

# **Sun Lakes Fire District Regular Meeting Minutes**

## **January 26, 2009**

### **Call to Order:**

The regular meeting of the Sun Lakes Fire District Board of Directors was called to order by Board Chair Sellers at 2:00 P.M. Board Chair Sellers, Board Members Kohler, Price and Crawford were present. Board Member Utter was absent. Others in attendance included Fire Chief Wilson, Battalion Chief Olmstead, Finance Manager Elikan, Captains Kenyon and Bennett, Firefighter Puchta and Member of the Public Jim Kaiser. The meeting was led in the Pledge of Allegiance by Board Member Kohler.

### **Approval of the Minutes of the December 15, 2009 Monthly Board Meeting**

There were no additions or corrections to the minutes of the December 15, 2009 Regular Monthly Board Meeting, therefore, Board Chair Sellers declared the Minutes approved as circulated.

### **Unscheduled Public Appearances Call to the Public**

There were none.

Chief Wilson announced that the Board meetings will be held in the Lecky Room at the Sun Lakes Branch of the Maricopa County Library at no charge to the District.

### **A. Presentation—2009 District Accomplishments**

Chief Wilson presented a review of the accomplishments of the whole department during 2009. A paper copy of the slides used in the presentation was included in the Board Agenda Package.

### **B. Correspondence and/or Other Important Information Attached.**

No comments.

### **C. Reports:**

#### **AFDA Conference Jan. 15-17, 2010.**

Board Member Crawford stated that he continues to be impressed by the technology available to Fire Departments.

Board Member Kohler attended a session on legislation and noted that there continues to be significant dysfunction in the State Government on how to balance the State budget. He also noted that according to the AFDA lobbyists there do not appear to be any significant compromises on the horizon.

Board Member Price reported on a session she attended that dealt with changes in the State Open Meeting Laws. One significant change that had occurred in the last

1 ½ years is the requirement for Districts/Communities over 2,500 population to post Board Meeting Minutes and other pertinent documents on the Department web site. Ms. Price noted that this change was not generally known by Districts and was dismayed that the information was not disseminated when the rule/law changed. Chief Wilson agreed to research the extent of the change and take steps to revise the SLFD notification/posting procedures as needed.

Board Member Price went on to note that these recent law changes also now require the Board Committees to keep minutes of Committee meetings and also post them on the District Web Site

#### **D. Fire Chief's Report for December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009 through January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010.**

Chief Wilson began his report by calling the Board's attention to the upcoming CPR/AED courses scheduled in February and also noted that Sta. 232 would be hosting a session of the AARP Driver Safety Program. He recognized Gil Hendry for arranging the AARP Driver Safety Classes at the Fire Station.

##### **1. News and Events.**

###### *a. Upcoming CPR/AED Classes:*

*February 20 & 26 CPR/AED at 8:30 AM.*

###### *b. AARP Driver Safety Program*

*February 17 at 12:00 Noon.*

##### **2. Community Assistance Program Update.**

Chief Wilson called the Board's attention to the Annual Report of Emergency Incidents for Fire, EMS and the CAP.

There were no comments.

##### **3. District Accomplishments & Highlights.**

Captain Olmstead presented the District Accomplishments & Highlights.

- *Dec.-09: Sun Lakes EMS personnel CEP Jaime Gonzales, CEP Cody Miller and EMT Leslie Pechacek completed their 1 year probation.*
- *12-17-09: Sun Lakes Fire Department celebrated the retirements of Captain Dave Niehuis and Captain Carl Hayden. The day also recognized the 20 years of service to BC Steve McCoy and Captain Brad Rock.*
- *12-28 thru 30-09: All Sun Lakes emergency personnel completed training on the 800 MHz radios for non-hazard incidents.*
- *1-14-10: Sun Lakes Fire Department began the 800 MHz non-hazard transition for incidents in Sun Lakes.*

BC Olmstead noted that the system seems to be working very well with clear communications. He noted that there may need to be some additional protocols established to assign particular channels to particular calls—the

issue being that because of the repeater system, a transmission in Sun Lakes is heard on that channel throughout the valley. This becomes problematic if two calls are assigned to the same channel and at least one of the calls requires a lot of radio traffic.

- *1-15-10: Sun Lakes Fire Board Members, BC Steve McCoy, BC Robert Olmstead and Finance Manager Andrea Elikan attended the AFDA Conference.*
- *The new ambulance will be completed by the end of January, 2010. BC Olmstead noted that EMS Coordinator Barden and Engineer McEnaney are scheduled to do a final inspection on the ambulance at the factory during the first week of February.*
- *The chassis for the new engine was delivered to the factory January 11, 2010.*

No Comments.

