

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  
**Thursday, March 16, 2023, 3:00 PM**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Lindon Gareis, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 3:03 PM.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The pledge was led by Ronnie Hernandez. A moment of silence was observed for Dave Schroedl.
3. **ROLL CALL OF BOARD:** x Lindon Gareis, x Wayne Keller, x Neil Rifenbark
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
 Minutes of the Regular Session of January and February 2023.  
 A motion was made by **Wayne Keller** to approve the minutes from the January and February 2023 board meetings.  
**Seconded: Neil Rifenbark**  
**Ayes: x Lindon Gareis, x Wayne Keller, x Neil Rifenbark**  
**Nays: 0**  
**Abstain: 0**
5. **CALL TO PUBLIC:** Members of the community in attendance: **Lori Bomar, Shawn Bomar, Sherry Gareis, Ray Paiz, Judy Garner, Ann Jacobs, James Jacobs, Phil Lobeck, Lew Theokas, and Ronnie Hernandez.**  
 Judy Garner asked if Judy Schroedl could be reimbursed for Dave's attendance at AFDA. Chief Bomar said that had already been addressed on the February warrant request.

**6. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

A. Fire Chief's Report:

❖ Number of Calls:

Month	Number of EMS Calls	Number of Fire Calls	Number of MVA* Calls	Structure	Public Assist
February	11	0	1	0	0
March	3	0	2	0	0

\*MVA – Motor Vehicle Accident

\*\*Numbers for the current month are up to the date of the Board Meeting.

❖ Grants:

- Continuing Safer Grant with Southern Yavapai Fire.
- Continuing Title III Grant for community slash program.
- Finishing Hazardous Fuels Reduction Grant HFI-21-307.
- Continuing Hazardous Fuels Reduction Grant HFI-22-312.
- Applied for Homeland Security Grant for communications.

❖ Personnel/Training: Currently have 20 personnel (8 EMTs, 3 EMRs). The Wildland refresher class was held on March 4. Instructors were Stephan Morrow and James Robbins.

**Coordinator Loaiza: Training:** The shift in training to focus on wildland season is in full swing. Az Wildland Incident Management Academy (AWIMA) has been a wonderful

success, with 11 of our personnel representing the dept in various classes, advancing the skill set of our team. "Asset Management" (strengths/weaknesses analysis update) Asset management for Ops moves forward with the migration of hard copy inventories to Image Trend. Progress of this migration is on a strategic pause during AWIMA in order to mitigate discrepancies.

- ❖ IROC Status: 16 are available.
  - ❖ Apparatus/Equipment: all operational
  - ❖ Wildfire Mitigation: continuing with over 124 acres complete. Chief Bomar and BC Hernandez met with BLM last week and will be obtaining two 10,000-gallon portable tanks to place in the district for fire severity. Ray Paiz attended a meeting with Ruger Ranch and Model Creek property owners to discuss becoming firewire communities. Pinon Estates will be the next area. Lew Theokas has been working on the Title II grant with homeowners north of Trapp Road: 163 properties, 5 had slash piles, ten requested address posts, and 43 had mitigation issues. BC Henandez stated that CBS will be reporting on the fuels program.
- B. Report from District Strategic Plan Development Committee: no quorum, met informally as a working group
- C. Financial Report:
- D. Correspondence received by the Board:
- ❖ Letter from Phil Lobeck expressing interest in filling Dave Schroedl's position on the board.

- E. Auxiliary Report: by *Submitted by: Lori Bomar, on behalf of Karen Stafford, PVFD Auxiliary President 3.16.23*

We held our March meeting on Saturday, March 4, @ 2:30 PM.

We supported our awesome Fire Department, who hosted their Wildland Fire Refresher training class on March 4<sup>th</sup> here at the Old School. Approximately 50 people attended from fire districts and contractors, near and far from across the state. With the help of donations from Arrow Fire, Loomis Fire Control, and Yavapai Fire, attendees enjoyed a continental breakfast and lasagna lunch. Funds received in excess of our costs will be used for Operations and Station 82.

Auxiliary members will participate in Peoples Valley Serve Day on Saturday, March 25.

