

Peeples Valley Fire District
PO Box 936, Yarnell, AZ 85362
17275 W. Burning Bush Drive, Peeples Valley, AZ 86332
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES
Location of Meeting Held: Old Peeples Valley School
18205 S. Highway 89, Peeples Valley, AZ
Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at 10:00 am

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** Neil Rifenbark, the chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The pledge was led by Sherry Gareis.
- 3. ROLL CALL OF BOARD:** Neil Rifenbark, Phil Lobeck, Wayne Keller, Scott Mayer, Gregg Carr
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Regular Session 08-21-2024
 - **Phil Lobeck** made a motion to approve the 08-21-2024 meeting minutes B.
 - **Seconded: Gregg Carr**
 - **Ayes: Wayne Keller, Neil Rifenbark, Phil Lobeck, Scott Mayer, Gregg Carr**
 - **Nays: 0**
 - **Abstain: 0**
- 5. CALL TO PUBLIC: none**
Community members in attendance: **Shawn Bomar, Ray Paiz, Kelley Paiz, Ben Archer, Sherry Gareis, Lindon Gareis, Lew Theokas**
- 6. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**
 - A. Fire Chief's Report: see website
 - B. Duty Officers Reports: A, B, and C shifts: see website
 - C. Fire Prevention and Safety Officer's Report: see website
 - D. Report from Weaver Mountains Firewise Committee Coordinators: see website
 - Brief update on efforts in Wilhoit Firewise.
 - E. Correspondence received by the Board of Directors: none
 - F. Auxiliary Report
- 7. BUSINESS**
 - A. Discussion/possible action to approve the August 2024 Financial Report presented by The James Vincent Group.
 - **Neil Rifenbark** made a motion to approve the August 2024 Financial Report presented by The James Vincent Group.
 - **Seconded: Scott Mayer**
 - **Ayes: Wayne Keller, Neil Rifenbark, Phil Lobeck, Scott Mayer, Gregg Carr**
 - **Nays: 0**
 - **Abstain: 0**

- B. Discussion on staff members' reimbursement process.
- Ben stated it's not typical for the Chief to have so many reimbursements.
 - It was necessary for the Chief to use his credit card on multiple occasions.
 - Fuels Crews added to credit card usage for hotel costs while out of county.
 - Chief provided documentation of all reimbursements made.
- C. Discussion/possible action to approve September Warrant Requests.
- **Phil Lobeck** made a motion to approve September Warrant Requests.
 - **Seconded: Gregg Carr**
 - **Ayes: Wayne Keller, Neil Rifenbark, Phil Lobeck, Scott Mayer, Gregg Carr**
 - **Nays: 0**
 - **Abstain: 0**
- D. Discussion/possibility of a name change for Peeples Valley Fire District.
- Neil Rifenbark opposes the idea due to the name change cost and potential consolidation concerns.
 - Scott Mayer feels that if we were to change it, more districts would want to join.
 - Chief states that things are changing in the region and agrees with Neil about the cost. Working to elevate our services instead of taking on other districts.
 - Phil Lobeck feels it would be a significant sell to convince the public to merge.
- E. Discussion on updates regarding the sale of Station 81.
- Lengthy discussion on issues related to the easement.
 - Lindon and Sherry Gareis also provided clarification and information.
 - Board requested updates on the next meeting's agenda
- F. Discussion on the International Fire Code.
- Captain Paiz answered questions from the previous board meeting.
 - Neil is concerned about the cost of putting it on the ballot and getting the support of the public.
 - Captain Paiz provided advantages and disadvantages of adoption.
 - Chief advised the goal would be to improve the fire and life safety of the community.
 - Lindon inquired on the effects of insurability if adopted. Captain Paiz responded by explaining how it would affect and improve insurability.
 - Neil suggests discussing the upcoming town hall with Supervisor Oberg.
 - The board requested this item to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- A. New Business Agenda Item Requests for the next regular meeting, workshops, and other meetings. Sale of Station 81, International Fire Code, Discuss Lucas Device
- B. Upcoming Meeting Date: Next Regular Session – October 16, 2024, at 10:00 AM.

9. ADJOURNMENT by Neil Rifenbark at 11:28 AM