



MINUTES OF THE BUCKSKIN/PARKER FIRE DISTRICT FIRE BOARD
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING

04/04/2024 – Open Meeting: Minutes to be approved at open public meeting on Tuesday, 05/14/2024, a public meeting of the Buckskin Fire Board & Parker Fire Board convened on April 4, 2024, that started at 6:00 pm in the out-bay of the Buckskin Fire District, located at: 8500 Riverside Drive, Parker, AZ 85344. The following matters were discussed at the Open Meeting.

Agenda Open Meeting

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Roll Call: 6:02 pm

Members Present BFD: *Chairman, Jeff Daniel, John Mihelich, Jim Brouillette, Wayne Posey, & Don Rountree.*

Members Present PFD: *Chairman Samantha Anderson, Ron Sims, Amanda Weatherford, Estevan Diarte, & Allayzia Foster*

Staff Present: *Chief McMahan, Barbara Cole, Bill Whittington, District Legal representative, Captain Weatherford, Lt. Foster, FF Chase Rather, FF Tanner Irwin and most all other staff.*

Public Present: *Anna Camacho, Garrett Sholl, Steve Zigler, David Plunket, Duce Minor, Nora Yackley & Marsha Crawford, Chris Chambers.*

2. **Call to the Public.** Consideration and discussion of comments from the public. *Those wishing to address the Buckskin Fire District Board need not request permission in advance Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.01(G), the Fire District Board is not permitted to discuss or take any action on items raised in the call to the public that is not specifically identified on the Agenda. However, individual Board members may be permitted to respond to criticism directed to them. Otherwise, the Board may direct that staff review the matter or ask that the matter be placed on a future agenda.* Public input is limited to two (2) minutes unless a greater amount of time is approved by the Board. ***The Fire District Board cannot discuss or take legal action on any issue raised during the Call to the Public that is not on the current Agenda, due to restrictions of the Open Meeting Law.***

Chairman gave the public 3 minutes to speak.

Steve Zigler, Parker Town Public Works Department, Nora Yackley, Parker Town Manager, David Plunkett, Board of Supervisors, Duce Minor, Board of Supervisors, Anna Comacho, County Assessor Office, Marsha Crawford, Plantation Mobile Park, an exception was made for Garret Sholl, owner of Roadrunner to speak when the board came out of executive session.

3. (Joint Discussion & Possible Action Item): Possible approval of the Consent and Waiver authorizing William Whittington of the Law Firm of Boyle, Pecharich, Cline, Whittington, and Stallings, to represent the Buckskin Fire District in conjunctions with the IGA for



Management, Administrative, and Financial Accounting Services. *Discussion with legal, Bill Whittington regarding that Parker Fire uses the same law firm, of which Bill Whittington stated that they had already signed their same form and that the Parker Fire Board knew that Bill Whittington was there to represent the Buckskin Fire District, and not the Parker Fire District. Ron Sims asked who was paying the bill for legal to be there, of which the answer was Buckskin. A motion was made by Don Rountree to approve to sign and accept the Consent and Waiver form presented, along with a second from John Mihelich.*

There were no comments or questions prior to voting.

Ayes: Daniel, Rountree, Posey, Mihelich & Brouillette.

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain:

Chairman Daniel: Motion passed by a unanimous vote on agenda item #3.

4. Possible motion by the Buckskin Fire District Governing Board to go into Executive Session for legal advice pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 A.3. re: regarding IGA with Parker for Management, Administrative and Financial Services.

A motion was made by Jeff Danil to go into Executive Session for legal advice under statute, A.R.S. §38-431.03 A.3., regarding the IGA with Parker Fire, along with a second from Don Rountree..

There were no comments or questions prior to voting.

Ayes: Daniel, Rountree, Posey, Mihelich & Brouillette.

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain:

Chairman Daniel: Motion passed by a unanimous vote on agenda item #4.

Joint Open Meeting started at 6:36pm.

5. (Discussion & Possible Action): re: IGA for Management, Administrative, and Financial Accounting Services, with Parker Fire District. Possible continuation, renewal, or modification of same. *Discussions ensued between both Fire Boards regarding the IGA and Parker had asked the questions of why they were not included in the discussions regarding the Fire Chief as they were very happy with the Fire Chief, and that no one from the Town of Parker had come to the Parker Fire Board meetings to raise the same questions or comments that they had brought to the Buckskin Board as it has to do with Parker Fire rather than Buckskin Fire. Wayne Posey brought up the Buckskin District pay substantial more taxes than Parker Fire, and that 19% total call volume respond to PFD calls, of which Amanda Weatherford stated that 120K for assistance is a substantial amount paid. Both Boards stated that they were happy with the IGA, but that Parker would like to be considered in the future regarding the Fire Chief. A question was raised if the IGA has to be renewed, of which the answer was it automatic renews. Don Rountree stated that he would like the IGA to continue.*



*A motion was made by the Buckskin Fire board, Don Rountree to continue the current IGA with Parker Fire, along with a second from John Mihelich.
There were no more comments or questions prior to voting.*

Ayes, Daniel, Rountree, Posey, Mihelich & Brouillette..

