

Green Valley Fire District

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Chuck Wunder, Fire Chief



Green Valley Fire District Board of Directors Meeting Headquarters/Training Center 1285 W Camino Encanto, Green Valley, AZ May 19, 2022

SPECIAL BOARD PLANNING MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL: Board Chair Tom Allen called the Special Board Meeting to order at 8:31 A.M. Members of the Board present included: Board Chair Tom Allen, Board Clerk Mrs. Nancy Schuster, Mr. Jeff Jamieson, Mr. Bill Katzel and Mrs. Sandi Richey. See attached sign-in sheets for Green Valley Fire District staff, Green Valley Fire Corps, and members of the public present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mr. Allen led the members of the Board and staff in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC: There were no members of the public present who wished to address the Board

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Presentation on Shared Service Arrangement with Drexel Heights Fire District-Fire Chief Wunder

1. Chair Allen opened the meeting by stating that he had requested the meeting to ensure that all Board members were fully informed of the proposed Organizational Chart under the Shared Services Agreement and to express some concerns he had about the arrangement. He paused to remind the Board that this meeting was informational only and that no decisions would come from this meeting, but that he wanted to express his concerns and hear from other Board members on their views of his concerns and Shared Services in general.

Chair Allen discussed various topics including the position of Deputy Chief and the expense associated with the position, philosophical differences in leadership, and cultural differences in the two organizations.

He expressed concerns that there was not a long-term plan in place for executive leadership and that the current structure could go on indefinitely, whereas he is not sure that he feels this is the best use of monies to have two Fire Chiefs.

Chair Allen then asked Chief Wunder to provide input at this time. Chief Wunder had prepared an informational PowerPoint presentation that he used

as a guide to help direct the information he presented. See attached. Chief Wunder started by saying that it was his intention to make sure everyone was familiar with the shared services arrangements that are currently being utilized and to ensure everyone understood the proposed changes for next fiscal year. He wanted to make sure there no questions about the plan moving forward. In his presentation Chief Wunder provided historical background, highlighted previous success and challenges, and then provided an overview of where we are today with shared services. Chief Wunder spoke specifically about the benefits and challenges associated with the following aspects of shared services: Training, Health and Wellness, Fire Prevention, Operations, and Administration. He then showed recommended changes to address some of these challenges. These recommended changes included upgrades by both DHFD and GVFD to help various areas. For example, DHFD will be adding both operational and administrative support to Training. They will also be adding part-time administrative support to Health and Wellness, and have already added support to Logistics. GVFD is looking to support challenges in Operations through the addition of a Deputy Chief of Operations to help lighten the work load on Chief Kosiorowski.

Chief Wunder noted that some philosophical differences and cultural differences are some of the bigger challenges that are faced in shared services, but that he continues to believe that the benefits of the shared services arrangement outweigh the challenges. Chief Wunder noted that these differences improve every day, but they take time and patience to move forward. He also noted that the recommended changes, such as the Deputy Chief are designed to help improve with the challenges identified in the presentation.

At this time there was a general discussion amongst the Board and the Fire Chief regarding the information presented including various questions from all Board members. Questions included topics such as finances, intergovernmental agreements, strengths and weakness of shared service arrangement, integrated board discussions amongst DHFD and GVFD at some point, succession planning, evaluation of shared services, and future planning meetings between both DHFD and GVFD.

At the end of these discussions, Chair Allen asked again if there were any additional questions about the current arrangement or the proposed changes in the organizational structure. Chief Wunder also wanted to make sure everyone had a strong understanding of where we were at with Shared Services. There were no additional questions.

Chief Wunder suggested that he come back to the Board at the end of the summer to continue to advance some of the discussions that were had, particularly as they related to the operational aspects of shared services.

No action was taken and the discussion was concluded.

B. Executive Session- The Fire District may conduct an Executive Session on any agenda item(s) set forth, pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)

- a. For discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, dismissal, salaries, disciplining or resignation of a public officer, appointee, or employee of any public body, except that, with the exception of salary discussions, an officer, appointee or employee may demand that the discussion or consideration occur at a public meeting. The public body shall provide the officer, appointee, or employee with written notice of the executive session as is appropriate but not less than twenty-four hours for the officer, appointee, or employee to determine whether the discussion or consideration should occur at a public meeting.

There will be no action taken during Executive Session.

Mr. Katzel made a motion to move into Executive Session for discussion regarding Fire Chief Wunder's Performance Evaluation. The regular board meeting went into recess, for an executive session at 9:31 A.M

The regular meeting was reconvened at 9:47 A.M.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, June 29, 2022, at 9:00 A.M. at the Green Valley Fire District Headquarters/Training Center.

ADJOURN SPECIAL BOARD PLANNING MEETING: There being no further business, Mr. Allen adjourned the meeting at 9:48 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Nancy Schuster, Board Clerk

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