

**Minutes to the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sonoita-Elgin Fire District
Monday, 22 April 2019
9 a.m.**

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call – all Board members were present

Call to the Public – Don Irving, I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the quick response of the fire department on the day we had such heavy snowfall. They cleared the broken trees and branches from our road very early in the day. Thank you.

Approval of the minutes of 25 March 2019 – motion to approve minutes made by Webber, seconded by Johnson, motion carried unanimously.

Chief Report – Chief presented his monthly report on statistics, Grant updated – both Fuels Mitigation Grant and the new Ready, Set, Go Grant that was just awarded, Palominas Fire IGA was going well – they've just ordered their new Type 1/3 Engine. Palominas Board asked the SEFD Board to select a date for the Meet & Greet in Palominas (Board selected May 25th). This past week I was in Bullhead City assisting with the selection of a new Battalion Chief, and that the OPS personnel (Chief, BC, and 3 Captains) would be at the Symposium of the West the first week of May. Katie and Laura will be the contacts. I will be conducting a class at the symposium as well.

Chief also advised the Board that he had received a complaint concerning the overcrowding at Pioneer Hall for the Suzy Bogguss Concert. This is a fire code issue that we will have to address. The county gives occupancy on buildings, this will have to be addressed by the county. Very few buildings have occupancy signs, now that there is a concern, it will have to be addressed. Even though we haven't adopted a fire code, we're still responsible for the fire code... we have to address complaints in a timely manner.

Draft Budget – there are two out there; we have to pick a budget to post at the next regular Board meeting. I know Kurt has a few comments he'd like to make.... Bahti... I've met with the Chief and have done some soul-searching – we operate on a shoe-string budget and Chief does an admirable job, but there's things coming down the pike, things we need to have, things that have been coming down the pike for a number of years. So let's think about what we have to have and how we're going to get there. We need to have an answer at the next meeting. I'll pass these around, read at your own leisure.

Public meeting – June 24 (PURPOSE – to hear public comment)

Public adoption – June 26

Radios – Johnson – I know technology moves fairly fast.. when does the new standard go into effect? Chief – right now we have to be P-25 compliant and we're not. Communications is moving so fast. FirstNet has failed and they're saying they can't meet their objectives. We've had the FirstNet here about a month ago and they were floored that it didn't work. We have to be P-25 in two years. Johnson – I've heard there is a new cell tower going in at Rain Valley. Chief – yes, we are speaking with them about putting our second repeater up on the tower but it depends on how high the repeater will sit. Johnson – is there a time-frame on the tower? Chief – no because they got sued.

Financials – V. Rutter – All financials reported, Balance Sheet, Profit & Loss Statement, Cash Flow Forecast; there were no unusual items to discuss; motion to accept the financials as presented made by Johnson, seconded by Webber, motion carried unanimously.

Fundraising Activities – Dorney – In reviewing the projected budget and the needs vs the wants. I'm a proponent of education and I think we're missing out on the opportunity of fundraising around this community – raising funds like we could. There's a lot of things, I did a lot of research on Google, there's a lot of things fire departments have done around the country. Its about the community doing the fundraising – we could do a lot more in encouraging others to get involved and open the pocketbook. I'd like to have classes here for the community (CPR, First aid). Community support needs to be an ongoing thing. Webber – are you thinking of having fees for training? Dorney - We could do whatever we want. I'm looking for guidance – ideas. I think fundraising could help with those extra things. Chief – we can't use any money for fundraising as it would be classified as gambling with public funds. The fire district does not have a fundraising arm. Bahti – If you'd like to head this up, Annette. Dorney – what is the percentage of volunteers here? Chief – we have 13 career and fifty-five volunteers.

Chief Review – I hope to have the first draft out to Board members this week. I hope to have the finished review to the Chief the first week of May.

Comment – can you send out an email with all the dates we set? I'd like to make sure everyone is on the same page.

Adjournment – Motion to adjourn by Johnson, seconded by Webber, motion carried unanimously.