

*Peeples Valley Fire District
PO Box 936, Yarnell, AZ 85362
17275 W. Burning Bush Drive, Peeples Valley, AZ 86332*

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES
Special Meeting Minutes from Wednesday, May 11, 2022**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by **Judy Garner, Chairman**, at 1:58 PM.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The pledge was led by Neil Rifenbark.
3. **ROLL CALL OF BOARD:** x Judy Garner, x Wayne Keller, x Phil Lobeck, x Dave Schroedl, x Nancy Tschikof
4. **CALL TO PUBLIC:** Members of the community in attendance: Ray Paiz, Ron Hernandez, Shawn Bomar, Neil Rifenbark, and Charla Jordan.
5. **REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE** - None.
6. **BUSINESS**
 - A. Discussion/possible action to approve the 2022-2023 Budget for publication.
 - Wayne Keller, Head of Budget committee, All in order
 - Dave Schroedl, no comment
 - Neil Rifenbark, final report consistent, no issues
 - Ray Paiz, agrees with final report changes based on detailed discussions in meetings
 - Nancy Tschikof, asked for verification of four line items changed/increased on the final report - listed on April 20th, 2022 Budget Meeting Minutes.
 - Judy Garner, asked about the \$80K carryover as a line item on the budget? Response: may be obligated to payroll wages & workers' compensation, due to the change in when wages are paid. Previously, wages were paid monthly, with the change of pay cycle beginning in January 2022, wages are now bi-weekly. Reserves may be used for payroll until the department is reimbursed for district services and grants. Workers' compensation will be "prepaid" in June, although due in July.
 - Judy expressed concern over the health of the department, specifically the need for additional revenue to cover if needed, the Fire Chief's position, and wear & tear on equipment. Concern regarding the significant increase in the proposed tax rate (essentially going to the max ceiling) will not cover the increase in budgeted line items, mainly related wages for two additional staff members or a potential change in Chief position wages.
 - Neil Rifenbark suggested the possibility of consolidation with other departments for efficiencies for the future.
 - Chief Bomar, agreed the increase in tax levy (additional funds) of \$80,000 would not cover the increase in expenditures but is needed to get the department functioning as a "24/7" operation. The increases in wages (and reimbursements) are an estimate and dependent on district services. If district services reimbursements are reduced, wages as a line item will be lower. The two additional paid positions are mainly to cover weekends & holidays so there is staff available if needed.
 - Ray Paiz commented PVFD is no longer a "volunteer" department but now a "paid" department and the proposed budget is another step in making it happen.

- **Wayne Keller** made the motion to Approve the 2022-2023 Budget for Publication.
- **Seconded: Dave Schroedl**
- **Ayes: x Wayne Keller, x Phil Lobeck, x Dave Schroedl**
- **Nays: x Judy Garner, x Nancy Tschikof**
- **Abstain: 0**
- **Motion carries.**
- The next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 18, 2022, at 5:00 PM at Model Creek School.

7. **ADJOURNMENT: Judy Garner** adjourned the meeting at 3:09 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by: Charla Jordan, Scribe