

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
GROOM CREEK FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
HELD
Tuesday, June 07, 2016**

A Regular Meeting of the Groom Creek Fire District Board of Directors was called to order on Tuesday, June 07, 2016 at 7:30 PM, at 1110 E. Friendly Pines Road - Prescott, Arizona.

Agenda: Regular Meeting –

Roll Call

Present at the meeting were the following members of the Groom Creek Fire Board of Directors: Board Vice-Chairman Gary Williams, Board Clerk Terry Hammon. Fire Chief Todd Bentley represented the Fire District. Board Chairman Bob Schulz was absent.

Approval of minutes of Previous Regular Meeting:

Gary Williams made a Motion to Approve the Minutes of the May 03, 2016 Regular Meeting, seconded by Terry Hammon, and it passed unanimously..

Public Appearances

Comments and questions from the public were asked to be withheld until Agenda Item #2 in Old Business.

Chief's Report

- 1) **Operations Update** – Chief Bentley reported 21 calls for service. Assistant Chief Manzanedo reported on the Groom Fire that occurred on 5/28. Chief Bentley informed the audience of the IGA with AZ State Forestry and the cost of suppression for all resources except GCFD will be borne by the state.

- 2) **Grant Update** – Chief Bentley mentioned that the WFHF grant application had a field review of the parcels to be treated and that the District should expect a formal grant agreement in August.

- 3) **Miscellaneous** – Chief Bentley said that the Worker's Compensation Insurance renewal had been received and was about 30% less than the current year's rates.

Financial Reporting

1. **Account Balances as of 06/06/2016:**

- i. General Fund – (194,625.08)
- ii. Compass Bank Payroll – 45,274.43
- iii. Compass Bank Wildland – 11,849.09
- iv. Line of Credit – (100,000.00)
- v. Reserve Fund – 208.29
- vi. Accounts Receivable – 20,132.83
- vii. Taxes Receivable – 10,700.00

2. Financial Reports – April 2016

The March 2016 financial statements were provided by email and reviewed. *Gary Williams made a motion to approve the Financial Reports, Terry Hammon seconded and the motion passed unanimously.*

Old Business –

- 1. 2016-17 Adopted Budget** – Chief Bentley stated that there were no changes from the Tentative Budget. *Gary Williams made a motion to adopt the Budget for FY2016-17. Terry Hammon seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*
- 2. Fire District Financing** – Chief Bentley and the Fire Board answered questions from several community members regarding the steps being taken to ensure the financial viability of the District going forward. Discussion of the causes of the deficit, operating needs and the history of the fiscal responsibility occurred based on the questions asked.

Specific questions relative to the income received at levels higher than the tax base were explained as part of grants and wildland revenues with offsetting expenses. Chief Bentley said that there are no guarantees of grant and wildland receipts or expenses at the beginning of the fiscal year so they are not included as part of the operating budget that is adopted.

The community was informed of the path forward with the conversion of the short-term liability into a lease-purchase debt instrument that can be repaid over several years and that they were working with Country Bank to find a solution before June 30. Chief Bentley would update the website as soon as information is received.

Overwhelming community support was shown with discussion of what would occur to insurance rates, response times and overall operations if the liability is not converted nor funds raised to cover operations going forward. Chief Bentley also discussed the Strategic Plan that was developed which shows that long term forecasts return the District to pre-recession levels. Upcoming fiscal year budgets would be tight and the District will continue to follow the budget and pursue additional revenue to establish appropriate cash reserves to avoid future economic or legislative impacts.

There were over 50 residents in attendance.

New Business -

None

Board Member Comments - Terry Hammon thanked those in attendance for their demeanor and questions and invited them to attend future meetings and be involved in the District.

Adjournment

Gary Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Terry Hammon. The motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 P.M.

Dated this 8th day of June 2016 by: _____ Board Clerk.

Terry Hammon