



Williamson Valley Fire District

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GENERAL SESSION MINUTES March 17, 2025

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call of Board Members

Present: Board Chairman Price, Board Members Austermiller, Harbicht, Hunter, and McKelvey

Upon a motion by Board Member Austermiller, seconded by Board Member Harbicht, the Board unanimously approved moving the "Call to the Public" to the beginning of the meeting. See Item 8.

4. Chief's Report and Discussion:

- a. Statistical Data, Station Information Report, Fleet Report, Project Reports, Training Reports, Report on Billing for out of District Services, Grant Progress Updates, Personnel Updates, Public Relations Update, Communications Report.**

All trucks are in service. There were nine calls in Bagdad including a couple of walk-ins to the station. The brush drop-off pile at Station 91 has been reopened and is already half full. Paramedic school just started its third trimester which includes vehiculars and the final.

At the pancake breakfast on March 30, Yavapai County Board of Supervisor Kuknyo will present a check to the district from the Yavapai Prescott Indian Tribe. The grant goes towards Paramedic school.

Members are at the Arizona Wildfire Academy this week at ERAU. There was discussion on upcoming wildfire season, cuts in federal wildfire response funding, reduction in firefighters or support people to respond, etc. Chief Smith indicated the district has a contract with State of Arizona and it would be up to the state to reimburse the district.

5. Financial Report/Review and Discussion: Monthly Financial Update and Year to Date Financials.

The Board reviewed financial reports including balance sheets, updated cash flow projections and the end of month statements on all bank and County accounts.

6. Consent Agenda

- a. Accept General Meeting Minutes of February 17, 2025 WVFD Board Meeting and the 3-10-2025 Special Board Meeting.**
- b. Approve payment of \$11,309.69 (WVFD) and \$11,309.69 (Bagdad) to Discount Electronics for h/w and s/w to support dispatch transition.**
- c. Approve payment of \$4,778.76 to Flex Financial for annual testing.**
- d. Approve payment of \$16,775.04 (WVFD) and \$16,775.04 (Bagdad) for h/w and s/w to support dispatch transition.**

- e. **Approve payment of \$7,480.10 (WVFD) and \$7,480.10 (Bagdad) to Rugged Solutions for h/w, s/w and radios to support dispatch transition.**
- f. **Approve payment of \$5,574.07 to LN Curtis & Sons for tools and SCBA testing.**
- g. **Approve payment of \$50,071.13 to Blue Cross Blue Shield. Health insurance for WVFD, MFD, CKFD and CFD.**
- h. **Approve payment of \$3,525.00 to Donna Fagan, CPA for accounting services.**

The dispatch transition purchases were pulled off the consent agenda for discussion under New Business. Upon a motion by Board Member McKelvey, seconded by Board Member Austermilller, the Board unanimously approved the consent agenda.

7. Reports and Correspondence

None

8. Call to the Public: Comments and statements from the public.

Renee Howes expressed concern about a letter written to Yavapai County Development Services from the Yavapai County Fire Consortium on WVFD letterhead agreeing to provide fire and emergency services protection to a proposed development in the Kirkland area. She represents her community and the "We are Rural" organization that oppose this development for many reasons. She feels the letter from the fire department allowed YCDS to check a box in order to continue to push the proposed development through the process.

Chief Smith explained WVFD has a separate contract with FMI Bagdad. WVFD has a management IGA with Mayer Fire District thus he is also its Fire Chief. Mayer FD has similar IGAs with Crown King FD and Southern Yavapai FD making him their Fire Chief as well. He indicated Southern Yavapai FD is less than three miles from the proposed development. The proposed development has not been annexed into WVFD which would require Fire Board approval for annexation. The will-serve letter indicates the fire department has the capacity to provide service to a particular area but does not guarantee it. It would need to be voted upon by the local fire board. This was relayed to Board of Supervisor Brooks at a recent meeting. The WVFD Fire Board has not signed anything. The will-serve letter was signed by Chief LaGreca of Mayer Fire District but he also is the Fire Marshal for all districts Chief Smith manages. It will be rewritten on the appropriate letterhead.

She thanked the Board for listening to her concerns and formally requested to be on the agenda next month for further discussion but will confirm with YCDS there is no agreement.

9. Old Business:

a. Discussion and possible action: Status of the Bagdad contract.

Chiefs Tunis and Love attended the monthly meeting last week. They provided FMI information about average payroll costs for standbys over the last three years. Architectural, electrical and plumbing needs at the fire station, Bashas, and the clinic were briefly discussed as well as the 2x Bagdad study. Dirt work along with work on the infrastructure and plumbing is being done at the man camp.

10. New Business:

a. Discussion and possible action: Review dispatch transition purchases.

Chief Smith noted the items pulled off the consent agenda are associated with the change in dispatch service. The equipment includes MDTs, GPS, modems, and a way to mount the equipment in trucks. Our current dispatch company did not require the equipment, but it is a requirement of PRCC. The radio equipment ordered for Bagdad included repeaters to make it work and they are aware the radio system will be better because of it. Of the expense, 50% is attributable to Bagdad and the other 50% will be paid by WV but MFD, CKFD and CFD will reimburse WV for their share of the costs. The relay items are not included in these purchases.

Upon a motion by Board Member Hunter, seconded by Board Member Auster Miller, the Board unanimously approved these items.

Board Member Harbicht asked if the Board can be informed in advance of large purchases that are required because of a change in operation.

b. Discussion and possible action: Review and discuss employee salary.

This item was postponed until the next meeting. Chief Smith has wage surveys from CAFMA, Prescott, and Flagstaff but has not received Sedona's yet.

11. Future Agenda Items discussion: Board members suggest future agenda items.

Employee salaries
Preliminary budget discussion
Kirkland proposed development

12. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

APPROVED

Board Chairman

Board Clerk