

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE
RINCON VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
VIRTUAL AND IN-PERSON MEETING
HELD October 20, 2022**

A public meeting of the Rincon Valley Fire District Governing Board was convened on **October 20, 2022 at 6:00 P.M.** Present at the meeting were the following members of the Rincon Valley Fire District Governing Board: Chairperson Michelle Harrington, Clerk Jennifer Spears, Member Kevin McKinley, Member Chris Klasen, and Member Matt Mesmer.

The following matters were discussed, considered and decided at the meeting:

1. Call to Order at 6:02 P.M. by Chairperson Michelle Harrington

A. Roll Call - Chairperson Michelle Harrington	present
Clerk Jennifer Spears	present
Member Chris Klasen	present
Member Kevin McKinley	present
Member Matt Messmer	virtual

- Also attending – Fire Chief Jayme Kahle, Assistant Chief Jim Tucker, Battalion Chief Cornejo, Administrative Manager Laura Bucklin.

2. Pledge of Allegiance – Chairperson Harrington lead the pledge of allegiance.

3. Date of next meeting scheduled for November 17, 2022 at 6:00 P.M.

- Confirmed by all board members present.

4. Call to the Public

- 2 Thank You Letters from district residents thanking the firefighters for their service during an emergency.

5. Consent Agenda

Approval of Consent Agenda – Motion by Clerk Spears, second by Member McKinley to approve all items on the Consent Agenda. Motion passed 5 to 0.

- A.** Approval of the Minutes of the August 18, 2022 Regular Board Meeting.
- B.** Approval of Boundary Change Request – **Resolution #23-004** David and Patricia Hempel Annexation (3539 E Drystone Rd.)

6. Reports and Correspondence

A. Board Member Report

- No comments.

- B. Fire Chief's Report** – Reviewed by the Board. Report on file.
- Chief Tucker and Chief Kahle met with the Corona de Tucson Chief this month. Corona has agreed to modify their call cards to reduce the number of ambulance responses. We also agreed to collaborate on ground ladder testing this year.
 - Chief Tucker and Chief Kahle attended a Tucson Economic Webinar from the University of Arizona. They are predicting slower housing growth for Tucson, but housing prices will not exceedingly fall.
 - Accreditation Project. Captain Haller, our accreditation manager, completed his training this month. Two PI's have been completed to date.
- C. September's Financial Reports** – Review, discussion and possible action, of the district's financial status including monthly summary reports.
- Monthly Financial Report for the month of September 2022.
 - Monthly Expense Report for the month of September 2022.
 - Monthly Bank Reconciliations and Balance Sheet for the month of September 2022.
- Motion by Member McKinley, second by Member Klasen to approve the district's financial reports and expenses for the month of September 2022. Motion passed unanimously 5 to 0.

7. Unfinished Business

A. None

8. New Business

A. 2023-011 – Presentation by the District's Auditor of the Districts FY 21/22 Annual Financial Audit and review discussion and possible action by the Board to officially receive the audit.

- The draft audit report was not available in time for the board meeting. This item will be tabled to next month's meeting.

B. 2023-012 - Review, discussion, and possible action to approve the FY 22/23 Organizational Statement.

- The statement identifies who we are and what our capabilities are. The statement includes our vision, mission, values, risk management policy, and levels of service. For instance, we identify that we can provide the public with technical rope rescue, but we don't have the skills, manpower, and equipment to complete a structural collapse incident. The primary change from last years' statement reflects the change in personnel to 1 part-time and 50 full-time employees.

-Motion by Chairperson Harrington, second by Clerk Spears to approve the 2022/2023 Organizational Statement. Motion passed 5 to 0.

C. 2023 – 013 – Review and discussion concerning the Prop 310 implications.

- Proposition 310 is a ballot initiative in the November 8th, 2022 General Election. If it passes it will create a 0.1% statewide sales tax for the next 20 years to provide funding for Arizona fire districts. Proposition 310 has the potential to significantly improve our service delivery. The Board should consider the following items if Proposition 310 is passed by voters.
- Add two more firefighters per shift (6). This will keep a third ambulance in-service 24/7 and increase four-person engine staffing.
- Fully re-model or rebuild Station 291.
- Increase employee benefits to remain competitive such as a PTO buy-back program, increased uniform allowance, and salary increase.
- Increase Capital Fund for future apparatus and facilities.
- Expand community outreach.
- Increase PSPRS unfunded liability payments.

If passed, this proposition may generate \$3.4 million of additional revenue for the District minus the State of Arizona administrative fees.
If failed, District revenue will remain status-quo.

Board Member Chris Klasen recommended adding a training facility to the above list of items to consider if Proposition 310 is passed.

No action taken. Discussion only.

C. 2023- 014 – Review and discussion concerning Strategic Objective #5.C, Explore the merit of auto aid with Tucson Fire.

- Chief Kahle served as the lead for this strategic objective and has been working on it over the last 36 months.

He has a brief PowerPoint that yielded the following findings and recommendations:

1. Automatic aid with TFD is mutually beneficial.
2. Improve RVFD staffing.
3. Initiate discussions at Union level
4. Address the cons

The Board Members discussed concerns regarding the response areas, and which resources would respond if RVFD or TFD were to have a large-scale emergency. Chief Kahle addressed the concerns and explained this is just the first step in discussing auto aid.

The Board has permitted the district to pursue auto-aid.

No action taken. Discussion only.

9. **ADJOURNMENT** - Motion by Chairperson Harrington, second by Clerk Spears to adjourn. Motion passed 5 to 0. Meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Dated this 21st day of October 2022.

Rincon Valley Fire District Governing Board

Chairperson Harrington

Clerk Spears

Member McKinley

Member Klasen

Member Messmer