

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
RINCON VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD MEETING  
VIRTUAL AND IN-PERSON MEETING  
HELD April 15, 2021**

A public meeting of the Rincon Valley Fire District Governing Board was convened on **April 15, 2021 at 6:00 P.M.** as a Virtual Meeting and In-Person. **Meeting ID: meet.google.com/obn-kbhd-tdn. Join by phone: (US) +1 470-705-0523 PIN: 711 030 489#** Present at the meeting were the following members of the Rincon Valley Fire District Governing Board: Chairperson Michelle Harrington, Clerk Jennifer Spears, Member Kevin McKinley, Member Christopher Klasen and Member Matthew Messmer.

The following matters were discussed, considered and decided at the meeting:

**1. Call to Order** at 6:02 P.M. by Chairperson Harrington

A. Roll Call - Chairperson Michelle Harrington	present
Clerk Jennifer Spears	present
Member Chris Klasen	present by virtual meeting
Member Kevin McKinley	present
Member Matt Messmer	present by virtual meeting

- Also attending – Fire Chief Jayme Kahle, Battalion Chief Jim Tucker, Battalion Chief Allen Yalen, Community Relations Manager Fiona De Young, and Administrative Assistant Claudia McMullen

**2. Pledge of Allegiance** – Chairperson Harrington lead the pledge of allegiance.

**3. Date of next meeting scheduled for May 20, 2021 at 6:00 P.M.**

- Confirmed by all board members present.

**4. Call to the Public**

- Chief Kahle shared some thank you emails and notes from the public.

**5. Consent Agenda**

**Approval of Consent Agenda** – Motion by Member Spears, second by Member McKinley to approve all items on the Consent Agenda. Motion passed 5 to 0.

- A.** Approval of the Minutes of the March 25, 2021 Regular Board Meeting.
- B.** Approval of Resolution **#21-094** – Bayless Annexation (Vacant Land #205-78-054L).
- C.** Approval of Resolution **#21-095** – Kuvik Annexation (3783 E Wetstones Rd).
- D.** Approval of Resolution **#21-096** – Gruber Annexation (1061 N Darlene Dr).

- E. Approval of Resolution #21-097 – Orlowski Annexation (18025 E Wolf Track Trail).

## 6. Reports and Correspondence

- A. **Fire Chief's Report** – Reviewed by the Board. Report on file.
- B. **March's Financial Reports** – Review, discussion and possible action, of the district's financial status including monthly summary reports.
- Monthly Financial Report for the month of March 2021.
  - Monthly Expense Report for the month of March 2021.
  - Monthly Bank Reconciliations and Balance Sheet for the month of March 2021.

-Motion by Member McKinley, second by Member Spears to approve the district's financial reports and expenses for the month of March 2021. Motion passed unanimously 5 to 0.

**Note: The Board took agenda items out of order:**

**(Item 8-D. 2021-046 – Review and discussion and possible action to authorize Resolution #21-098 authorize the issuance of general obligation refunding bonds to refinance our current bond debt.**

- We have two bonds - A and B. At the beginning of Fiscal Year 2021/22, we will owe \$465,000 from Bond A. (Down from original debt of \$5,065,000). Likewise, we will still owe \$1,650,000 from Bond B. However, Bond B becomes callable on 7/1/2021. As such, we should be able to take advantage of much lower interest rates. Our combined interest rates for the bonds is at 5.68%. By calling our bonds in July, we hope to lower our interest rate to 2.34%. The hope is to lock in the current low rates by 05/17. The lowering of interest rates will save us \$330,653 over the course of the next 9 years. We are planning to maintain the same principal payments and principal years as decided by the previous board in 2008 and 2010. Michael LaVallee from Stifel (finance) presented and elaborated on the points stated above and William DeHaan from Greenberg Traurig (legal) was available to answer any questions that should arise, none did. No questions from Board Members.

-Motion by Member Spears, second by Member McKinley to approve Resolution 21-098 to authorize the issuance of general obligation refunding bonds to refinance our current bond debt. Motion passed 5 to 0.

## **7. Unfinished Business**

### **A. 2021-037(a) - Review, discussion and possible action concerning the FY 20/21 Annual Budget.**

- Chief Kahle presented a power point presentation outlining the 2<sup>nd</sup> draft budget. The budget is now balanced. Chief Kahle hopes to set a tentative budget in May and adopted budget in June. Discussion only. No action taken.

## **8. New Business**

### **B. 2021-044 - Review, discussion and possible action to renew our health care insurance with EMI Health.**

- EMI Health, as part of the Public Services Health Benefits Pool, has offered to renew us this year with a 1.86% decrease in cost. EMI Health manages the Arizona Public Services Health Benefits Pool and contracts with BCBS of Arizona. The District provides 75% of the premium for all benefit classes for the PPO plan and 80% of the premium for all benefit classes for the high deductible plan. The high deductible plan also provides \$1,000/\$1,800 in HSA. We also looked at another insurance provider, but it was not significantly cheaper, it was a reduced benefit, and it would require turmoil with current providers.

-Motion by Member Spears, second by Member Mesmer to approve EMI Healthcare renewal. Motion passed 5 to 0.

### **C. 2021-045 - Review, discussion and possible action to approve a Memorandum of Agreement with the National Park Service.**

- Chief Kahle presented the memorandum of agreement with the Saguaro National Park East. For years Rincon Valley Fire has provided fire prevention and response services to the National Park Service's Saguaro National Park East. In addition to emergency responses, we provide preventive service such as courtesy inspections and annual fire extinguisher training. This agreement has the added benefit of our allowing our folks to work together with the park folks for larger incidents such as wildland fire or hiker rescue. This has been a mutually beneficial agreement.

-Motion by Member McKinley, second by Member Spears to approve a Memorandum of Agreement with the National Parks Service. Motion passed unanimously 5 to 0.

### **D. 2021-046 – Review and discussion and possible action to authorize Resolution #21-098 authorize the issuance of general obligation refunding bonds to refinance our current bond debt. (Please see comments above).**

**E. 2021-047 – Review, discussion and possible action to accept a grant from Firehouse Subs for one Zoll AutoPulse System**

- We currently have two Zoll AutoPulse Systems. However, since we are placing PM 299 in service more often, it is a best practice to add a third system. A third system was identified during this year's budget process as a high priority. As presented a few months ago by BC Yalen, the AutoPulse system is allowing us to improve our cardiac arrest saves. Furthermore, this system improves firefighter safety when lifting. Assistant Chief Tucker submitted a grant to Firehouse Subs for this equipment and we were accepted. We hope to have this new equipment in a few months. The anticipated award amount is for \$14,220.

-Motion by Member Spears, second by Member Harrington to approve the acceptance of the Firehouse Subs Grant. Motion passed 5 to 0.

- 9. ADJOURNMENT** - Motion by Member Harrington, second by Member McKinley to adjourn. Motion passed 5 to 0. Meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Dated this 20th day of April 2021.

Rincon Valley Fire District Governing Board

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Chairperson Harrington

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Clerk Spears

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Member McKinley

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Member Klasen

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Member Messmer