

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, November 15, 2023, 10:00 AM**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Neil Rifenbark, the Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The pledge was led by Neil Rifenbark.
3. **ROLL CALL OF BOARD:** Neil Rifenbark, Phil Lobeck, Wayne Keller, James Jacobs and Scott Mayer
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Regular Session 10-18-2023  
**Wayne Keller** made a motion to approve the minutes from the 09-21-2023 board meeting.  
**Seconded: Phil Lobeck**  
**Ayes: Neil Rifenbark, Phil Lobeck, Wayne Keller, James Jacobs, and Scott Mayer**  
**Nays: 0**  
**Abstain: 0**
5. **CALL TO PUBLIC: none**  
 Members of the community in attendance: **Lori Bomar, Shawn Bomar, Kelley Paiz, Ray Paiz, Ben Archer, Britteny Dwiggin, Lindon Gareis, Lew Theokas, Mark Woods**
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
October	8	3	0	0	0
Nov.	7	0	2	0	1

\*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.
- Received Ready, Set, Go Fuels Reduction Grant for Ruger Ranch.
- Received Title III Grant with Yavapai County for suppression equipment.
- Applied for CWPP Grant through US Forest Service.
- Applied for Firehouse Subs grant for extrication equipment.

- ❖ Personnel/Training: Currently have 22 personnel (8 EMTs, 3 EMRs).
- ❖ Apparatus/Equipment: all operational, B81 on assignment in CA and returning today.
- ❖ Wildfire Mitigation: has started for the season
  - Weaver Mountains Firewise Communities presented to the Rugar Ranch landowners about the upcoming projects.
  - Ray and Lew conducted a property survey in Congress at the property owner's request and also met with Congress Fire.
  - Firewise event presentations have been held at Model Creek School, the Weaver Mountains Fall Festival, the town hall meetings, and the Yavapai Firewise Meeting.

B. Report from District Strategic Plan Development Committee:

- ❖ The Strategic Planning Meeting will be at 11:30 today.
- ❖ This plan will prepare the district for growth over the next five years.

C. Correspondence received by the Board:

- ❖ BDR Richards Auditor's proposal

D. Auxiliary Report: Meeting was held on November 4 at Station 81.

Ray Paiz and Chief Bomar provided a report on the Weaver Mountains Communities Firewise program. This included a recap of a recent event at Founding Fathers in Prescott and the fact that the response in the community and throughout other districts has been very positive.

As part of our Treasurer's Report, Judy Garner shared that she is checking rates for both National Bank and Credit Union West to ensure the best possible deal as we consider our checking and savings account options. We are awaiting additional information before a decision is made.

We are very excited to report that our first (annual?) Weaver Mountains Fall Festival was a wonderful success! We had a total of 31 vendors, and thanks to Kelley Paiz for being our "Vendor Liaison," helping them all get settled and ensuring a successful experience. Dick Meyer's crew served up some amazing Biscuits and Gravy, and it was a huge success, bringing in \$400 in donations. Thank you, Dick and Jane Meyers, for your generous donation! With Chief on the grill supported by our lunch crew of Angela Davis, Chris McCauley, and Bethany Strickland, we sold Brats, Hot Dogs, and Individual Drinks, serving well over 100 attendees throughout the day. Thanks to the Auxiliary & Firewise booth raffle and other donations crew of Lani Beyle, Lori Bomar, Kelley & Ray Paiz, Grey Stafford, and other members of the Fire Crew, we brought in another \$504. Many thanks to Lew & Marcie Theokas for hosting the music and announcements, and hats off to Karl Kennedy & Michael Hoffman for all their planning, food coordination, vendors, site & registration logistics, and attention to the tiniest details! We have already collected feedback from attendees and vendors and held a debrief session with members to explore wins and opportunities for the future. While much was learned,

the total profit for this first endeavor was just over \$1500, and we're already looking forward to it for next year! Many thanks to ALL who planned, prepared, worked, and supported the event!

The Auxiliary will provide lunch for the Fire Crew's training this coming Saturday. Brats, hot dogs, and pumpkin pie are among the menu items, so it's sure to be another delicious feast!

