: 2  
HWY 93 Calls: 19  
Meadview Calls: 8  
Meadview Transports: 5  
Meadview Refusals: 3  
Meadview Public Assists: 3  
Meadview Coverage Days: 18

**Meetings/Conferences/Trainings:**

- Run Review 7/12/2022

**District Properties:**

- With the recent rain we found out we have a pretty good leak at st.41 we are in the process of repairing that. We do have all the estimates for the HVAC replacement unit at st.43.

**District Vehicles:** No change from last month

**Projects in the works:**

- We did receive the ACH check for the tender we sold on public auction.
- All units have returned from wildland assignments.
- All assignments have been billed out and accepted for a total amount of \$197,048.07. I will be working with Gabe to get a full breakdown of the expenses for wildland to see what revenue actual numbers are.
- We are getting closer to the results of the AFG grants.
- We did put all the crews including myself, volunteers and POC's through a strenuous physical agility test obstacle course, and we have been doing ladder, and ventilation training.
- Due to recent experiences this monsoon season, we are seeing a need for more swift-water rescue training, so I am looking into that.
- We did get a new volunteer who has a mobile mechanic business who will volunteer his skills to help with the regular maintenance and small repairs on the fleet.
- Call volume is still at aa all-time high and with the issue of POCs calling off and not showing up for work we are hurting for one more fulltime medic. I spoke with Steve and Gabe about the numbers for a medic and they will be informing me if it is a financially good move to do. I was informed by Steven we can afford this.
- Concerning the rig that was vandalized at st.43 we couldn't get a locksmith out here for a reasonable price, so we purchased a new ignition switch. It will be put back on public auction this next week.
- I have a copy of all the desktop deposits here at the meeting for the board to look at to see what has been desktop deposited.
- I am still working with Nick Cornelius on the legal aspects of the Volunteer Stipend, and I will have a final draft next month.

**b. Admin report 10:17am:** Presented by Glenn Gardner

Jen Gardner will be leaving and making up work instructions on how to perform all the duties as admin. Not sure of Jen's plans concerning the LMRFD website; this will need to be worked out before she leaves. Briana will be taking over Jen's position in the office.

**c. Financial Report 11:19am:** Presented by Gabe Buldra of James Vincent Group

Starting off fiscal year looking good. Total revenues at \$93,502.00; that's over budget by \$8000.00.

Ambulance revenue is very strong, at \$35,000.00 over budget

There are timing issues with the wildland billing, but Gabe should have a separate updated report soon

Miscellaneous revenue is up due to the sale of the excess tender

Expenses are at \$135,000.00, over by \$28,000.00, mostly driven by wildland billing delay. Personnel expenses over by \$2500 due to wildlands, vehicle maintenance expenses over by \$16,000.00 due to work on two vehicles, an ambulance and a brush truck.

Wildlands travel expenses are over budget by about \$7000.00, which we will see even out when the wildlands accounting is complete.

Ended month of July with \$931,000.00 total cash on hand, an increase of \$47,000.00 over prior year.

Chief Bonnee contributed that two of the Wildlands checks were deposited yesterday, and we are expecting three more. Gabe added that he and the Chief are putting a separate report to let the board see the true profitability of the wildlands program.

**10:25am Motion to approve Consent Agenda** presented Board clerk Aitken:

Seconded: Director Braaten

Vote: Board Clerk Aitken, Director Braaten, Director Karash, Director Garza, and Chair Koeppen AYE

## **7) REGULAR SESSION**

### **New Business:**

**a. Discussion and possible action:** Update on AG complaints (Chairperson Koeppen) **10:27am**

The complaints filed with the AG for the September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021, meeting as well as the May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022, meeting were closed. The complaints for the November 2021 and December 2021 meeting were also dismissed. We currently have 4 open complaints from one letter and another 2 open complaints with a second letter. They have advised that lack of staff, covid, and maternity leave are all reason for the slow process, but they assure us they are working on the complaints

**b. Discussion and possible action: 10:31** Bk wildland radios (Fire Chief Bonnee)

Our 3 wildland radios that were purchased last year have been sent out for repair and should be back in September, they are covered under warranty, and we've been informed they're also going to extend the warranty another year due to the inconvenience of having new radios that already need repaired. The 3 radios purchased last year for wildland, which was enough to send two trucks out, but this year we had three out at once and had to get some radios from the cache at the fire. This can cause a safety issue (not having enough radios) for the personnel on the fire as that is their form of communication. Having enough radios is also required on the checkoff sheet. We would like to purchase 4 new radios from McIntosh Communications inc. for the total of \$7,401.00, which is A greatly discounted rate with no tax because we are purchasing out of state. This would give us 7 radios total to have three trucks out at the same time equipped with the needed radios.

