

**MINUTES OF THE CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FOR A POTENTIAL SPECIAL BALLOT TAX MEASURE FOR FIRE
PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
TWENTYNINE PALMS WATER DISTRICT
72401 HATCH ROAD, TWENTYNINE PALMS, CA**

SEPTEMBER 11, 2013

The meeting convened at 6:00 p.m. Randy Leazer led the pledge of allegiance.

Committee Members Present:

Adam Lunn, Chairman
Larry Bowden, Vice Chairman
Antonio Jimenez
Randy Leazer

Management

Fire Chief Jim Thompson
Tamara Alaniz, General Manager
Cindy Fowlkes, District Secretary

Committee Members Absent:

Mary Reeves

The following Agenda items were discussed.

Public Comment

None

Review of Cost Projections for Preferred Service Level Model

The Committee was in favor of a three year phase in plan. The cost projection for the 8 personnel staffing level included a \$20.40 incremental increase over a three year period with a 3% inflation adjuster. A sunset clause for the inflation adjuster was discussed without a consensus for a resolution.

Review of Subcommittee Draft Report

After discussion, the Committee was in agreement to send their individual revisions and facts and findings to Chief Thompson, by September 25th, to be included in Chairman Lunn's draft report for October's Advisory Committee meeting. The Committee will review all the facts and findings at their next scheduled meeting and present a final draft to the Board at the regularly scheduled October Board meeting.

Ed Vallerand, of Twentynine Palms, spoke to Agenda Item #2 and questioned the legality of the inflation adjuster beyond a four year time frame.

Review of Voter Turnout History for Local Elections and Discussion on Possible Timeframe of Calling for a Special Tax Ballot Measure

The Committee reviewed the history of voter turnout for various local elections, including water Board and Fire Tax measure elections. Stand-alone mail ballot elections are considered the most expensive, costing approximately \$30,000 and resulting in the least voter turnout. The Committee was in agreement to recommend placing a measure on the November 2014 general election ballot which will have a polling place and should result in a greater turnout.

Future Tasks

None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 9, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.