

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE TWENTYNINE PALMS WATER DISTRICT
72401 HATCH ROAD, TWENTYNINE PALMS, CA 92277**

MAY 27, 2015

FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

Call to Order and Roll Call

President Moore called the meeting to order at 8:19 p.m., 72401 Hatch Road, Twentynine Palms, California. Those responding to roll call were Directors Carol Giannini, Suzi Horn, Sam Moore, and Roger Shinaver. Director Chancey Chambers was absent. Also present were Fire Chief Jim Thompson, Financial Consultant Cindy Byerrum, and District Secretary Cindy Fowlkes.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

None

Public Comments

None

1. First Draft of Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2015/2016

Chief Thompson provided the Board and the audience with a recap of the Department's finances and staffing levels. The Department operates on revenue set in place in 2005 with the passing of Measure J (without an inflator) that no longer meets the Department's current operating expenses. The Chief reminded the Board that the Fire Department is operating under a Class 4 ISO Rating, which can increase insurance premiums for homeowners once that rating is re-assessed. Expenditures and capital improvement projects were discussed including the following:

- Roof replacement for Station 422 at approximately \$30,000
- Bathroom renovation at Station 421 at approximately \$20,000
- Volunteer Personnel Stipend and Reimbursement Rates were discussed
- The Department will be in the negative next year unless staffing is reduced
- PERS retirement, employees will increase their portion to 6.75% from 4.50%
- Dispatch fees have been decreased based on the volume of calls the Department contributes to the call center
- 30% increase in fire equipment to accommodate the volunteer force

2. Consent Calendar

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 22, 2015
- Audit List

Director Giannini moved to approve the Consent Calendar, seconded by Director Horn and approved unanimously.

3. Items Removed From the Consent Calendar for Discussion or Separate Action

None

4. Department Reports

4.1 Finance

Ms. Byerrum reported on the March Financials. The Department is at 75% for revenue and 69% for expenses for the fiscal year.

4.2 Fire Chief's Report

Chief Thompson reported the Department responded to 198 calls for assistance during April. The Department participated in the Every 15 Minutes demonstration at the high school encouraging teens not to drink and drive. Lane McGivern was applauded for coordinating the event on behalf of a fellow fire employee who was out with an injury. John Chamberlin was introduced as the new Division Fire Chief.

Seven paid call firefighters participated in the month of March.

5. Future Agenda Items and Staff Tasks/Directors' Comments and Reports

None

6. Adjournment

On motion by Director Horn seconded by Director Giannini and approved by the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:51 p.m.



Kerron E. Moore, President
Board of Directors

Attest:



Ray Kolisz, Board Secretary
Twentynine Palms Water District