

MINUTES

**Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority
Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority Board of Directors
Regular Meeting
Monday, August 23, 2021, 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority, Administration, 8603 E. Eastridge Drive,
Prescott Valley**

In-Person Attendance

Darlene Packard; Dave Tharp; Kathy Goodman; Matt Zurcher; Owen Mills;
Rick Anderson; Scott A Freitag; Susanne Dixon

Remote Attendance

Nicolas Cornelius

Not In Attendance

Dave Dobbs

NOTICE OF MEETING

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority Board of Directors and the general public that the **Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority** will hold a meeting open to the public on **Monday, August 23, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.** The meeting will be held at **Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority, Administration, 8603 E. Eastridge Drive, Prescott Valley, Arizona.** The Board may vote to go into Executive Session on any agenda item, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3) for discussion and consultation for legal advice with Authority's Attorney on matters as set forth in the agenda item. The following topics and any variables thereto, will be subject to Board consideration, discussion, approval, or other action. All items are set for possible action. Members may attend in person or via remote methods of communication.

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS

Chair Zurcher called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Zurcher led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. CORRESPONDENCE AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Letters from the Public and Board Recognition

Fire Marshal Chase explained the purpose of life-saving awards and introduced Battalion Chief Davis. Chief Davis presented awards to Shelley Garvon, Kimberly Tate, and Kathy Christensen for their life-saving actions at Fry's in Prescott Valley. He also recognized the Engine 50 and Lifeline crews for their actions that day. Ms. Tate thanked the Board.

4. REPORTS

Reports are informational only. Any item articulated in the reports is subject to clarification,

discussion, and direction by the Board; no action will be taken.

A. Board Member Reports

Clerk Packard invited everyone to participate in the Healing Fields September 10-17, 2021. She also presented plaques as a personal thank you to Chief Freitag and the crew of Station 50 in attendance. She will be presenting plaques to the crews at each of the stations.

B. Division Reports

Chief Freitag reported that the Department of Health Services (DHS) recently observed the Dispatch center at the invitation of Chief Light; Chief Feddema was in attendance as well. Up until that day, American Medical Response/Lifeline (AMR) was unable to staff more than 4-5 ambulances daily. There were four (4) ambulances staffed the day before, eight (8) while DHS was observing, and three (3) the following morning.

He has also had a conversation with Phoenix Fire regarding concerns that Phoenix-area units are being pulled to Glendale. This is due to the fact that the system in the Quad Cities is failing, so AMR is moving ambulances from Wickenburg here, which means units are being pulled out of Glendale to cover Wickenburg, which leaves Phoenix units to cover Glendale.

He continued, reporting that the Certificate of Necessity (CON) application should be in front of the Board prior to the September Board meeting in order to allow time for review and questions. He thanked CAFMA members for the support provided to Prescott Valley Police Department, and Doug Copenhaver for playing the bagpipes at the police officer's memorial service.

Chair Zurcher inquired as to whether there has been feedback from DHS in relation to the visit. Chief Freitag stated that he has not received feedback as DHS has been working solely through Chief Light. DHS has inquired as to how the Agency's complaints might become actionable, but Chief Freitag does not believe there is a way considering how CON 62 is written, and how state statutes are interpreted. He shared an example from over the weekend of a three-year-old near-drowning where AMR had an extended response time. Rescue 61 was dispatched immediately, a helicopter was launched, and they were able to get the child the care they needed without delay.

He reported that the Agency will be sending weekly reports to DHS regarding CAFMA transports.

Chief Feddema added that Staff were able to express concerns during the DHS meeting. He noted that even with eight ambulances that day, AMR still went Level Zero - no ambulances available.

Chair Zurcher inquired as to whether or not DHS heard the radio traffic. Chief Feddema responded in the negative, but that Prescott Regional Communications Center (PRCC) did give DHS a list of 225 times that AMR has gone to Level Zero - no ambulances available, from July 1, 2021, to the DHS visit. Chair Zurcher noted that the 225 does not include the failure the previous month

of June.

