

Palominas Fire District
Regular Board Meeting of the Governing Board
Palominas, Arizona
Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 28, 2025
5:30 p.m.

ACRONYMS EOP/AOP...Emergency Operation Procedures/Administration Operating Procedures
A.R.S.....Arizona Revised Statutes ALS/BLS...Advance Life Support/Basic Life Support
ISO Insurance Services Office COLA..... Cost of Living Adjustment
ALS/BLS...Advance Life Support/Basic Life Support SCBA..... Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus
IGA...Intergovernmental Agreement DOL..... Department of Labor
FLSA...Fair Labor Standards Act

1. Call to Order:

- a) **Roll Call/Confirmation of Quorum:** Robert Montgomery, Tommy Stoner, Valerie Rice, Cathy Chouinard, Kim Mauzy, Dave Parry, Vickie Simmons, Mark Prince (via phone), Brittany Archer
- b) **Moment of silence**
- c) **Pledge of allegiance**

Call to the Public: Steve Dirmeyer asked how the Bond discussion was going. Robert Montgomery stated that the Board does not exchange conversation and that it will be covered on the agenda.

2) Action accepting Minutes (Monthly): Robert Montgomery suggested starting at the June 5, 2025, meeting. Cathy Chouinard made a motion to accept June 5, 2025, minutes. Valerie Rice seconded the motion. Cathy Chouinard: Aye, Valerie Rice: Aye, Kim Mauzy: Aye, Tommy Stoner: Aye, Robert Montgomery: Aye. Cathy Chouinard made a motion to accept June 26, 2025, minutes. Valerie Rice seconded the motion. Cathy Chouinard: Aye, Valerie Rice: Aye, Kim Mauzy: Aye, Tommy Stoner: Aye, Robert Montgomery: Aye. Cathy made a motion to accept July 31, 2025, minutes. Valerie seconded the motion. Cathy Chouinard: Aye, Valerie Rice: Aye, Kim Mauzy: Aye, Tommy Stoner: Aye, Robert Montgomery: Aye.

3) Monthly financial reports and consideration of district financial matters pursuant to

A.R.S. §48-807: The balance sheet as of July 2025 was a negative balance. The district is using the line of credit until taxes come in. Non-county-controlled accounts show \$660,289. Expenses from M&O were \$108,854. There were several larger payments, but they were reimbursed by the insurance company for damages from the fire. The balance at the end of July for payroll is \$340,918. Cathy Chouinard made a motion to accept the July 2025 financials as presented. Tommy Stoner second the motion. Cathy Chouinard: Aye, Tommy Stoner: Aye, Kim Mauzy: Aye, Valerie Rice: Aye. Robert Montgomery: Aye.

4) Fire Chief Report: All items are for discussion and dialogue between Chief, Staff, and Board.

The Fire Chief will give a status report regarding various areas of the district's operations including but not limited to the following areas:

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Staffing is still at 8. A lot of rattlesnake calls. 59 calls for service for July. No grants as of right now. Dave Parry stated he has reached out to the school because the fire awareness week is coming up next month. He wanted to know if they wanted us to come talk. He states he has had many calls to Inland Kenworth without much resolution. No calls from Jim Featherstone. Station 193 has a new door in the back, which made the building more secure. The PW&S dropped off a meter for Station 191. Chief Prince said the purpose behind it was to reduce the rates. There was a well pump failure at Station 192. Tanner Well Service came out to repair it.

5) Discussion and possible action on PFD pursuing a Bond and signing Engagement Letter with Stifel: Mike Lavalley stated that in terms of Fire District information, the handout lists all the districts that have had Bond elections. In addition, Stifel also does financing. They do not charge for Elections. Palominas Fire District can ask for up to 3.2 million, but the rates won't hit until 2027/2028. Robert Montgomery stated that this would not be on the Board exclusively, and that it would be the public's decision. He also asked that the Board take time to think about their questions for Mr. Lavalley. Tommy Stoner stated that we do not need a bond. He says that we shouldn't go for a bond on equipment that will only last 10 years, and that the people we hire to do the Bond will lie to the public. Kim Mauzy asked if the engine Chief Prince wanted to purchase originally was still available. Chief Prince states that he couldn't in good faith purchase it due to the low hanging plumbing for the truck. No action was taken on this item.

6) Discussion and possible action on the Foudy Road & Kedron properties for possible sale: Tommy Stoner stated we have already tried to sell the Kedron property. If we are anticipating replacing the Station 191 quarters, we should consider moving the mobile home back onto it and selling it that way. Tommy Stoner asked that we make sure we put the parcel number and information on the property and it on the agenda for next month. The Foudy Road item was tabled.

7) Discussion and possible action re: Fire Chief's job description and Employment Contract: The latest one was from 2021 that Brenda Tranchina sent over. Tommy Stoner asked for a pause to look through his files. No approved Fire Chief job description was found. No action was taken on this item.

8) Discussion and possible action on purchasing new or used apparatus: The first engine was not a good fit for Palominas due to low hanging plumbing for the apparatus. The asking price for the International was dropped to \$225,000. It is a 2014 with 26,000 miles on it. Tommy Stoner says it's a no from him. He suggests we measure apparatus from other districts. The purpose would be to see if 7 inches of clearance is acceptable. He also asked that we get the measurements on the engine we borrowed from them.

9) Discussion and possible action to surplus the Dodge Van and the Ford Expedition: No action was taken on this item.

10) Discussion and possible action on the Margarita Ranch water tank: Tommy Stoner says we have never used that tank and we need to determine if we will ever use it. He stated we probably won't use it. He suggested it be declared surplus and asked that we put it on the agenda for next

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month. Tommy Stoner made a motion to do a resolution for the water tank. Valerie Rice seconded the motion. Tommy Stoner: Aye, Valerie Rice: Aye, Cathy Chouinard: Aye, Kim Mauzy: Aye, Robert Montgomery: Aye.

10) Adjournment: Cathy Chouinard made a motion to adjourn. Valerie Rice seconded the motion. Cathy Chouinard: Aye, Valerie Rice: Aye, Kim Mauzy: Aye, Tommy Stoner: Aye, Robert Montgomery: Aye. Adjournment at 7:50 p.m.

Minutes approved by the Palominas Fire Board:

Signature

Date