#### **4. Operations Report – A, B & C Shifts & Emergency Medical Services**

BC Olmstead reported that all flu shot clinics had been completed with 1,200 doses administered in five separate clinics.

#### **5. Significant Emergency Incidents**

- *12-09-09: Sun Lakes BC231, E232 and E231 responded automatic aid to the City of Chandler for a house fire. BC231 incident command. It was a room and contents fire in one of the bedrooms. No injuries reported.*

#### **6. December 16, 2009 – January 15, 2010 Chief Wilson represented the Fire District:**

<i>Dec. 17</i>	<i>Gila River Fire Dept. Meeting.</i>
<i>Dec. 17</i>	<i>Retirement &amp; Service Recognition Event.</i>
<i>Dec. 31</i>	<i>Labor &amp; Management M.O.U. Meeting</i>
	<i>A-1 Golf Cart—Fire Sprinkler System Inspection.</i>
<i>Jan. 6</i>	<i>Gila River Fire Response Mtg.—Chandler</i>
<i>Jan. 8</i>	<i>Computer Support Mtg.</i>
<i>Jan. 13</i>	<i>AZ Fire Chiefs Conference Planning Mtg.—Avondale.</i>

#### **Financial Presentation—Revenues, Tax Rates and Expenses Forecast.**

Finance Manager Elikan reviewed the implications of Senate Bill 1421 and how the proposed limits would affect current and future tax levies in Sun Lakes. She noted that there was a provision in the bill for a local override but in her opinion no override would be needed for the foreseeable future. Ms. Elikan reviewed the tax rates that would be necessary to maintain current budgetary funding levels for the next two budget years. A copy of the slides used in her presentation is attached to the Minutes.

There was a prolonged discussion of the various options available to maintain the

current funding and service levels of SLFD with no conclusions reached.

### **Financial Report.**

The Financial Report was reviewed by Finance Manager Andrea Elikan.

There were no comments on the financial report.

### **Local 3560 Report.**

Captain Kenyon gave a brief report on the Union's activities.

There were no comments.

Fire Chief Wilson presented a twelve month evaluation report on the changes in sick leave, injuries, training, etc. since the inception of the 48/96 schedule.

## **E. Regular Agenda**

### **1. Discussion and Possible Action on a Proposed Hiring Freeze of Firefighters, for Two Retirement Vacancies, for the Balance of FY 2009/10.**

Chief Wilson recommended with the support of Local 3560 that a hiring freeze be placed on filling two open emergency response positions until the end of FY 2009/10.

Board Member Crawford moved that a hiring freeze for emergency response positions be put in place for the remainder of the FY 2009/10. The Motion was seconded by Board Member Price. There was no further discussion. The Motion was voted on and passed with all four Board Members present voting in favor.

### **2. Discussion and Possible Action to Adjourn to Executive Session Regarding Arizona State Retirement System Participation of Public Employee—Fire Chief (A.R.S. 38-431.03 A. 3.).**

Board Member Crawford moved that the meeting adjourn to an Executive Session to discuss the participation of a public employee—the Fire Chief in the Arizona State Retirement System pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03 A. The Motion was seconded by Board Member Price. The Motion was voted on and passed with all four Board Members present voting in favor.

### **3. Possible Adjournment to Executive Session (Closed Meeting).**

Board Chair Sellers declared the Board to be in Executive Session.

### **4. Executive Session for the purpose of discussion and consideration regarding the Arizona State Retirement System Participation of Public Employee—Fire Chief (A.R.S. 38-431.03 A. 3.)**

**5. Reconvene Regular Meeting (Open Session).**

Board Chair Sellers reconvened the Open Session.

**6. Reportable Actions from the Executive Session if any.**

The Executive Session covered a discussion about the status of the legal action to determine the Fire Chief's eligibility for participation in the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS).

**7. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Arizona State Retirement System Participation of Public Employee—Fire Chief.**

Board Member Crawford moved that with the assistance of the Legal and Insurance Committee the Board begin a search for new legal representation for the Board. The Motion was seconded by Board Member Kohler. The Motion was voted on and passed with all four Board Members present voting in favor.

Board Member Crawford moved that the Board direct the Department to deposit both the Fire Chief's Employee and Employer normal ASRS contribution amounts into the 401A Account for the benefit of the Fire Chief until the dispute with ASRS is resolved. The Motion was seconded by Board Member Kohler. The Motion was voted on and passed with all four Board Members present voting in favor.

**F. Board Member Comments**

There were no Board Member comments.

**G. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Board Chair Sellers declared the meeting adjourned at 4:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Forest Kohler,  
Board Clerk  
FK/geh