



SAN SIMON FIRE DISTRICT

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Dedicated to:
Calming Fears
Easing Minds
Saving Lives

San Simon Fire District
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, January 9, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm, at the San Simon Fire Station, 2249 W. Firehouse Lane, San Simon, AZ 85632.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Pledge of Allegiance lead by Pati Fickett.

3. ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:

Governing Board: Chairperson Pati Fickett – Present
Clerk Savanna Valdez – Absent
Board Member Fernando Guzman - Present

Administration: Chief John Novak – Present
Captain Heather Lentz – Present

Firefighters: Rose Rothpletz

Support: Michele Larned

Guests: Diane Parker Paul Rambo
Chuck Fickett Mary Sparkman
Ronnie Mahan

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM December 12, 2023, MEETING:

Mr. Guzman made the motion to approve the Board Minutes of December 12, 2023, as presented.

Mrs. Fickett seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

Voting	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Mrs. Fickett	X			
Ms. Valdez				X
Mr. Guzman	X			

5. APPROVE FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Guzman made the motion to approve the financial report as presented.

Mrs. Fickett seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

Voting	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Mrs. Fickett	X			
Ms. Valdez				X
Mr. Guzman	X			

6. CORRESPONDENCE:

Received a letter from the Cochise County Elections Department with regards to the election of a board member at the November General.

Received a letter from informing the San Simon Fire District of its new ISO (Insurance Service Office) Rating of a 09/10 (9 within 5 miles of the fire station and a 10 outside the 5-mile area). This rating is scheduled to become effective April 1, 2024. The benefit of having an ISO rating is a possible slight reduction in homeowners' insurance. This is a rating given to the local Fire District determined by meeting certain criteria. Previously San Simon Fire District did not have an ISO Rating at all. For additional information contact Chief Novak.

7. AUXILIARY REPORT:

Michelle Larned, Auxiliary President, reported the Auxiliary Donation Box was removed during the first part of the month of December and replaced with a Donation Box for Toys for Tots. The Auxiliary Donation Box has been replaced, but Ms. Larned is unsure of the current balance at this time.

8. CHIEF'S REPORT:

Ran 13 calls in December: 1 ALS, 6 BLS, 1 Public Assist, 1 HazMat, 3 Motor Vehicle Collision and 1 Mutual Aid Vehicle Fire with Bowie.

The Fire Auxiliary received a 50-50 matching grant from the Legacy Foundation of Southeast Arizona to assist the district to purchase a new cardiac monitor.

Finishing up a 50% match grant with Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire. If awarded, the funds will be used to purchase wildland PPE, fire shelter and equipment.

The Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management has opened a capital equipment grant with a maximum award of \$400,000.00. This is a non-matching grant. If awarded these funds can be used towards the construction of a new building.

Had a meeting with Dan Duchon, the Cochise County manager last week. He is setting up a meeting with the county grants administrator and the fire district to discuss the procedures for their future administration of grants, the district is currently applying for, to fund construction of a new firehouse and facility.

The fire district participated in the school Christmas program. Once again, we delivered Santa to the school in the fire engine.

The fire district participated in the Wreaths Across America Program at the Homewood Cemetery and assisted other community volunteers in placing wreaths on the graves of veterans.

(The Chairperson and Board would like to give a special "Thanks" to Lesti Webster for coordination of this event the past few years.)

The water leak was fixed on the tanker. It is now parked inside. The brush truck is parked outside, and its tank and plumbing has been drained to prevent freezing.

The volunteers and I have finalized a floor plan for the new station. After consulting with a contractor, it was decided on a two-story design. Crew's quarters would be located upstairs, and the administrative office downstairs. This configuration would help save construction cost by requiring less concrete.

We held our initial meeting with Streamline and the website is now in the final planning stages.

Additional Data for 2023:

Total Calls 155, EMS-A 28, EMS-B 34, MVC 36, MVC w/Extrication 0, Winland Fire 12, Hazardous Materials 2, Structure Fire 3, Still 3, Vehicle 6, Cancelled Call 11, Public Assist 4, Smoke Investigation 11, Railroad Fire 1, Missing Reports 0, Mutual Aid – Wildland 3, Mutual Aid – Vehicle Fire 1, Mutual Aid – Cancelled Call 1 and 2 Missed Calls.

