

**Mohave Valley Fire Department**

**June 26, 2020**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Meeting called to order** by Chair Christy @ 3:00pm; Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll call** – Chair Christy, Ms. Watson, Mr. Clavir, and Mr. Ward are present. Mr. Evans joined the meeting via phone. There is a quorum.

**Agenda approval** – Mr. Ward requested that we move items D and E to the beginning of the meeting. Mr. Ward made motion to accept the Agenda as amended. Ms. Watson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Call to the Public** – Keith Parker (One of the Ft. Mojave Mesa Fire Department Directors) came to speak at our meeting in support of moving forward with the JPA. He explained that he believes it is the best thing for all Departments as well as what is best for the Community/Tax Payers.

**Minutes** – Ms. Watson made motion to approve the May 20th minutes. Mr. Ward seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Monthly Bills & Financials** – Mr. Ward made motion to approve the bills and monthly financials for May 2020 and Mr. Clavir seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC MEETING**

**Presentation by James Vincent Group:** Ben and Gabe from the James Vincent Group presented the results of the Feasibility Study to the Board for the consideration of the JPA between Bullhead City Fire Department, Fort Mohave Mesa Fire Department and Mohave Valley Fire Department. The Presentation covered the objectives and methodology used to create the Feasibility Study. They listed out the assumptions used for the analysis such as Property Tax and Operational Revenues and explained increased annual expenses to allow for growth. The Study provided 5 year projections which showed our expenses “under pacing” our revenues. It was recommended that if the JPA is formed, it would be important to consider creating a 10 year capital plan and to continue to seek out additional revenues to help support the capital needs. In Summary the presentation showed that a JPA is financially feasible. Some of the projected savings would be found within the personnel expenses, as well as managerial, and operational costs. It was clarified that the majority of funding would be Bullhead City, and that remaining funding would be split between Fort Mojave Mesa and Mohave Valley Fire Department. The Board received clarification regarding questions they had regarding how the Revenues and the PSPRS Liabilities would be handled. Chief Harmon informed the Board that we had to consider where the Fire Department will be “3 to 5 years down the road.” The Tribes long term objective is to have their own Fire Department and our current Tribal Contract funds a large portion of our employee salaries.

**Feasibility Analysis:** Chair Christy called for a Roll Call vote regarding the continuation with the analysis on the JPA. Mr. Ward made motion to move forward with the consideration of the JPA analysis. Mr. Clavir seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Clavir: Yes; sees the JPA as a possibility for better financial security and upward mobility for the Mohave Valley Fire Department. He sees the JPA as a possible ability to negotiate certain expenses like Worker’s Comp. and to retain employees.

Ms. Watson: Nay; currently is pleased with the employees and she feels the Department is financially sound; She doesn’t believe it will benefit Mohave Valley Fire Department.

Mr. Evans: Yay;

Mr. Ward: Yay; doesn’t see a downside moving forward with the JPA proposal because it appears to be financially and operationally sound for the residents of Mohave Valley

Chair Christy: Nay; doesn’t like the fact that both other Fire Departments are waiting on our decision.

Roll Call Votes Results: 3 yay 2 nay

Motion passed for the continuation with the JPA analysis.

**Public Hearing FY 2020 – 2021 Proposed Budget:**

Chief Harmon provided the Board with the Final 2020-2021 Budgets for review. He explained that the only change that was made from the proposed budgets provided to the Board was the carryover for the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe which has decreased down to \$99,952.16.

**Close Public Hearing** – Mr. Ward made motion to close the Public Hearing. Mr. Clavir Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**FY 2020 – 2021 Budget Adoption:** Mr. Ward Motion to adopt 2020-2021 Budget as presented; Mr. Clavir seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Clubhouse Demolition Quote:** The Board was provided with (1) written quote from Old Trails Demolition reflecting a cost of \$10,500.00 for the demolition of the Community Building and \$800.00 for an Asbestos test only. Fire Marshal Don Gibson received a verbal quote from Hound Dog Excavation which was approximately \$10,000.00. Hound Dog Excavation did not provide a written quote as requested. Chief Harmon suggested we just do the asbestos test first to see if asbestos is even going to be an issue. Mr. Ward made a motion to have Old Trails do the asbestos testing on the Clubhouse at the cost of \$800.00. Ms. Watson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Office of the State Forester/Letter of Appointment:** FYI; This was just to inform the Board that Mohave Valley Fire had an intergovernmental agreement with the State Fire Marshal and Forestry that we will be responsible for doing their inspections in our District.

**APO Management Solar Bid:** The Board compared the APO Management Solar Bid to the quote provided by Mohave Solar. The bid in the amount of \$15,000.00 was for a 7KW solar array located on the roof of the Station 82. Mr. Ward made motion to approve the APO Management Solar Bid. Mr. Clavir seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Bendix King Radios Purchase:** Fire Marshal D. Gibson requested the Board to approve the purchase of 3 Bendix King Radios. He is working towards a replacement/rotation schedule to eventually have all the radios replaced. The radio purchases would be expensed out of Capital. The radios we purchasing come with a 5 year “bumper to bumper” warranty and will cost approximately \$8,745. We will continue to seek grants for radio purchases. Mr. Ward made motion to approve the purchase of (3) Bendix King Radios. Ms. Watson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Executive Session:** Board entered into Executive Session at 4:30 pm.

Mr. Ward made a motion to move into Executive Session to go through the Fire Chief Evaluation. Mr. Clavir Seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Reconvened Board Meeting at 5:15 pm**

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**Martin:** Chief Martin gave a short update regarding the Wildland Assignments our Crews have been assigned to. He informed the Board that the Type 3 Production was delayed but they are getting back into production. Ms. Watson wants to see a person represent the Mohave Valley Fire Department at the next County Board Meeting to follow up with the Board of Supervisors. Chief Martin expressed appreciation towards our Personnel and Board for the way they have conducted themselves in regards to the JPA Proposal.

**McShea:** Briefly reported there were 241 calls in the past 30 days which has tripled from last month.

Mr. Watson made motion to adjourn and Ms. Ward seconded at 5:27 pm. Motion carried.  
Minutes respectfully submitted by Johanna Sanders, Financial Specialist.