Our Annual Hoedown & Trail Ride events are coming up quickly. Do you have your tickets yet? Please see Marcie Theokas for tickets. **The Hoe Down is coming up on Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, and the Trail Ride follows the next day on Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>.** A special thank you to John Fletcher-Ross for helping us with comparison shopping for event food and items and for building a cost-tracking spreadsheet to help us keep an eye on our profit margin. The Hoedown has sold out in previous years, and we've come close on the Trail Ride. We hope to sell out again this year. Please join us and help spread the word!

- Price for the Hoedown is \$20/pp; Chicken, Ribs, potato salad, cobbler & fun at Model Creek School from 3 PM to 6 PM; Silent auction, music, and fun!
- Trail Ride is limited to the first 40 riders & will take a leisurely ride from Sorrells Ranch Road campsite through Ruger Ranch for an MRE lunch at Station 82. Riders must be 18 years or older.
- Interested in donating silent auction items or want more information? Go to "Contact us" on the PeoplesValleyFire.org website.

Additional events for the year will be discussed at a later meeting.

We voted to donate \$200 in gas cards to a member of the Fire Department Operations team who is experiencing a family health emergency requiring ongoing trips to PHX for treatment.

Engineering/site plans for Station 82 were paid for by a donation to the Auxiliary, specifically requesting that it be used for Station 82.

We received a check from the Amazon Smile campaign to close out 2022, and we will receive one more check for January and February 2023, as well as an additional check/donation in the next few months as the program winds down.

Next Meeting Date/Time April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, at 9 AM at Station 81.

## 7. BUSINESS

- A. Discussion/possible action to appoint Phil Lobeck to fill Dave Schroedl's position until 2024.
- **Neil Rifenbark** made a motion to appoint Phil Lobeck to fill Dave Schroedl's position until 2024.
  - **Seconded: Wayne Keller**
  - **Ayes: x Lindon Gareis, x Wayne Keller, x Neil Rifenbark**
  - **Nays: 0**
  - **Abstain: 0**
- B. Discussion/possible action to inform James Jacobs of his elected position.  
This item is tabled until Lindon Gareis and James Jacobs can meet.
- C. Discussion/possible action to approve district fire board officers: Chairperson, Clerk, and Treasurer.
- **Neil Rifenbark** made a motion to approve district fire board Chairperson – Lindon Gareis.
  - **Seconded: Phil Lobeck**
  - **Ayes: x Lindon Gareis, x Wayne Keller, x Neil Rifenbark, x Phil Lobeck**
  - **Nays: 0**
  - **Abstain: 0**
  - **Neil Rifenbark** made a motion to approve district fire board Clerk – Phil Lobeck.
  - **Seconded: Wayne Keller**
  - **Ayes: x Lindon Gareis, x Wayne Keller, x Neil Rifenbark, x Phil Lobeck**
  - **Nays: 0**
  - **Abstain: 0**
  - **Neil Rifenbark** made a motion to approve district fire board Treasurer – Wayne Keller.
  - **Seconded: Phil Lobeck**
  - **Ayes: x Lindon Gareis, x Wayne Keller, x Neil Rifenbark, x Phil Lobeck**
  - **Nays: 0**
  - **Abstain: 0**
- D. Discussion/possible action to approve the October, November, and December 2022 Treasurer's Reports.
- **Wayne Keller** made a motion to approve the October, November, and December 2022 Treasurer's Reports.
  - **Seconded: Neil Rifenbark**
  - **Ayes: x Lindon Gareis, x Wayne Keller, x Neil Rifenbark, x Phil Lobeck**
  - **Nays: 0**
  - **Abstain: 0**
- E. Discussion/possible action to approve the January and February 2023 Treasurer's Report.
- **Wayne Keller** made a motion to approve the January and February 2023 Treasurer's Report.
  - **Seconded: Neil Rifenbark**

