**NOTICE OF MEETING**

The Fire Board of the Puerco Valley Fire District will meet in regular session on ***August 14th, 2025, at 4:30pm MST***. The meeting will be held at the Puerco Valley Fire Station in Sanders, Arizona. The meeting room will be accessible to the public at 4:15pm MST. The Board may vote to go into executive session on any agenda item pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A) (3) for legal advice with the district’s attorney on matters as set forth in the agenda. Board Members or other participants may attend by telephonic conference. **The following items, topics, and any variables thereto, will be subject to Board consideration, discussion, approval, or other action. All items are set for possible action.**

**MINUTES**

1. **CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: TIME 4:33PM**
2. **ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS AND ATTENDEES:** Directors Toni Wood, Linda Jones, Josie Forrester (via phone) and Sandy Begay (arrived at 4:48PM). Director Darla Basamania was absent. Also present were Chief Prentice, Chief Wood, and Counsel Nicolas Cornelius (via zoom).
3. **CALL TO THE PUBLIC:**

Discussion and consideration of comments and complaints from the public. Those wishing to address the Puerco Valley Fire Board need not request permission in advance. The Fire District Board is not permitted to discuss or take action on any item raised on the call to the public. 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 that the matter be placed on a future agenda. The Fire District Board cannot discuss or take legal action on any issue raised during the Call to the Public due to restrictions of the Open Meeting Law.

1. **READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
2. Meeting of July 12th, 2025

**MOTION** \_Josie **SECOND** Linda **CARRIED** 3-0

1. **OLD BUSINESS:**
2. Status of CON matters/ Arizona Dept. of Health Services matters, Federal Grant matters, Audit Matters, Ambulance Matters, Accounting/CPA matters -Counsel/Chief

* Status of CON Matters- Next CAP is due 10/15/2025. They will be due again quarterly.

1. Litigation matters: Snyder/DeSpain; DHS-Counsel

* Depositions have been delayed. There was a short extension granted to get the depositions completed.

1. DeSpain CON hearing at Office of Administrative Hearings -Counsel

* Still on hold pending the outcome of the civil hearing.

1. Transfer of money from the Auxiliary Account & Puerco Valley Ambulance Account to the County Warrant Account

* The board discussed the finances and chose to transfer $68,000 from the auxiliary account and $5,500 from the Ambulance Account, totaling $73,500.

Approval of transfer: **MOTION**  Toni **SECOND**  Linda **CARRIED** 3-0

E. Starting the process of finding a new auditing firm

* The Board again gave instructions to Counsel and the Chiefs to ask around to find a new auditing firm.

1. **REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE:**

Correspondence

Fire Chief’s Report

A. Two new full-time hires

\* We hired two new full-time firefighters/EMTs to fill vacant positions. We are now fully staffed.

B. 1 New Reserve

\* We have hired one new Reserve firefighter/EMT.

C. Captain Mendoza

\* Captain Mendoza has passed his National Test for Paramedic school. He is now working as a certified Paramedic.

D. Painting the outside of the station

\* The Board approved Chief Prentice to purchase paint to paint the outside of the station. The cap limit is $6,000.

E. Badge Pinning ceremony on September 7th @ 1100MST

Expense Report

Financial Report

Approval of Finances: **MOTION** Josie **SECOND**  Sandy **CARRIED** 4-0

1. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Discussion re: changes in revenue regarding the FY 2026 budget.

* The board decided to not amend the budget at this time. The Chiefs have decided to not hire any more employees to fill some of the vacant positions. The shifts will stay at 4 for each shift. With these changes, there will be a decrease in the cost of benefits, taxes, payroll, and ASRS. The approximate savings for the next year will be $215,819.

B\*\*\*Amended to add\*\* Discussion about how to disperse executive minutes to the board members for meetings.

* The board discussed how they would like to receive the executive meeting minutes for meeting packets. The board decided they would like the executive minutes emailed to them before the meetings in a separate email. They are required to make sure the executive minutes are locked up at their residence and not shared with the public.

**8. EXECUTIVE SESSION: TIME** 1727 **MOTION**  \_\_\_\_ **SECOND** \_\_\_\_

\*\*\* No official vote was made, the board all agreed at 1727hrs to go into executive session\*\*

1. Status of CON matters/ Arizona Dept. of Health Services matters, Federal Grant matters, Ambulance Matters, Accounting/CPA matters- Counsel/Chief Prentice/Tami
2. Litigation Matters: Snyder/Despain- Counsel
3. DeSpain CON hearing at Office of Administrative Hearings- Counsel
4. Arizona Attorney General’s Office Investigation no. OML 2024-0033- Counsel

**RETURN TO OPEN MEETING AT: \_5:46PM.**

1. **NEXT FIRE BOARD MEETING WILL BE ON September 11th at 3:30pm MST.**
2. **ADJOURNMENT: MOTION \_\_**Josie **SECOND** Sandy