Chief Feddema explained that PRCC was able to relay to the DHS representative that AMR has changed the way they handle Level Zero; instead of AMR Dispatch calling in a Level Zero, they now assign an ambulance that is coming from Wickenburg or Williams, as examples, which may then never arrive because in the intervening wait time a closer ambulance may become free.

Clerk Packard inquired as to whether or not a letter from the Board would be helpful. Chief Freitag responded that the letter would be more useful within the CON process.

5. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

In accordance with A.R.S. §38-431.01(H) the Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority Board has decided to allow public comments as time permits. Those wishing to address the Board regarding an issue within the jurisdiction of this public body may do so by completing a *Call to the Public* form and submitting it to Staff. Speakers are limited to three (3) minutes, but may submit written comments for Board records. Call to the Public shall not exceed 30 minutes per meeting. Board members shall not discuss or take legal action on matters raised during an open call to the public, but may ask Staff to review a matter or may ask that a matter be placed on a future agenda.

There were no public comments.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under consent agenda are considered to be routine by the Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority Board and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items. Any item may be removed by a Board member and will be considered separately for motion, discussion, and action.

- A. Approve Regular Session Minutes - July 26, 2021
- B. Approve Joint Special Meeting Minutes - August 4, 2021
- C. Approve Joint Special Meeting Executive Session Minutes - August 4, 2021
- D. Approve General Fund Financial Statements
- E. Approve Fire Protection Agreements: Davies, Express Assets LLC (2), Jones, Jones, and Owens

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Move: Darlene Packard Second: Owen Mills Status: Passed

Yes: Darlene Packard, Matt Zurcher, Owen Mills, Rick Anderson

7. VOTE TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session was waived.

- A. Legal Advice Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3) Regarding the Certificates of Participation (COP) Financials and Process
- B. Legal Advice Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3) Regarding Resolution 2021-07

Disclosure of the Use of Certificates of Participation (COP) Funds

8. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Discussion and Possible Direction to Staff Regarding Certificates of Participation (COP) Financials and Process

Chief Tharp stated that Resolution 2021-07 formalizes the funding process and was drafted with Counsel in order to answer questions posed by Stifel and Bond Counsel. He communicated with Attorney Cornelius, Henry + Horne, and the Agency's certified public accountant prior to drafting.

Chief Freitag reported that CAFMA may be able to reduce the Certificates of Participation (COP) amount by \$4.5 million. He explained how the COP will appear on Agency audits over the next few years.

Chief Tharp made known that Staff has requested that PSPRS provide an amended actuarial report. He also noted that this Thursday the rates will be locked in for the process, and that it appears interest rates are likely to be in the 2-2.5% range.

Attorney Cornelius reiterated that the resolution is appropriate and has been reviewed. He is hoping that this will close mid-September.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discussion and Possible Approval of Resolution 2021-07 Disclosure of the Use of Certificates of Participation (COP) Funds

Motion to approve Resolution 2021-07 which is for the disclosure of the use of Certificates of Participation funds.

Move: Rick Anderson Second: Owen Mills Status: Passed

Yes: Darlene Packard, Matt Zurcher, Owen Mills, Rick Anderson

- B. Discussion and Possible Approval for the Use of \$2.2 Million to Fund Three (3) Fire Trucks

Chief Rose explained the reasoning for purchasing apparatus from a new vendor, specifically that the customer service from Rosenbauer has not been good. A committee was created to address the issue, consisting of three Engineers, Fleet Manager Scaife, and himself. After research, including visiting with several fire agencies around the state, the committee recommended moving forward with Pierce. He explained the pricing and payment method; Staff received cooperative pricing information through Sourcewell.

Chief Freitag added that Pierce is owned by Oshkosh, a military vehicle company, and shared his positive experiences working with Pierce in St. Louis.

Clerk Packard shared a memory of a time when new engines arrived and she was scheduled to go on a ride-along. The ride-along was delayed because the new engines were already in the shop, so she will be glad to see a switch in manufacturer.

Director Mills inquired as to whether or not the committee is satisfied with the competitive pricing and selection. Chief Rose explained that Sourcewell completes the bidding process, and added that the committee found that fire agencies have had similar issues with both Rosenbauer and Ferrara.

