

MINUTES

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF VERDE VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS, HELD AUGUST 8, 2011, AT STATION 31, 2700 GODARD ROAD, COTTONWOOD, AZ.

Meeting called to order at: 10:00 a.m.

PRESENT:

Bob Eddingfield
Matt Robertson
Dick Dobbin
Ken Bishop
Gerald Shanks

STAFF:

Chief Doerksen
Debbie Lewis

APPROVAL OF AGENDA Motion was made by Bob Eddingfield to approve the agenda as presented. Second was made by Ken Bishop. **Motion** carried unanimously.

SCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES: None

UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES: None

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:

A. Appointment of Interim or Permanent Fire Chief – Motion was made by Matt Robertson to go into Executive Session. Second was made by Bob Eddingfield. **Motion** carried unanimously.

Gerald Shanks gave a review on the meetings with Clarkdale Fire District to negotiate a deal to combine the two Administrations within the Districts. Gerald Shanks stated that the initial savings would be approximately \$60,000. Clarkdale Board is really happy with their Chief and their Administration. Clarkdale Fire Board voted to deny Verde Valley Fire District's request for Administrative services. Gerald Shanks stated that Clarkdale Fire is not completely opposed to the idea. Clarkdale Fire is not comfortable with this at this time and suggested that we hire an interim Chief, they would like to have Chief Eberle, and they would like us to fix our problems and then come back and take to them in six months. Gerald Shanks has set up two telephone interviews for the Board Chief Eberle and Chief Hazime. Matt Robertson asked if the Board had decided on anything else and that the telephone interviews caught him off guard. Dick Dobbin stated that there were several names and people that were contacted by different Board Members and they asked them two questions, are they interested in an interim or permanent Chief's position. Dick Dobbin stated that Chief Eberle would be interested in an interim Chief position but would not be interested in a permanent position. Ken Bishop stated that if we are looking for a permanent Chief we should open it up for others to apply. Matt Robertson stated that he understands what Clarkdale Fire District wants, to have an interim Chief so they have time to do their homework to see what is right for their District but we need to determine what is in the best interest of our District or do we need to identify a permanent fix. Matt Robertson wants to know what our Boards vision is and that could possibly eliminate calling any of these individuals. Ken stated that when looking for a permanent Chief that we have a testing process opening it up to multiple candidates. Dick Dobbin asked if the questions that Clarkdale Fire had for VVFD were still on the table to be answered. Gerald Shanks stated that he answered Clarkdale Board's questions at their meeting last week.

Ken Bishop asked if any of the personnel had any comments. Dick Dobbin asked if the personnel knew of anyone internally that is interested in the position either interim or permanent. Mark Dixon stated he would test if posted. Shaun McCallum stated he would like the Board to get VVFD leadership and stability.

Adjourn to Executive Session at: 10:18 a.m.

Adjourn from Executive Session at: 1:00 p.m.

Resume Regular Board Meeting at: 1:02 p.m.

B. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Appointment of Interim or Permanent Fire Chief – Motion was made by Bob Eddingfield Board to start negotiations with Chief Hazime to act as interim Chief and to authorize purchase of a round trip plane ticket to interview Chief Hazime. Second was made by Matt Robertson. **Motion** carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: 1:11 p.m.

BOARD CLERK: _____ **DATE:** _____