



# TUBAC FIRE DISTRICT

2227 EAST FRONTAGE ROAD  
P.O. BOX 2881  
TUBAC, ARIZONA 85646  
TELEPHONE: (520) 398-2255

TUBAC FIRE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS  
October 30, 2024

1. Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance: The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Sandy Johnson.
2. Roll call of Board Members: Sandy Johnson, Mary Dahl, Peter Benequista, Rich Bohman and Herb Wisdom were present at the Tubac Community Center. Also, in attendance at Tubac Community Center, Fire Chief Ben Guerrero, Deputy Chief Hesly Guerrero, Captain John Conger, Captain Esai Tapia and Bianca Hamric. Sara Simonton attended via Zoom on behalf of James Vincent Group. Members of the public in attendance were Ron Campana, Kathi Campana, Karen Wilson, Kathleen Vandervoet, Robert Reid and Genaro Rivera.
3. Reading of public comments submitted via email: None.
4. Call to the public: None.
5. Correspondence: None.
6. Report from Board Members: None.
7. Chief and Staff Report: Deputy Chief Hesly Guerrero, Captain John Conger, Captain Esai Tapia and Fire Chief Ben Guerrero provided the monthly Staff Report for September 2024.
  - a. Operations Update.
  - b. Training.
  - c. Wildland Update.
  - d. Administration Update.
8. Monthly Financial Report for September 2024: Sara Simonton from James Vincent Group presented the financial reports for the month of September 2024. (Please refer to [www.tubacfiredistrict.org](http://www.tubacfiredistrict.org) under the Tubac Fire Board tab to review report.)
9. Consent Agenda: Peter Benequista made a motion to approve the September 2024 Board minutes. Herb Wisdom seconded the motion; all were in favor the motion passed. Mary Dahl made a motion to approve the financial report for September 2024. Rich Bohman seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.
10. Discussion and possible action to approve the purchase of a "forcible entry" training prop at a cost not to exceed \$9,500. Fire Chief Ben Guerrero presented the Board action request for a training prop door. He stated that training for a possible forcible entry is a necessary for firefighters who are often required to

break down locked doors in the performance of their duties. Purchasing this prop will allow firefighters to practice regularly. Rich Bohman moved to approve the Darley Challenger forcible entry door in the amount not to exceed \$ 9,500. Herb Wisdom seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

11. Discussion and possible action to repair or replace Unit #1048 (Brush Truck). Fire Chief Ben Guerrero presented the Board with the action request. Chief Guerrero stated that staff is recommending a crate engine to be installed for the repair of Unit# 1048. The crate engine replacement would be the most economical option at an estimated cost of \$35,000. Mary Dahl made a motion to authorize staff to replace the engine on Unit# 1048 with a crate engine at a cost not to exceed \$35,000. Herb Wisdom seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.
12. Discussion and possible action to approve Board Resolution #2024-05 “Assistance to Firefighters Grant”, for the purpose of replacing the Type I engine (1997 International). The “Assistance to Firefighters Grant” solicitation is currently open. This funding source is available on a competitive basis to assist fire agencies to purchase fire fighting equipment and vehicles. This year the District is asking for funding to replace the Type I engine that is over 25 years old. The Resolution, which is an application requirement, authorizes the Fire Chief to execute and submit all documents in connection with the grant submittal and, hopefully, award. Mary Dahl moved to approve Resolution #2024-05 as presented. Herb Wisdom seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.
13. Fire Station #1 and Tower Update:
  - a. Update on the Station #1 project. The Station #1 design is pending USDA approval. Chief Guerrero discussed with the Board on-site drainage issues and how to resolve them.
  - b. Update on the Tower project. The tower installation is completed. Fire Chief discussed with the Board a temporary power pole on the property. Also, a retaining wall at the base of the tower was discussed with the Board.
14. Executive Session: Mary Dahl moved to adjourn the public session and move the Board meeting to executive session. Peter Benequista seconded the motion; all were in favor the motion passed.  
The Board meeting reconvened at 3:27 p.m.
15. Discussion and possible action to provide direction to the Fire Chief regarding the Santa Cruz County Treasurer Litigation and to enter into litigation related agreements. Mary Dahl moved to approve Fire Chief Ben Guerrero to enter into litigation agreements pertaining to the Santa Cruz County Treasurer. Herb Wisdom seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.
16. Discussion and possible action for legal advice and/ or direction regarding employee matters. Mary Dahl moved to authorize a payment made to Human Resource Strategies in the amount of \$6,112.50 for an internal investigation. Rich Bohman seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.
17. Future Agenda Items: Station #1 project.
18. Next Meeting: November 20, 2024.
19. Adjourn meeting: Herb Wisdom made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting. Peter Benequista seconded the motion; All were in favor; the motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 3:32 p.m.