Chief Tharp explained that the purchase process takes 14-18 months.

Director Anderson stated that his concern is that CAFMA will overpay due to frustration with customer service and a delay in parts, though he is willing to approve a purchase for a product that is worth the cost. Chief Freitag verbalized that the long-term cost of ownership for a product that consistently has issues goes beyond customer service. The industry sees about a 10% increase per year for apparatus, so pricing for the Pierce apparatus is similar to what the Agency paid for the Rosenbauer, and the long-term cost of ownership should improve. Clerk Packard added that the expectation is that an engine is able to go down I-17 without breaking down, but the Agency is seeing a lot of break-downs with Rosenbauer. and Chief Rose added that the Agency expects to gain additional years of service from Pierce due to the higher quality engine.

Director Mills inquired about the cooperative purchasing group; Chief Tharp gave an summary of how Sourcewell works. Chief Freitag also noted that we purchased Agency SCBAs from a similar group, HGAC.

Chair Zurcher stated he was curious about moving to Pierce, but now understands the reasoning. He also inquired as to if the issues Fleet has been experiencing are under warranty. Chief Rose answered yes, most of them are; however, CAFMA has an engine in the shop now that has been waiting for parts from Rosenbauer for over a month. He also stated that Pierce has agreed to allow CAFMA to be a warranty service center and will put Agency mechanics through the training required. Director Mills asked if Pierce has a local service provider; Chief Rose answered in the affirmative. Chair Zurcher asked if the warranty is better through Pierce than Rosenbauer; Chief Rose stated that they are very similar.

Chair Zurcher inquired about where the new engines will be placed. Chief Rose stated that Engine 51 is being replaced; the other two will be placed when the engines arrive in 18 months.

Chief Freitag reiterated that customer service is not much of an issue if the product is quality, and that is what is currently missing with Rosenbauer.

Motion to approve the use of \$2.2 million dollars to fund three fire trucks.

Move: Darlene Packard Second: Rick Anderson Status: Passed

Yes: Darlene Packard, Matt Zurcher, Owen Mills, Rick Anderson

- C. Discussion and Possible Selection of Architect for Construction Project at Station 59**
Chief Rose explained the formation of the station/apparatus committee. The

committee completed standardizing the stations and then began looking towards station remodels; Station 63 being the most in need. The committee also recognized that the Agency has more apparatus than available storage space.

He provided a PowerPoint presentation relating to the construction needs for both Station 59 and Station 63. The presentation is attached to these minutes.

Staff posted Requests for Qualifications (RFQs) for architectural services on July 17, 2021 and hosted an onsite property tour for all interested parties. The bids closed on August 16, 2021 and Staff reviewed submissions the following day.

Staff recommendation for Station 63 is HDA. Staff recommendation for Station 59 is also HDA; however, due to cost increases, Staff recommends delaying this project.

This item was tabled.

D. Discussion and Possible Selection of Architect for Construction Project at Station 63

Chief Rose recommended HDA Architects. Chair Zurcher agreed that Station 63 needs a lot of work. Chief Rose stated that the Agency is attempting to build for the future.

Director Mills inquired as to how much square footage will be added, and what issues the Agency previously experienced with Headwaters. Chief Rose indicated that a patio area will be enclosed, but it is mostly a reconfiguring of the current space. He also provided a few examples of the issues Staff encountered while working with Headwaters, including pricing, communication issues, and requests that were not honored.

Chief Freitag noted that the Agency might not be able to complete the project this year due to the cost of materials, but that Staff can be ready to begin if the architect has completed the design.

Motion to approve the selection of HDA Architects for the construction project at Station 63.

Move: Darlene Packard Second: Owen Mills Status: Passed

Yes: Darlene Packard, Matt Zurcher, Owen Mills, Rick Anderson

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 6:15 p.m.

Move: Rick Anderson Second: Owen Mills Status: Passed

Yes: Darlene Packard, Matt Zurcher, Owen Mills, Rick Anderson