**10:38am** Motion to approve purchase of 4 new BK wildland radios as presented Board Chair Koeppen:

Seconded: Board Clerk Aitken

Vote: Board Clerk Aitken, Director Braaten, Director Karash, Director Garza, and Chair Koeppen AYE

**c. Discussion and possible action: 10:40am** JVG contract renewal (Director Aitken)

Director Aitken explained that the new contract documents are not a renewal, but an updated contract executed by currently serving board members. Signatures on the old contract were outdated.

**d. Discussion and possible action: 10:41am** Frontier phone service changes and Starlink billing through bill.com (Director Aitken)

Frontier is still charging for internet services, but we no longer use those. We are also still having a problem with the

landline only ringing once then dropping at station 41 and the phone not working at all at station 43. Office staff did get ahold of a tech who's coming out on Friday August 19<sup>th</sup> to see if he can fix the problem. They will be working one at a time so another day will have to be made to head to station 43 and fix their phone. This has been an ongoing issue and we get sent to the same woman's voicemail who never answers or returns calls. If a solution or plan isn't found on August 19<sup>th</sup> Board Clerk would like permission to go into the frontier office and see if she can't get things moving. Board Director asked if switching the landline numbers to Verizon landline would be an option since e already use them for services.

**10:46** We are currently working on changing the Starlink autopay from the credit card to a bill paid through Bill.com. Starlink insists that's the only way, but there have been multiple business who are not using a credit card.

**10:49am** Motion to approve Board Clerk Aitken to go into Frontier if a solution is not found on August 19<sup>th</sup>:

Seconded: Board Chair Koeppen

Vote: Board Clerk Aitken, Director Braaten, Director Karash, Director Garza, and Chair Koeppen AYE

**e. Discussion and possible action:** Bids for Station 43 HVAC replacement (Fire Chief Bonnee)

We currently have received 3 separate HVAC bids for station 43, including Greenway Heating and Cooling, Canyon State, and Arizona Sommers heating and cooling.

Greenway has come in with two bids, one for propane, the other for a heat pump. Arizona Sommers has proposed propane only, and Canyon state has proposed heat pump only. Both Arizona Sommers and Canyon state require us to hire an electrician for the work as they do not do the electrical work, however Greenway's offerings include the electrical installation.

Board clerk inquired what our lease with MCV says on replacing the HVAC unit and if there would be a reimbursement if let's say we put in the new unit and in 5 years they ask us to leave. Fire Chief Bonnee advised last year he contacted them about replacing the AC when it failed and was advised anything like that is up to the fire department and our responsibility. Director Koeppen and Fire Chief Bonnee agreed the heat pump would be the better option.

Director Karash mentioned the propane would be better in case of a power outage. Chief advised the propane still wouldn't work during an outage. Director Karash agreed heat pump then.

**11:06am** Motion to approve purchase of the heat pump HVAC unit from Greenway heating and cooling as presented Board Chair Koeppen:

Seconded: Director Garza

Vote: Board Clerk Aitken, Director Braaten, Director Karash, Director Garza, and Chair Koeppen AYE

**f: Discussion and possible action:** Election for new board members (Director Aitken) **11:08 am**

Director Aitken expressed concern over whether or not LMRFD should hold an election since there were three board slots open and only three people completed the required paperwork and ran for those positions. Since the letter LMRFD received from Mohave County Elections Department explained that barring LMRFD intervention, the three active candidates would be appointed to the open positions, there was no need for an election. The county process ensures that those three legally qualified candidates are appointed. Chief Bonnee committed to check with Elections Office and double check that we have responded correctly.

**8) CALL to the PUBLIC. 11:16 am** *(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).*

Meadview resident Nancy Castor, 180 W Mohave Ln., inquired two things:

- Whether our newest volunteer is local. In the spirit of responding to a criticism, Chief Bonnee explained that the

volunteer is a Golden Valley resident and commutes. He spends a lot of additional time at the station volunteering mechanic work on LMRFD vehicles.

- What does the presence or non-presence of the Station 43 flag mean? Again, in the spirit of responding to an implied criticism, Chief Bonnee explained that the flag is raised when the station is manned and not raised when no one is available at the station. He also mentioned the clips on the rope recently broke and replacements have been ordered.

**9) CONSIDERATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS. 11:18am**

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

No new items proposed at this time.

**10) NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING DATE & LOCATION.** (Subject to change, notice/announcement will be posted via District Website, if any changes occur.) **09/15/2022 at 1pm** at the **Dolan Springs Chamber of Commerce, 16154 Pierce Ferry Rd, Dolan Springs AZ, 86441.**

Minutes prepared by: Glenn Gardner

Date: 09/26/22

Minutes signed/posted by: Tim Bonnee

Date: 09/26/22

*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 Post Office (250 Pueblo Dr. Meadview, AZ 86444)

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