

CHRISTOPHER KOHL'S FIRE DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING  
JUNE 9, 2008  
STATION 51

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm, 9 June, 2008

In attendance: James Oliver, Administrator  
Electra VanEckhoutte, Fire Chief

Agenda Item 3.

A. The minutes from the: 14 April, 2008, Board Meeting; the 25 April, 2008, Special Board meeting; and the 5 June, 2008 Special Board Meeting were approved by Mr. Oliver. Mr. Oliver stated that he had approved the 14 April and 25 April minutes on 2 May after the resignation of two Board members. He again approved those minutes for the record.

B. The status of the District Bank accounts for April and May 2008, was given by Mr. Oliver.

C. Chief VanEckHoutte gave the Chief's report and discussed the status of the Department and activities of the members of the Department.

Agenda Item 4. Mr. Oliver discussed the Administrators role and duties until the November election. He said he plans to continue regular monthly meetings as required, and anything normally requiring Board approval will be discussed in open meetings. Mr. Schantz had a comment on station maintenance.

Agenda item 5. This item was for information and discussion on the proposed budget for the coming fiscal year. The budget was approved for publication and posting at a meeting on 5 June, 2008. Mr. Oliver gave details on the budget, saying that the proposed tax rate would be \$1.97 per hundred of secondary assessed value. There will be a public hearing at the regular Board meeting on 14 July, 2008. Mr. Oliver said there were plans to purchase 60 minute SCBA's and a new brush truck from Capital reserve, and lease purchase of a new fire engine. Mr. Steve Sundra asked about property values dropping, and assessed values going up. Mr. Oliver said the assessor was the one to ask, but assessments lagged behind values. Mr. Sundra asked if the administrator position was a paid position. Mr. Oliver replied it was not. Mr. Lloyd had a question about response pay and paid on call. Mr. Oliver said that the Chief was working on that program.

Agenda item 6. Information/discussion/action of Resolution #91. This resolution is to adopt an Eligible 457 Prototype plan for the District Pension Plan. Mr. Oliver said that the Pension Board had adopted this plan, and the former Board had approved it, but did not have a resolution ready. Mr. Oliver adopted Resolution #91, which adopted an Eligible 457 Prototype Plan for the Pension Fund for the District.

Agenda item 7. Information/discussion/action on Resolution #92. This resolution issued a formal call to election for one vacant seat on the District Governing Board due to expiration of term. Mr. Oliver said that the Gila County Board of Supervisors had issued a call to election for 2 vacant seats due to resignation of Board members. The election will be 4 November, 2008, for all three seats. Mr. Oliver said that there were two petition forms, one form for a four year term, one form for the 2 two year terms. Mr. Oliver said

he thought it was too late to go to a 5 person Board, but he would work for that for the 2010 election. Mr. Oliver said the District was still working through all the effects of the resignations, but that the County had been helpful, and Gary Hatch was very helpful to the Chief and himself. Mr. Oliver commented that Mr. Hatch, while still hopeful of merger, did not want our District in disarray. Mr. Sundra asked a question about what was a quorum with a 5 person Board. Mr. Oliver read Resolution #92 and adopted it. Mr. Sundra asked if the Administrator could appoint two new Board members. Mr. Oliver said that Mr. Nelson, the Deputy County Manager, indicated at a public meeting that the Administrator had that power. Mr. Oliver said that he would not do so.

Agenda item 8. Information/discussion/action on a Board request to the County Attorney for an opinion on the legality of the Chase Bank account opened by the former Board. Mr. Oliver gave some background on this issue, indicated that the account had proven helpful after the resignations, but that he thought it was not legal. Mr. Oliver said that Mr. Nelson had used it in the 31 day period until Mr. Oliver was appointed, and that it would continue to be used until the County Attorney gave an opinion saying it was illegal. A legal opinion will be sought by the Board. Mr. Oliver discussed the controls and oversight over the account that he was going to put in place. Mr. Schantz asked about checks with the account. Mr. Oliver said no checks were written. A question was asked about receipts. Mr. Lloyd commented on the way this type account was handled when he was with the VA.

Agenda item 9. Information/discussion on the status of the committee to search for a Fire Chief for the District. Mr. Oliver said he was withdrawing from the committee. He also indicated that although the word Interm was on Electra VanEckhoutte's work agreement, he felt that term had gone away. Mr. Oliver indicated that he had no plans to look for a new Chief, that he felt the Chief was doing an excellent job under difficult circumstances, and the new Board in December could decide what they wanted to do. Mr. Oliver said the committee could decide what their status is and find another member. Mr. VanEckhoutte asked who the committee members were. Shelly Sundra and Debbie Dawson were named as the remaining members. Mr. Oliver said he would put something on the agenda next month if there was any interest in it.

Agenda item 10. This was an item to identify future agenda topics. Mr. Oliver read a list of items for future agendas that was given to the former Board at a past meeting. The items mostly were not applicable to the current status of the Board. Putting agendas on the website was discussed. Mr. Seay requested Fire Department Posting Boards be procured and installed. Mr. VanEckhoutte replied that he is working on that project. Mr. Sundra asked about how much control the County was exercising over the District. Mr. Oliver said that the County did not want to be involved in our District, but had to when the two Board members resigned. Mr. Oliver said he received no instructions on how to do the job, did not plan to send any reports to the County other than that required by Law. He felt the County wanted us to govern ourselves, and Mr. Oliver wanted to be left alone to do the job. Mr. Oliver said he would be talking to the County Attorney and the Elections Dept. Mr. Gourdoux commented on an item in the Chief's report and said he would help with any fingerprinting for background investigations. Mr. Seay commented on rumors about the District not responding to the Tonto Creek Estates area. The rumors are false and the Department is working to correct the false impressions. Mr. Oliver discussed the rumor of a petition to remove that area from the District. He said that any petition of that sort had to be approved by the Governing Board before circulation and none had been approved. Mr. Oliver said he would not approve a petition until the Board seats in December. Mr. Armistead had a question on the proposed switch to

Payson Police dispatching. He was referred to the Fire Chief, or a future agenda item if needed.

Mr. Oliver adjourned the meeting at 7:45pm, 9 June, 2008

Submitted : 11 June, 2008  
James Oliver

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Administrator  
\_\_\_\_\_, 2008