GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
April 20, 2021 9:00 a.m.
3885 East Golder Ranch Drive, Tucson, Arizona

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Fire Board Chairperson Cox Golder called the meeting to order on April 20, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present: Board Chairperson Vicki Cox Golder, Board Vice-Chair Richard Hudgins, Clerk Wally Vette, Board Member Albert Pesqueira, and Board Member Steve Brady

Staff Present: Fire Chief Randy Karrer, Assistant Chief Patrick Abel, Assistant Chief Brandhuber, Community Relations Manager Anne-Marie Braswell (via Zoom), Finance Manager Dave Christian, IT Manager Herman Rascon (via Zoom), Board Services Manager Brooke Painter, and Legal Counsel Donna Aversa (via Zoom)

2. SALUTE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. FIRE BOARD REPORTS

There were no reports made by any of the Governing Board members.

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There were no public issues presented.

5. PRESENTATIONS

A. PRESENTATION OF PERSONNEL

Firefighter Brett Houser was promoted to Engineer and pinned with his Engineer badge. Deputy Chief Scott Robb was promoted to Assistant Chief of Operations and pinned with his Assistant Chief badge. The Board congratulated both of them.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

A. APPROVE MINUTES – MARCH 16, 2021 REGULAR SESSION
B. APPROVE MINUTES – MARCH 16, 2021 EXECUTIVE SESSION
C. APPROVE MINUTES - APRIL 6, 2021 BUDGET STUDY SESSION
D. APPROVE MINUTES – APRIL 8, 2021 STRATEGIC PLANNING STUDY SESSION

MOTION by Vice-Chair Hudgins to approve the April 20, 2021 Consent Agenda
MOTION SECONDED by Clerk Vette
MOTION CARRIED 5/0

7. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

A. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT – Chief Karrer presented the fire chief's report to the Governing Board. He added that Governor Ducey signed SB1298 as well as the firefighter cancer bill. With the SB1298 signing, we can now move forward with the Certificate of Participation (COP) process. He wanted to thank Mark Reader and his group, along with Chief Brandhuber and Manager Christian for all of their work on the COP process. There were no further questions or comments from the Governing Board.

- BOARD SERVICES REPORT – Board Services Manager Painter stated that her report was included in the board packet. There were no further questions or comments from the Governing Board.

- COMMUNITY RELATIONS REPORT – Community Relations Manager Braswell stated that her report was included in the board packet. She added that we have begun a project with a teacher from Wilson K-8 School to create a curriculum for the schools that will be in line for state standards and meet the teachers' needs that can be delivered in an online format. She also noted that we would be working with Tucson Fire Department (TFD) and Northwest Fire District (NWFD) on a wildland fire PSA. There were no further questions or comments from the Governing Board.

- LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORT – President Jones had nothing to report. There were no further questions or comments from the Governing Board.

B. LOGISTICS/PLANNING ASSISTANT CHIEF'S REPORT – Chief Abel presented the Logistics/Planning Assistant Chief's report to the Governing Board. He added that Chief Hilderbrand and Alex Barraza were in Pennsylvania conducting the final inspection on the engine. He noted that the solar project has begun on the administration campus. Captain Mike Thomas is now the new lead for the Arizona State Local Assistance State Team (LAST). There were no further questions or comments from the Governing Board.

C. BUSINESS/GOVERNMENTAL/PERSONNEL ASSISTANT CHIEF'S REPORT – Chief Karrer presented Chief Brandhuber the Business/Governmental/Personnel Assistant Chief's report to the Governing Board. There were no further questions or comments from the Governing Board.

D. OPERATIONS ASSISTANT CHIEF'S REPORT - Chief Robb presented the Operations Assistant Chief's Report to the Governing Board. He answered a question from Clerk Vette regarding the number of code compliance inspections. There were no further questions or comments from the Governing Board.

