

CHRISTOPHER KOHL'S FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES
BOARD MEETING 14 APRIL, 2008

Meeting called to order by Mrs. Kalmar at 7:00 p.m.


No roll call taken. Chief Larsen absent

Minutes: Mr. Preble had no comment on minutes. Mr. Oliver said minutes were not in compliance with Open Meeting Law, did not reflect actual meeting events, and were incomplete. No approval of minutes was made.

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Preble gave the ending balances of the County accounts. Mr. Oliver said the report was incomplete as the Chase Banking account balances were not included. Mr. Preble gave the Chase Bank account balances. No approval of Treasurer's Report was made.

Chief's Report: Mrs. Kalmar read the Chief's report.

Agenda Item 4. This was to be a presentation on the upcoming election on lowering tax rates. The intended speaker was absent, and this item was cancelled. Mr. Oliver commented this item should not have been on agenda. Mr. Oliver said the agenda for the meeting was not in compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

Agenda Item 5. This item concerned the new checking account opened to make direct deposits possible. Mr. Oliver said he felt the account was illegal, and after giving background information, Mr. Oliver made a Motion to obtain a legal opinion on the account from the Gila County Attorney. There was no second to the Motion. ~~Ms. Haddon~~ ~~Ms. Thornton~~ ~~Mrs. Dawson~~ ~~Mrs. Kalmar~~  Ms. Thornton and Mrs. Marazza asked why the Board did not ask for an opinion. Mrs. Dawson and Mrs. Kalmar discussed the two different accounts.

Agenda Item 6. This item concerned the new satellite internet system installed at station 51. Mr. Oliver said this system was used for internet banking with the new checking account discussed under item 4. Mr. Oliver felt that Board approval of the system had not been obtained. Mr. Oliver made a Motion to discontinue the use of the system and remove it. There was no second to the Motion. Mr. Oliver inquired about the offered \$100 rebate for installing the system. Mr. Preble said he did not know about the rebate. Ms. Haddon said that the system was needed. Ms. Thornton said the issue was if the Board had approved the system. Mr. Preble said that the system did not need Board approval, and was needed for improved services by the Department.

Agenda Item 7. This item concerned the accounting services for the District, and discussion of the recently received audit of the previous fiscal year. Mr. Oliver discussed the accountant that was providing services to the District. Mr. Oliver said that the Board never approved the hiring of the accountant and made a Motion to hire another accountant, local to the area, with knowledge of Fire Departments. There was no second. Mr. Oliver reviewed the recently received audit of the previous fiscal year. Mr. Oliver felt there were several shortcomings in the audit, and that the Board had never approved the choice of this auditor. Ms. Haddon disagreed with Mr. Oliver. Ms. Thornton asked if the audit was public record and where it went. Mr. Oliver answered her questions. Mrs. Dawson asked if any penalty was paid for the audit being late as Mr. Oliver had alleged. Mr. Preble said there had been no penalty. Mr. Kalmar asked when

the audit was done. Mr. Oliver answered his question. Mr. Schillingburg had several comments. Mr. Anderson asked about availability of the audit. Mrs. Kalmar answered his questions. Mrs. Fish had several questions about the audit that were answered by the Board. Mr. Slapnicka had questions about prior procedures for audits. Mr. Schillingburg had comments about the accountant. Mr. Anderson inquired who the auditor was.

Agenda Items 8 and 10 were combined at Mr. Oliver's request. This combined item concerned the hiring process for a new Fire Chief, and answering public concerns about the District CPA, and the new checking account. A public petition is to be presented to the Board concerning the hiring of a Fire Chief. Mrs. Kalmar said after discussion that she wanted to hire Chuck Jacobs as an interm Fire Chief. Mr. Oliver said the agenda did not allow for hiring a Chief. A petition was presented to the Board by Mrs. Marazza asking that Scott VanEckhoutte be hired as Fire Chief. The following persons spoke in favor of the petition: Mr. Schantz, Mr. Sundra, Mr. and Mrs. Dawson, Mr. Briton, Mr. lloyd, and Mrs. Marazza. Speaking against the hiring of Mr. VanEckhoutte was Ms. Haddon and Mr. Slapnicka. A committee to hire a permanent Chief was discussed by the Board and the audience members previously mentioned. Mrs. Kalmar made a Motion to form a committee consisting of Mr. Oliver, Mrs. Dawson and Mrs. Sundra to screen and recommend a permanent Fire Chief. Mr. Preble seconded. All Board members voted AYE. Mr. Oliver made a Motion to hire Mr. VanEckhoutte as interm Fire Chief. There was no second. Mr. Preble made a Motion to hire Electra VanEckhoutte as interm Fire Chief. Mrs. Kalmar seconded. Mr. Preble and Mrs. Kalmar voted AYE. Mr. Oliver voted NO.

Agenda Item 9. This item concerned the preparation and requirements for Board agendas, and the legal requirements of the Open Meeting Law. Mrs. Dawson discussed agendas, and the Open Meeting Law. She felt that the agendas for the District were not in compliance with that Law. Two handouts were given to the Board by Mrs. Dawson. Mr. Preble and Mrs. Dawson discussed the meeting minutes and the requirements for the minutes. Mr. Anderson suggested using computer programs in conjunction with a digital tape recorder. Mr. Rhodes commented on the tape recorder.

Agenda Item 10. This item was combined with Item 8. Mrs. Kalmar said all the public concerns were answered.

Call to the Public: Mrs. Dawson stated her concerns about special and emergency meetings. She asked that they be scheduled on weekends. Mr. Dawson asked that the Board consider Mr. VanEckhoutte as the permanent Fire Chief.

Mrs. Kalmar adjourned the meeting at 8:44 pm.

Approved this 2nd day of May, 2008

BY JIM RAY


CHAIRMAN