- **Ayes:** x Lindon Gareis, x Wayne Keller, x Neil Rifenbark, x Phil Lobeck
  - **Nays:** 0
  - **Abstain:** 0
- F. Discussion/possible action to approve February and March Warrant Requests.
- **Neil Rifenbark** er made a motion to approve February Warrant Requests.
  - **Seconded:** Wayne Keller
  - **Ayes:** x Lindon Gareis, x Wayne Keller, x Neil Rifenbark
  - **Nays:** 0
  - **Abstain:** Phil Lobeck
- G. Discussion/possible action status on Station Building at Ruger Ranch.
- Design is done, but waiting on soils and septic engineering.
- H. Discussion/possible action on meeting with accountant contact.
- Chief Bomar and two board members will meet with JVG Accounting Services in April.
- I. Discussion/possible action to add check signers.
- **Phil Lobeck** made a motion to approve Neil Rifenbark as a check signer.
  - **Seconded:** Wayne Keller
  - **Ayes:** x Lindon Gareis, x Wayne Keller, x Neil Rifenbark, x Phil Lobeck
  - **Nays:** 0
  - **Abstain:** 0
  - **Neil Rifenbark** made a motion to approve Wayne Keller as a check signer.
  - **Seconded:** Phil Lobeck
  - **Ayes:** x Lindon Gareis, x Wayne Keller, x Neil Rifenbark, x Phil Lobeck
  - **Nays:** 0
  - **Abstain:** 0
- J. Discussion/possible action to adopt the mission and vision statements presented by the Strategic Plan Development Committee.
- **Phil Lobeck** made a motion to adopt the mission and vision statements presented by the Strategic Plan Development Committee.
  - **Seconded:** Neil Rifenbark
  - **Ayes:** x Lindon Gareis, x Wayne Keller, x Neil Rifenbark, x Phil Lobeck
  - **Nays:** 0
  - **Abstain:** 0
- K. Discussion/possible action for compensation to the property owner for the Repeater Station.
- **Neil Rifenbark** made a motion for Chief Bomar to continue negotiations with the property owner.
  - **Seconded:** Phil Lobeck
  - **Ayes:** x Lindon Gareis, x Wayne Keller, x Neil Rifenbark, x Phil Lobeck
  - **Nays:** 0
  - **Abstain:** 0
- L. Discussion/possible action for consultation for legal advice with the district's attorney(s).  
The Governing Board may vote to convene in executive session, which will not be open to the public, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3) in order to permit the Governing Board to consult

with its Attorney(s). The District's Attorney(s) may appear telephonically.”

- No executive session.

M. Discussion/possible action as a follow-up to the above-referenced executive session relating to the 2022 election cycle and possible instructions from the district staff and legal counsel regarding the same.

- No follow-up necessary.

N. Discussion/possible action regarding the sale of FC82.

- **Phil Lobeck** made a motion for the sale of FC82.
- **Seconded: Neil Rifenbark**
- **Ayes: x Lindon Gareis, x Wayne Keller, x Neil Rifenbark, x Phil Lobeck**
- **Nays: 0**
- **Abstain: 0**

O. Discussion/possible action to appoint a budget committee for the fiscal year 2023-2024.

- **Neil Rifenbark** made a motion to appoint a budget committee for the fiscal year 2023-2024.
- The committee will consist of Chief Bomar, BC Hernandez, Neil Rifenbark (chair), Karl Kennedy, Ray Paiz, Wayne Keller (treasurer), Britteny Dwiggin, Jacob Loaiza, and possibly Karen Stafford.
- **Seconded: Phi Lobeck**
- **Ayes: x Lindon Gareis, x Wayne Keller, x Neil Rifenbark, x Phil Lobeck**
- **Nays: 0**
- **Abstain: 0**

#### 8. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS; UPCOMING MEETING DATE**

A. New Business Agenda Item Requests for the next Regular, Workshops and other Meetings.

- Discussion/possible action on strategic planning committee absenteeism.
- Discussion/possible action on confirmation on how FC82 will be on the books as a sale.
- Discussion/possible action on the treasurer's report and warrant request.
- Discussion/possible action on 7.B.

B. The next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 4-20-2022, at 3:00 PM.

9. **ADJOURNMENT: Lindon Gareis** adjourned the meeting at 4:32 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by: Lori Bomar, Administration