8. REGULAR BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022

Manager Christian presented version two of the budget to the Governing Board. He explained the changes to the Board and said the changes that were made had no effect on the proposed mil rate. He explained that this budget includes the COP bonds, but allows the payoff of the unfunded liabilities to Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS). Clerk Vette thanked Chief Karrer and staff for his work on this budget.

MOTION by Vice Chair Hudgins to approve the Golder Ranch Fire District tentative budget for fiscal year 2021-2022 in the amount of $72,798,998 with an O&M mil rate of $2.37 and a bond mil rate of $0.14 and to publish the tentative budget for public notice pursuant to A.R.S. §48-805.02.
MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Pesqueira
MOTION CARRIED 5/0

B. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE APPROVAL OF A PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR THE FORMAL ADOPTION OF THE GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 BUDGET

Chief Karrer stated that per statute there would need to be a public hearing prior to adopting the final budget.

MOTION by Clerk Vette to schedule a public hearing date for the formal adoption of the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget on May 18, 2021, 9:00 a.m. in the Golder Ranch Fire District Administration Board Room
MOTION SECONDED by Board Member Brady
MOTION CARRIED 5/0

C. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NUMBER 2021-0002 A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT APPROVING THE SALE AND EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION IN A LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY FINANCING FOR THE PURPOSES OF FUNDING ALL, OR A PORTION, OF THE DISTRICT'S UNFUNDED LIABILITIES WITH RESPECT TO THE ARIZONA PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AND AUTHORIZING ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO THE CONSUMMATION OF THE TRANSACTIONS CONTEMPLATED BY THE RESOLUTION

Chief Karrer explained that Governing Ducey signed SB1298 into law with the emergency clause. He continued that utilizing Certificate of Participation (COP) bonds allows the District to utilize current property as collateral in a lease-purchase scenario and leasing the property back. This will provide the needed revenue to be used to pay off the PSPRS unfunded liability, which is the only approved use of these funds. We would be the first fire district to participate in this type of program.

Mark Reader and Claude Lockhart of Stifel provided the Governing Board information on the use of COPs to eliminate the current pension legacy liability and how it works. They answered questions from the Governing Board. Mr. Reader explained the timeline of the financing and that they are looking to close the transaction in July.

MOTION by Clerk Vette to approve Resolution #2021-0002 approving the sale, execution, and delivery of certificates of participation in a lease-purchase agreement to provide the necessary financing for the purposes of funding all, or a portion, of the District's unfunded liabilities with respect of the Arizona Public Safety Personnel Retirement System and authorizing all actions necessary to the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the resolution
MOTION SECONDED by Vice-Chair Hudgins
MOTION CARRIED 5/0

D. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT RECONCILIATION AND MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Manager Christian presented the monthly financials and reconciliation for Golder Ranch Fire District to the Governing Board. There were no further questions or comments from the Governing Board.

MOTION by Board Member Pesqueira to approve and accept the Golder Ranch Fire District reconciliation and monthly financial reports as presented
MOTION SECONDED by Clerk Vette
MOTION CARRIED 5/0

E. EXECUTIVE SESSION: THE BOARD MAY VOTE TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO A.R.S. §38-431.03.A(3) FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSULTATION OR LEGAL ADVICE REGARDING AN UPDATE ON EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION (EEOC) COMPLAINTS RECEIVED, NOTICE OF CLAIM RECEIVED, AND POSSIBLE PENDING LITIGATION **Note – executive sessions are confidential pursuant to Arizona law.

Chief Karrer noted that there was no update needed at this point. The Board decided not to go into executive session.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

This provides an opportunity for the Board to direct staff to include items on future agendas for further consideration and decision at a later date, or to study the matter further.

- Regularly Scheduled Meeting – May 18, 2021
- Public Hearing for Budget – May 18, 2021 – Chief Karrer may be out for this meeting
- Special Meeting to approve the AFG Grant possibly next week

10. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There were no public issues presented.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Board Member Brady to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 a.m.
MOTION SECONDED by Clerk Vette
MOTION CARRIED 5/0

Wally Vette, Clerk of the Board
Golder Ranch Fire District
b/p