We also discussed plans for our upcoming Christmas holiday activities. From sorting, shopping, and wrapping gifts to prepare for our Christmas Elf Program (This will include Mr. & Mrs. Claus taking presents to six families in need in our District while the rest of our Auxiliary and Fire Crew "Elves" tour the community to give out holiday treats) to planning our Fire Family Christmas party, Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> is shaping up to be a busy and festive day!

Our next meeting is Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 9 AM. We'll be holding that meeting at the Historic School House, so wrapping Christmas Elf presents can occur afterward.

*Submitted by Karen Stafford, PVFD Auxiliary President, to Lori Bomar for presentation to the Board on 11.15.23.*

## 7. BUSINESS

- A. Discussion/possible action to approve the October 2023 Financial Report presented by The James Vincent Group.
- **Phil Lobeck** made a motion to approve the October 2023 Financial Report.
  - **Seconded: Scott Mayer**
  - **Ayes: Neil Rifenbark, Phil Lobeck, Wayne Keller, James Jacobs, Scott Mayer**
  - **Nays: 0**
  - **Abstain: 0**
- B. Discussion/possible action to approve November Warrant Requests.
- **Phil Lobeck** made a motion to approve the November 2023 Financial Report.
  - **Seconded: Scott Mayer**
  - **Ayes: Neil Rifenbark, Phil Lobeck, Wayne Keller, James Jacobs, Scott Mayer**
  - **Nays: 0**
  - **Abstain: 0**
- C. Discussion/possible action to open accounts at the National Bank of Arizona.
- **Wayne Keller** made a motion to open accounts at the National Bank of Arizona; Treasurer Wayne Keller and Board Chair Neil Rifenbark will be account managers and signers.
  - **Seconded: Phil Lobeck**
  - **Ayes: Neil Rifenbark, Phil Lobeck, Wayne Keller, James Jacobs, Scott Mayer**
  - **Nays: 0**
  - **Abstain: 0**

- D. Discussion/possible action to begin automated bill-paying services.
  - **Phil Lobeck** made a motion to table automated bill-paying services.
  - **Seconded: James Jacobs**
  - **Ayes: Neil Rifenbark, Phil Lobeck, Wayne Keller, James Jacobs, Scott Mayer**
  - **Nays: 0**
  - **Abstain: 0**
  
- E. Discussion/possible action to accept the proposal for annual audit services.
  - **Phil Lobeck** made a motion to approve the proposal for annual audit services.
  - **Seconded: Wayne Keller**
  - **Ayes: Neil Rifenbark, Phil Lobeck, Wayne Keller, Scott Mayer**
  - **Nays: 0**
  - **Abstain: 0**
  - **James Jacobs was out of the room.**
  
- F. Discussion/possible action to approve adjacent annexation request.
  - **Phil Lobeck** made a motion to table and keep it on the agenda.
  - **Seconded: Scott Mayer**
  - **Ayes: Neil Rifenbark, Phil Lobeck, Wayne Keller, Scott Mayer**
  - **Nays: 0**
  - **Abstain: 0**
  - **Abstain: 0**
  - **James Jacobs was out of the room.**
  
- G. Discussion/possible action to approve an Automatic Aid Agreement with Yarnell Fire.
  - **Scott Mayer** made a motion to approve an Automatic Aid Agreement with Yarnell Fire.
  - **Seconded: Phil Lobeck**
  - **Ayes: Neil Rifenbark, Phil Lobeck, Wayne Keller, James Jacobs, Scott Mayer**
  - **Nays: 0**
  - **Abstain: 0**
  - **Abstain: 0**

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

- A. New Business Agenda Item Requests for the next Regular meeting, Workshops, and Other Meetings.  
#7. D and F
- B. The next Board meeting is scheduled for December 20, 2023, at 10:00 AM.

**9. ADJOURNMENT: Neil Rifenbark** adjourned the meeting at 11:28 AM.

Respectfully Submitted by: Lori Bomar, Administration