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain:.

Chairman Daniel: Motion passed by a unanimous vote on agenda item #5.

A motion was made by the Parker Fire board, Allayzia Foster to continue the current IGA with Buckskin Fire, along with a second from Amanda Weatherford.

There were no more comments or questions prior to voting.

Ayes, Anderson, Weatherford, Diarte, Foster.

Nays: Sims

Absent:

Abstain:.

Chairman Anderson: Motion passed by a Majority vote on agenda item #5.

Buckskin Fire Board Meeting. 6:52 pm

6. Possible motion to go into Executive Session for legal advice pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03.A.3 and possible instructions to legal counsel pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03.A.4 re: Fire Chief position, possible Interim Fire Chief appointment and contracts related to the same.

A motion was made by Wayne Posey to go into Executive Session, along with a second from John Mihelich.

There were no comments or questions prior to voting.

Ayes: Daniel, Rountree, Posey, Mihelich & Brouillette.

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain:.

Chairman Daniel: Motion passed by a unanimous vote on agenda item #6.

Open Meeting continuation: 7:30 pm.

7. (Discussion & Possible Action): Possible re-consideration of the Boards prior decision to provide 30-day notice to current Fire Chief.

Discussions between both Boards regarding whether or not to have another conversation with the current Chief, regarding the possibility of having legal negotiate with the current Chief, with significant changes and what those changes would be, several of the BFD Board members stated that they stood on their previous decisions, the public was allowed to speak



regarding the current Fire Chief, to bring up their grievances again regarding Chief McMahan. No changes were made to the prior decision. No Motion made.

8. (Discussion & Possible Action): Possible Interim Fire Chief appointment and possible use of an outside recruitment company to look for a more permanent solution; Possible action to hire outside recruitment company to conduct a search and candidate assessment for the Fire Chief position.

Discussions were brought up regarding the prior company used to find a Fire Chief, Human Resources Strategies, including allowing Chris Chambers to speak regarding Human Resource Strategies, of his dislike for the owner, Brenda Tranchina, David Plunkett spoke regarding putting Chris Chambers in as Chief. A motion was made by Wayne Posey to defer any decisions regarding an interim Chief or possible outside company to find a more permanent solution to the next meeting, along with a second from Jeff Daniel.

There were no comments or questions prior to voting.

Ayes: Daniel, Rountree, Posey, Mihelich & Brouillette.

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain.:

Chairman Daniel: Motion passed by a unanimous vote on agenda item #8.

9. (Discussion & Possible Action): Fire Protection Services Agreement between San Bernadino County Fire Protection District and the Buckskin Fire District.

Chief McMahan stated that in the past with the MOU agreement with San Bernadino, the original contract was 50k, but that for the last two years that BFD was able to raise according to the contract 4% without having to amend the contract, but now that new finance personnel has been brought in for San Bernadino they require, according to the contract an amendment each time there is an adjustment, and they are not going to honor the way the last 2 years have been done and only pay 50k, this year unless there is an amendment made. Chief McMahan stated that he has a meeting with San Bernadino Fire Chief Munsey directly in San Bernadino, as he does not want to lose 6K on the invoice, on Friday, April 12th at 11:00 am to speak regarding the current contract. Board member Posey stated that the Board should table the item until the next Fire Chief comes in. Chief McMahan stated again that if they don't want him to keep the appointment with Chief Munsey they will be losing \$6k if they don't let him try to negotiate.. All of the Board members stated no action taken, and that the Board would just wait until there was another Chief to negotiate.

10. (Discussion & Possible Action): re: 2024/2025 Budget proposal.

Board was given the budget assumption costs from December for the new fiscal year budget, along with Chief McMahan showing what the impact would be with or without raising taxes on the screen. He asked for the Board to give directions of where they were going regarding the assumptions so that a budget could be built on the needs of the Fire District. The Board pulled a couple of the assumptions out and asked the Chief to work on using a couple of different tax rates and bring them back to the board at the next meeting, to see where we would



be with their requests. There was no action taken, just a direction for next month's meeting budget talks.

11. Adjourn of Regular Board Meeting: 8.35pm.

Jeff Deuel
Board Chairman

5/14/24
Date

Barbara Cole
Office Administrator

04/15/2024
Date

Minutes approved by: [Signature]

Date: 5/14/24

Minutes approved by: [Signature]

Date: 5/14/24

PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY MAY REQUEST A REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION BY CONTACTING, BRIAN MCMAHAN, FIRE CHIEF OF BUCKSKIN FIRE DISTRICT (928) 667-3321 AT LEAST **48 HOURS** PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED MEETING. FACILITIES ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE.