

**MINUTES  
SUN CITY FIRE DISTRICT  
SPECIAL MEETING  
TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2022  
9:30 A.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER:** David Mann, Chairman

**ROLL CALL:**

**Members Present:** David Mann, Tim Wilmes, Steve Arnold, Phil LaBarbera, David VanderNaalt

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff:** Acting Fire Chief Rob Schmitz, Deputy Chief Jason Casey, , Office Manager Lisa Neubert, and USCFFA Vice President Kevin Brown and USCFFA Trustee Brandon Crossnoo

**BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** The Committees of the Board discussed various matters within their areas of responsibility.

**I. Legal and Insurance**

- A.** Chief Schmitz led off the discussion by reviewing what has occurred with the feasibility study proposals up to this point. Chief Schmitz requested proposals from four firms – ESCI, CPSM, Facets Consulting, and Policy Logic. He received proposals from ESCI, CPSM, and Facets Consulting. Policy Logic declined to submit a proposal. The board reviewed those proposals at the June 21, 2022, workshop meeting and asked that Chief Schmitz have each firm present their proposal via Zoom at the June 28, 2022, regular board meeting. Each firm made a presentation. The board has had the opportunity to thoroughly review the proposals and presentations since the June 28, 2022, meeting.

Chairman Mann asked if anyone would like to make a motion regarding any of the proposals submitted. Board member Wilmes made a motion that the board accept the proposal submitted by ESCI. Board Member VanderNaalt seconded the motion. Board member Arnold stated that the board should consider if anyone from the public has inquired about the feasibility study proposals. It

was noted that no phone calls or emails had been received regarding the feasibility study proposals. Karen Partridge, a Sun City resident in attendance of this meeting, asked if our district had reached out to Arizona Fire & Medical Authority (AFMA) to see who they use for feasibility studies. Chief Schmitz reported that Policy Logic is the firm that AFMA uses and reiterated that they declined to submit a proposal.

Chairman Mann called for discussion prior to voting on the motion made by Board member Wilmes. All the board members concurred that ESCI's proposal was the most thorough of the three submitted. Board member VanderNaalt noted that we would be able to use the data from the ESCI study as a baseline for another study with a different organization if we chose to. Board member Arnold noted that the study will give our agency a good review of our district and help evaluate where improvements might be needed. The question was asked about AFMA's financial contribution to the study. The board agreed that the Sun City Fire District should pay for the study in full. Chief Schmitz noted that the money for the entire cost of the study has been budgeted for in the FY2023 budget. No other proposal was put forth for consideration. The board voted unanimously to accept ESCI's proposal for a feasibility study at the cost of \$51,171.00. (M: Tim Wilmes/S: David VanderNaalt; Ayes: David Mann, Tim Wilmes, Steve Arnold, Phil LaBarbera, David VanderNaalt. Nays: None)

## II. Budget and Finance

- A. Chief Schmitz reported that Proposition 310, the Arizona Fire District Safety Act, will be on the November 8, 2022, ballot. This Act would impose a state-wide sales tax of 1/10 of 1% for a period of 20 years. If this proposition passes the Sun City Fire District would potentially receive an approximate additional \$4.5 million dollars in revenue per fiscal year.

## III. Fire Department Operations

- A. No report.

## IV. Ambulance Operations

- A. No report.

## V. Grounds and Equipment

- A. Chief Schmitz reported that the LT unit is currently the oldest unit in our fleet and is now incurring very costly repairs. Battalion Chief Van Roekel, who is over grounds and apparatus, has received four ladder tender replacement bids as follows:

1. Sutphen - \$532,600
2. Rosenbauer - \$468,000 (HGAC Contract through Phoenix Fire Department)
3. SVI - \$546,000
4. E-One - \$517,700

Chief Schmitz asked the board to review the proposals and at the July 28, 2022, regular meeting he will ask the board to consider approving an amount not to exceed \$600,000 for the purchase of a new ladder tender. The apparatus committee will be reviewing the proposals and a selection will be made soon. Additionally Chief Schmitz said that there are some prepayment options available and those can be reviewed at a future date.

**VI. Special Projects**

- A. No report.

**VII. Executive Session**

- A. No executive session.

**VIII. Adjournment**

- A. Board member LaBarbera made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:08 a.m. Board member VanderNaalt seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:08 a.m. (M: Phil LaBarbera/S: David VanderNaalt; Ayes: David Mann, Tim Wilmes, Steve Arnold, Phil LaBarbera, David VanderNaalt. Nays: None)

**FOR THE BOARD**

*Tim Wilmes*

Tim Wilmes  
Clerk of the Board  
TW/lbn