



# 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 28, 2020

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: All Board members were present; Mary Dahl, Herb Wisdom, Mike Connelly and Candy Clancy at Station #2 and Bill Kirkpatrick telephonically. Also, in attendance at Station #2 were Chief Horvath, Deputy Chief Rivera, Deputy Chief Guerrero, Captain Lujan, and Nancy Lindsey. Peter Benequista, Brenda Tranchina and Gabe Buldra attended telephonically.
3. Report from Board Members: None
4. Reading of public comments submitted via email: Nancy Lindsey read an email submitted by Peter Benequista recommending a change to the Tubac Fire District Mission Statement.
5. Correspondence: Letters received from District residents thanking the staff for their excellent medical care.
6. Chair's Report: None
7. Chief and Staff Report: Chief Horvath presented the staff report and updated the Board on District-wide activities including a new report that shows the revenue generated from wildland responses as well as an informational flyer and FAQ's for the annexation meeting scheduled on November 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at Tubac Station #3. Candy commented that in the four years she has been a board member the number of calls in Station #3's area have just not reflected positively in the need for there being four stations in the District and she feels the Board should consider mothballing one the of stations.
8. Monthly Financial Report for September 2020: Gabe Buldra presented the financial reports for the month of September 2020.  
Key points for the month:
  - A. Santa Cruz County revenue for September was \$10,415 which was \$13,811 under budget.
  - B. Non-L Levy revenue was \$189,948 which was over budget by \$48,773.
  - C. Expenses for the month totaled \$299,485 which was over budget by \$7,691.
  - D. Year-to-date Santa Cruz revenue is \$35,591 which is \$9,487 under budget.
  - E. Year-to-date Non-levy revenue is \$354,349 which is \$69,176 under budget.
  - F. Year-to-date expense is \$1,035,743 which is \$30,074 over budget
9. Consent Agenda
  - A. Approval of minutes from September 30, 2020 regular meeting

## B. Approval of monthly financial reports

Candy Clancy made a motion to approve the consent agenda and Herb Wisdom seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.

10. Discussion and possible action to increase ambulance transport rates: Gabe Buldra explained that an analysis done by James Vincent Group shows that the District's ambulance transport base rate of \$1,198.80 and \$13.33 per mile is one of the lowest rates in southern Arizona. His recommendation to the Board is to approve an application for a general rate increase that would earn an additional \$100,000 in net collections for the District. Mike Connelly asked what the District's current collection rate is and if a rate increase would truly generate \$100,000 in additional net collections to which Gabe replied that the current collection rate is approximately 63% and that he feels confident a rate increase would generate an additional \$100,000 annually. Mike Connelly made a motion to approve the recommendation of the James Vincent Group to file an application to increase the general ambulance transport rate to an amount necessary to earn an additional \$100,000 in net collections and Herb Wisdom seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.
11. Discussion and information only regarding overtime compensation: Chief Horvath explained that the overtime discussion was included on the agenda per request of Mr. Connelly. Mike Connelly stated that in this year's budget preparation overtime was decreased to fill budget gaps, keeping in mind that last year annual pay increases were approved by the Board. He referenced the MOU with TFD Labor in which overtime is expected and asked how the District was going to be able to keep to the budget where overtime is considered? Chief Horvath explained to Mr. Connelly that the MOU was only a draft document that had never been approved. Brenda Tranchina explained that the laws pertaining to public safety personnel overtime is based on the hours they are required to work in a pay period and how FLSA is a mandated overtime rate that must be paid. Mr. Connelly thanked Brenda for the explanation and stated he better understands how FLSA overtime works for public safety personnel.
12. Discussion and possible action to approve purchase of a treadmill for Station #1: Chief Horvath explained to the Board that an area in one of the apparatus bays at Station #1 has been designated as a fitness area and currently contains an exercise bike and a bar rack. Staff is requesting purchase of a treadmill to help promote fitness and better workouts for cardiovascular, flexibility and weight training. The total cost for the treadmill is \$5,886.29 and this purchase was anticipated in the capital improvements plan. Mike Connelly asked if the staff would really use it, to which Chief Horvath replied that staff asked for it. Herb Wisdom made a motion to authorize the purchase of the TRUE TC900 treadmill from the Commercial Fitness Superstore in the amount of \$5,886.29 and Bill Kirkpatrick seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.
13. Discussion and possible action to approve purchase of a new ambulance: Deputy Chief Rivera explained the high mileage and increasing maintenance costs for the 2008 model ambulances are driving the need to add another new ambulance to the fleet. Transmission and other major equipment failures are causing operations to consider removing at least one unit from service and parking two others to be utilized strictly as backup when the newer units are out of service for maintenance. He continued by explaining that the three quotes received are for demo units that are available for quick delivery. Chief Horvath explained that the District had applied for an AFG grant to purchase this ambulance, but the grant was not approved. Mike Connelly asked if the ambulance purchase was part of this budget year capital purchase plan and if the reason for looking at demo units is because of the immediate need to which Chief Horvath replied that the purchase of one ambulance this fiscal year and one in next fiscal year was the part of the capital purchase plan and that waiting on a custom build would cost more and could take 190 days delivery provided there are no additional COVID delays. Candy Clancy stated that she was conflicted on purchasing any new units based on the number of medical calls, but also does not like spending the money to continue to fix the older units. Chief Horvath commented that the District as a holder of a CON is required to have ambulances on the road. Herb Wisdom made a motion to authorize purchase of a 2018 Medix Type I Ambulance from Republic EVS for \$168,964.60 and Mike Connelly seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.
14. Discussion and possible action to approve purchase of an ambulance power cot: Deputy Chief Rivera explained that with the approved purchase of the ambulance, the approval for purchase of a power gurney would also be needed from the Board. Captain Martin Lujan commented that the power gurneys purchased for the new

ambulances last year have been great and have helped not only to aid with the hard lifts, being capable of lifting 450 pounds, but also in preventing staff injuries. Mike Connelly made a motion to authorize the purchase of the INX power gurney from Ferno in the amount of \$45,586.97 and Herb Wisdom seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.

15. Future Agenda Items:

- A. Dispatch agreement
- B. Discussion on funds received from sale of tower
- C. Discussion on closing a station

16. Next Meeting: November 18, 2020 at 1:30 pm

17. Adjourn Meeting: Mike Connelly made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:00 p.m. and Herb Wisdom seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.