Annual Calls Statistics:

2022 Total Calls – 134 (Responded to 98, 36 missed)

2023 Total Calls – 155 (Responded to 153, 2 missed)

Volunteer Training Hours 2023: 519 total hours

San Simon Fire District - Fees for Service:

Collected \$43,202.50, Pending Payment \$22,800.00

9. OLD BUSINESS:

None

10. CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Diane Parker: Expressed her appreciation for Chief Novak and the Volunteers and their dedication to the community. She would also appreciate the fire district arranging an

inspection of fire extinguishers for the community to update their personal extinguishers.

Mary Sparkman: Asked if Board Member Guzman had completed his Statutory Training?

Chairman Fickett: Assured Mr. Guzman had completed his Statutory Training and showed his certificate of completion.

11. NEW BUSINESS:

All items are listed for **Discussion/Approval/Disapproval**

A. CARDIAC MONITOR:

Discussion was held regarding the need to replace the cardiac monitor; due to the monitor the district had been using being deemed non-repairable (mother board failure) and is no longer supported by the manufacturer. After discussion, it was agreed the cardiac monitor is a vital piece of equipment to emergency personnel, the community, and the people the district serves.

Mrs. Fickett moved to purchase a new Cardiac Monitor from Stryker Medical at a cost of \$49,639.54 with grant funds from the Legacy Foundation of Southeast Arizona paying half the cost and the balance being paid by the district from funds generated by the earlier sale of surplus equipment.

Mr. Guzman seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

Voting	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Mrs. Fickett	X			
Ms. Valdez				X
Mr. Guzman	X			

B. STAIR CHAIR:

Discussion was held regarding the benefits of purchasing a Xpedition Powered Stair Chair for the use of the district's emergency personnel. The Powered Stair Chair allows personnel to safely and ergonomically move patients up and down stairs, and in and out of narrow doorways and hallways greatly reducing risk and injury to patients and personnel.

Mr. Guzman made a motion to purchase the Xpedition Powered Stair Chair from Stryker Medical for \$16,603.15.

Mrs. Fickett seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

Voting	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Mrs. Fickett	X			
Ms. Valdez				X
Mr. Guzman	X			

C. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mrs. Fickett made a motion to move to the Executive Session at 7:02 pm to discuss a personnel matter.

Mr. Guzman seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

Voting	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Mrs. Fickett	X			
Ms. Valdez				X
Mr. Guzman	X			

Returned to open meeting from Executive Session at 7:13 pm.
No action taken.

12. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Mrs. Fickett reported that the district is working with the accounting firm and Streamline to bring them onboard.

Mr. Guzman shared his opinion of the need for the new equipment being purchased by the district to improve service and safety to all concerned.

13. FIRE CHIEF AND CAPTAINS COMMENTS:

Firefighter Rothpletz: Thanked the board for their support and foresight to provide equipment and training needed to improve Firefighters/Emergency Responders skills and abilities to respond where they are called and needed.

Ms. Lenard: Also expressed her appreciation for the Board's approval to purchase the new equipment.

Captain Lentz: Thanked not only the Board, but the taxpayers for the support of new equipment to improve their ability to better perform their duties and responsibilities as fire district personnel. The new flashlights, which attach to their jackets and helmets free the firefighter's hands more effectively perform their duties. Training classes upcoming are a, Snake Handling Class and an Extraction Training.

14. SET TIME AND DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: Tuesday February 13, 2024, at 6:00 pm

Mrs. Fickett made a motion to schedule the next meeting, February 13, 2024, at 6:00 pm.

Mr. Guzman seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

Voting	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Mrs. Fickett	X			
Ms. Valdez				X
Mr. Guzman	X			

15. ADJOURN:

Chairperson Fickett adjourned the meeting at 7:28pm.

Submitted Respectfully By: Pati Fickett

Patricia Fickett, Chairperson

Date