

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
GROOM CREEK FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
HELD
Tuesday, January 06, 2015**

A Regular Meeting of the Groom Creek Fire District Board of Directors was called to order on Tuesday, January 06, 2015 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: Chairman Robert Schulz, Board Vice-Chairman Gary Williams, Board Clerk Terry Hammon and Fire Chief Todd Bentley represented the Fire District.

Approval of minutes of Previous Regular Meeting:

Terry Hammon seconded by, Gary Williams made a Motion to Approve the Minutes of the December 02, 2014 Regular Meeting and it passed unanimously.

Public Appearances

Bill Loughrige - Walker Fire Protection Association

Mr. Loughrige, President of the Walker Fire Protection Association addressed the Board regarding the Annexation Request for the Walker, Potato Patch and Mountain Pine Acres. He stated that the Walker Fire Board has officially taken a neutral stance related to the annexation; however, personally they are opposed to a tax-based system for providing fire service. Mr. Loughrige shared some demographic information about the community and the donation methods and success that provides the Walker Fire operating budget. He said that the previous attempts to form a district resulted in a very low percentage of support due to the high number of absentee ownership.

The Groom Creek Board asked for some additional information related to the Walker area and the potential annexation and had a positive discussion.

Chief's Report

1) Operations Update – Chief Bentley reported that there were 7 calls for service during December including 3 EMS calls, 2 Public Assistance call, 1 Odor Investigation and 1 Lines Down. Chief Bentley said that the crews were involved in shift training with the Training Officers during the month.

2) Grant Update - Chief Bentley noted he had a site visit with AZ State Forestry personnel related to the Tornado Damage and that they thought that there would be some funds available through the Western Bark Beetle Initiative Grant. This 50/50 grant would have some of the matching funds covered if the District utilized AZ State Forestry Crews to perform the work which was estimated at 6 weeks. Homeowners would be required to match the remainder of the funds.

Chief Bentley mentioned that the District applied for a 100 Club of AZ Safety Stipend for the purchase of a washer/extractor that would help remove the carcinogens and contaminants from the protective gear without degrading the fabric. The request was for \$1800.

3) Miscellaneous - Chief Bentley said District personnel provided a Christmas Eve Dinner for several community residents who were identified as being alone for the Holiday. The firefighters

and their families provided a great event. The Chief also informed the Board of the new requirement for the posting of meeting times. He said that the information need only to be posted on our website. Meeting agendas will still need to be posted on the sign board outside the station. He was asked if we would retain the signs that have the meeting notice along the main roads and the Chief said that they would remain. The Chief also asked if there was any need to change the date and time of the Board Meetings. It was determined to maintain the current schedule.

Financial Reporting

1. Account Balances as of 01/05/2015:

- a. General Fund – (96,103.99)
- b. Compass Bank Payroll – 3,324.89
- c. Compass Bank Wildland – 13,558.07
- d. Line of Credit – (100,000.00)
- e. Reserve Fund – 208.29
- f. Accounts Receivable – 101,424.74
- g. Taxes Receivable – 214,387.75

2. Financial Reports - November 2014

The November 2014 financial statements were provided by email and reviewed. *Terry Hammon made a motion to approve the Financial Reports, Gary Williams seconded and the motion passed unanimously.*

Old Business –

1. 2014 Election Results - Chief Bentley reported that the certification of election/appointment was received. Terry Hammon was sworn in earlier in the meeting.

New Business -

1. Station Uniforms - Chief Bentley requested \$2700 for the acquisition of new uniform clothing for the full-time personnel. He mentioned that they were purchasing the GSA wildland pant and that the pants would be able to be used for structure and wildland and would be able to be replaced at fire assignments. *Gary Williams made a motion to approve the purchase, Terry Hammon seconded the motion and it passed without dissent.*

2. Insurance Renewal Questions - Chief Bentley reported on the VFIS Insurance Renewal and the question of excess liability coverage that was a perceived vulnerability. The Board requested that the issue be tabled until the budget discussions. Chief Bentley also reported that the Health Insurance would now be serviced by Weber's Insurance due to their access to a Fire Department pool that could potentially lower the premium. More information would be available at policy renewal in June.

Adjournment

bob Schulz made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Gary Williams. The motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:01 P.M.

Dated this 8th day of January 2015 by: _____ Board Clerk.

Terry Hammon