



Approved by the Board, 12/19/23

Sedona Fire District

2860 Southwest Drive, Sedona, Arizona 86336
Telephone (928) 282-6800 FAX (928) 282-6857

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Station #1 – 2860 Southwest Drive – Sedona – Training Room
Wednesday, November 8, 2023 /10:00 AM

~ MINUTES ~

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Pursuant to notice, a special meeting of the Sedona Fire District (SFD) was called to order by Chairman Dave Soto at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, November 8, 2023. Executive Assistant, Kim Smathers recorded the minutes. A quorum was present, and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with business.

Board Present: Dave Soto – Chairman; Helen McNeal – Clerk; Scott Springett, Janet Jablow – Members. Others Present: Fire Chief Ed Mezulis; Labor President Jarrett Tarver; and Executive Assistant Kim Smathers – Recorder.

II. BOARD VACANCY CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS:

A. Don Moore.

Mr. Moore arrived early, and introductions were made to the interviewers. Once the interview, consisting of ten questions, began, Mr. Moore detailed his background with Phoenix Fire and then in fire equipment sales. He noted that he is familiar with Fire Boards and attended many trade shows. There was much discussion of his fire background and knowledge of Operations, Fleet, and policies and procedures. Mr. Moore met the requirements for the vacancy and did not have any conflicts of interest. The interviewers then took time to score and effectively collaborate to reach a benchmark on the candidate. Scores were tallied and verified by Recorder Smathers.

B. Lance Waldrop

Mr. Waldrop arrived early, as well, and introductions were made to the interviewers. The interview began and Mr. Waldrop relayed his answers referring to his Federal Service. Mr. Waldrop referenced The Department of Transportation and other agencies, including a fire school he attended in California as a mechanic. Mr. Waldrop stated that he practices active listening and took care of his people, stating that being patient and listening were the keys to his management style, and had no conflicts of interest. The interviewers reached their scoring decision, again collaborating to reach a benchmark. Scores were tallied and verified by Recorder Smathers.

C. Corrie Cooperman

After a lunch recess, Mrs. Cooperman arrived for her interview on time and ready. Introductions were made to the interviewers and the interview began. The same 10 questions were asked about Mrs. Cooperman relaying her previous experience on the Board and her knowledge of both life & safety as a Registered Nurse. She is a long-time Sedona resident and has no conflicts of interest. Interviewers debated, scored, and turned in their votes to be tallied and validated to Recorder Smathers.

D. Bruce Misamore

Mr. Misamore arrived earlier than scheduled at the request of the Chairman. Introductions were made and the interview began. Mr. Misamore has a vast resume of corporate jobs in the Oil & Gas industry and told interesting stories about his time in Russia. He has been a full-time resident of Sedona since 2021 and meets the requirements of residency, with no conflicts of interest. He noted that he has very little knowledge of Open Meeting Laws but that he would work to get up to speed quickly. Mr. Misamore stated that he has zero experience with special taxing districts, but he is a quick learner, and his interest is in increasing the water supply to Cibola Hills and he would be lobbying on all levels of local, state, and national levels to make that happen. The interviewers completed their questions and discussed their benchmarking, and the scores were verified and tallied by Recorder Smathers.

Chairman Soto announced the top score of the interviews and the motion was made to appoint Corrie Cooperman to fill the vacancy on the Board for the remainder of the term that we are appointing her to. Board Clerk McNeal seconded, and the Chairman asked if there was further discussion.

Fire Chief Mezulis stated that he wanted to make clear that while a labor representative and the Fire Chief were involved in the interview process, the ultimate decision lies in the hands of the elected governing Board and that vote will stand.

Chairman Soto asked for the vote, and it was a unanimous decision, and the motion carries. Corrie Cooperman is the new Board member and will serve the remainder of this term.

III. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Soto adjourned the meeting at 4:01p.m.

DocuSigned by:

Helen McNeal

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Helen McNeal, Clerk of the Board