



# TUBAC FIRE DISTRICT

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## TUBAC FIRE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS September 29, 2021

1. Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance: The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m., by Mary Dahl. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. Roll call of Board Members: Mary Dahl, Mike Connelly, Herb Wisdom, and Pete Benequista were present at Station #2. Bill Kirkpatrick was absent. Also, in attendance at Station #2 were Chief Horvath, Deputy Chief Rivera, Deputy Chief Guerrero, Gabe Buldra, Ben Archer Clowes, and Nancy Lindsey. District residents in attendance were Mindy Maddock, Paul Plett, Clem Shute, Dennis Eshleman, Michael Pettypool, Dennis Rowden, Robert Reid, Marty Durkin, and Rich Kiker. In attendance telephonically was Attorney Sam Coppersmith.
3. Report from Board Members: None
4. Reading of public comments submitted via email: Nancy Lindsey read an email from Rich Bohman in which he stated his concerns about plans for building a new station #1.
5. Call to the public: District residents Mindy Maddock, Mike Pettypool, Dennis Eshleman, Clem Shute, and Marty Durkin voiced their concerns about the building of a new station #1 and the cost to residents of the District. They requested that the Board not make a decision today behind closed doors in executive session and give the community an opportunity to have more of a say in perhaps a public forum/meeting before any plans are made to move forward with a new station #1 as they feel the Board and the District have not been transparent with the plans to date. Candy Clancy called in to mimic her concerns of the cost to the residents for a new Station #1 and commented that the Board reconsider the idea of remodeling the existing Station #1.
6. Correspondence: None
7. Chair's Report: None
8. Chief and Staff Report: Chief Horvath gave the following updates:
  - Staff has been responding to several Covid calls.
  - Two staff members have tested positive for Covid since being vaccinated which has caused some staffing issues.
  - No resources are currently out on wildland assignments.
  - The state currently owes the District approximately \$80,000 for August wildland assignments.
9. Monthly Financial Report for August 2021: Gabe Buldra presented the financial reports for the month of August 2021.

10. Consent Agenda: Pete Benequista made a motion to approve the August 25, 2021, meeting minutes and financial reports and Herb Wisdom seconded the motion; all were in favor, motion passed.
11. Discussion and possible action to select firm to provide audit services for FYE2021: Chief Horvath explained to the Board that she asked James Vincent Group to put out an RFP for audit services for the district and that three proposals had been received. Gabe Buldra explained that it is common practice for Fire Districts to change auditors every few years for new perspective, but that it is not a requirement to do so. He further explained that changing auditors requires more work for staff as the new auditors are starting from scratch in familiarizing themselves with the total records and data from the Fire District. Mike Connelly made a motion to utilize the services of Beach Fleischman as auditors for this year at a cost of \$15,500 and Pete Benequista seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.
12. Discussion and possible action regarding acquisition of land for new Station #1. The Board might convene into Executive Session regarding this item in accordance with A.R.S. § 38-431-.03(A)(7) (allowing executive session for discussion or consultation with designated representatives of the District in order to consider the District's position and instruct its representative regarding negotiations for the purchase, sale or lease of real property) and/or A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3) (allowing executive session for discussion or consultation fore legal advice with The District's attorney). Any Action by the board will be taken in the public session. Herb Wisdom made a motion to convene into executive session and Pete Benequista seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed. Upon returning from executive session at 2:48 pm, Pete Benequista made a motion to table agenda item #12 and Herb Wisdom seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.
13. Future Agenda Items:
  - Station #1 property acquisition
  - New hire badge pinning
14. Next meeting: October 27, 2021
15. Adjourn meeting: Herb Wisdom made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:50 p.m. and Pete Benequista seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.