

**MINUTES**  
**AVRA VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Meeting Date:** Wednesday, May 25, 2016  
**Meeting Time:** 10:00 AM  
**Location:** 21021 E Homestead Drive, Red Rock, Az 85145

*Recording On.*

- 1) **Call To Order** Chairman Castaneda called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.
- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.
- 3) **Roll Call** **Secretary Palmquist called roll. In attendance:**

Chairman Castaneda, Jr.	Chief Delfs
Vice-Chairman Bauer	Assistant Chief Klein
Clerk Neilson	Lorrie Palmquist, Finance/Admin
Director Horch (present by phone)	Counsel Wencker (present by phone)
Director Armendarez (present by phone)	One District resident was in attendance.

Chairman Castaneda called for a moment of silence in honor of Director Armendarez' mother who recently passed away. Director Armendarez extended thanks for the overwhelming support from the District.

- 4) **Recognition of Personnel** None
- 5) **Approval of Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting held April 27, 2016**  
Vice-Chairman Bauer motioned to approve the Minutes from the regular Board meeting held April 27, 2016. Clerk Neilson seconded. ***Motion carried unanimously, 5:0.***
- 6) **Call To The Public** None
- 7) **Announcements, Current Events & Correspondence**  
The AFDA Conference registration brochure is included in the Board packet. Class registrations need to be submitted as soon as possible for Conference in July.
- 8) **Fire Chief Report**  
Chief Delfs addressed the Board, emphasizing the following points from his report:
  - The final inspection was done last week for Station 193 and we have received the Certificate of Occupancy. We will begin building dormitory lockers and installing IT as soon as possible.
  - One paramedic has resigned, so we are in the hiring process.
  - We currently have several grant applications outstanding, including two grants for turnouts.
  - The Community ParaMedicine program has been launched. We will be operating the program out of Station 193. Our District will be providing services to the residents above and beyond what other such programs are doing. Not only will we be visiting the chronically ill, we are intending to serve as a patient advocate for our residents in this program. As the program gets off the ground, we will discover where the real needs are and will respond accordingly.
  - There are several possible annexations in the works.

9) **Review, Discussion and possible Action to approve the April 2016 Financial Reports and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to sign the Certificate of Review.**

Vice-Chairman Bauer motioned to approve the April 2016 Financial Reports and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to sign the *Certificate of Review*. Clerk Neilson seconded. ***Motion carried unanimously, 5:0.*** Director Horch was excused from the meeting.

10) **Review, Discussion and possible Action regarding the placement of the tax levy override from \$3.25 to \$3.50 on the November general election ballot as stipulated in recent Arizona legislation outlined in SB1244 and signed into law by the Governor**

Chief Delfs addressed the Board, stating that SB1244 which recently passed provides the ability for the District to increase the tax levy to \$3.50 for a period of five years pending voter approval. He reminded the Board that we are one of the few Districts which suffered a *decrease* in assessed values, rather than the projected 5% increase. The additional twenty-five cents could help us to maintain a sustainable budget for the next five years. The *Proposed Budget* presented today lists capacity related to a possible tax levy increase. If the Board supports placing a levy override on the November ballot, staff will need to have language to the Counties by July 7. The Chief emphasized that the twenty-five cents may be necessary to keep the current level of services we have today, and not suffer a reduction of staffing when our SAFER grant funds are depleted. Election costs have already been placed in the FY17 budget. Statistics show that about 30% of Fire Districts are already at their rate cap, with another 30% seeking increases this year. Counsel Wencker stated that the call for election requires specific language for a levy override election. Discussion ensued.

Chairman Castaneda motioned to direct staff to prepare a call for election to place a tax levy override from \$3.25 to \$3.50 on the November general election ballot. Director Armendarez seconded. ***Motion carried 4:0.***

11) **Review, Discussion and possible Action regarding adopting the Proposed FY 2017 Budget**  
There were no further suggestions, changes or additions.

12) **Review, Discussion and possible Action regarding Board member elections**  
No further discussion or action.

13) **Review, Discussion and possible Action regarding the building projects**

Chief addressed the Board, restating that Station 193 has received the Certificate of Occupancy and the District is diligently working to place a crew there as soon as possible. Vice-Chairman Bauer inquired about the captain promotions. The Chief responded that the one firefighter remaining on the eligibility list will be promoted as of July 1. In-basket testing is scheduled for July, and practical exams are scheduled for August.

14) **Reports of Board Members and Staff**

Chairman Castaneda reported that he attended the Moreno family dedication, and welcomed the family to the District. Clerk Neilson initiated followup discussion on the previous idea of offering a vaccination clinic at one of our stations.

**15) Future Agenda Items**

- **Hold Public Hearings to discuss Proposed FY17 Budget**
- **Adopt FY17 Budget**

**16) Date of Next Board Meeting**

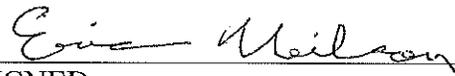
- **ST 194 June 22, 2016 10:00 AM Public Hearing and regular Board meeting**
- **ST 191 June 22, 2016 6:00 PM Public Hearing and brief Board meeting**

**17) Adjournment**

Vice-Chairman Bauer motioned to adjourn the meeting. Director Armendarez seconded.

*Motion carried unanimously, 4:0.* Meeting adjourned at 11:10 AM.

*Recording Off.*

  
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 SIGNED

6-22-2016  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE

**Board Members**

**Luis Castaneda, Jr. Sara Bauer Eric Neilson Brian Horch Thomas Armendarez**

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