



~ Note: These Minutes were approved by the Fire Board on 3/19/14 ~

# Sedona Fire District

2860 Southwest Drive, Sedona, Arizona 86336  
Telephone (928) 282-6800 FAX (928) 282-6857

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Station #1 – 2860 Southwest Drive – West Sedona – Multipurpose Room  
Wednesday, February 26, 2014 / 3:30 PM – Executive Session / 4:30 PM – Regular Meeting

~ MINUTES ~

### I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

**Board Present:** Ty Montgomery – Chairman; Corrie Cooperman – Clerk;  
Nazih Hazime, Scott Jablow, Diane Schoen – Members  
**Staff Present:** Kris Kazian – Fire Chief; Scott Schwisow – Division Chief; Gary Johnson – Fire Marshal;  
Jayson Coil – Battalion Chief; Sandi Schmidt – Finance Manager; Ed Mezulis – Battalion  
Chief; Tricia Greer – Executive Assistant as Recorder  
**Others Present:** William R. Whittington – Attorney; 9 Citizens

### II. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. **Vote to go into Executive Session relating to the following items pursuant to:**
1. **ARS 38-431.03(A)(1) Personnel Matters; ARS 38-431.03(A)(3) Legal Advice; and ARS 38-431.03(A)(4) Instruction to Attorney – Fire Chief’s Annual Evaluation Process.**
  2. **ARS 38-431.03(A)(3) Legal Advice; and ARS 38-431.03(A)(4) Instruction to Attorney – Open Meeting Law Complaint received by Arizona Attorney General.**

Board Chairman Ty Montgomery called the meeting to order at 3:34 PM. *Board Member Scott Jablow moved to go into Executive Session relating to ARS 38-431.03(A)(1) Personnel Matters; ARS 38-431.03(A)(3) Legal Advice; and ARS 38-431.03(A)(4) Instruction to Attorney regarding the Fire Chief’s Annual Evaluation Process; and into ARS 38-431.03(A)(3) Legal Advice and ARS 38-431.03(A)(4) Instruction to Attorney regarding the Open Meeting Law Company received by the Arizona Attorney General; Board Member Nazih Hazime seconded and the motion was unanimously approved at 5 to 0.*

### III. RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION

- A. **Salute to the Flag of the United States of America and Moment of Silence to Honor all American Men and Women in Service to Our Country, Firefighters, and Police Officers.**

Chairman Montgomery reconvened the public session at 4:15 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance; Division Chief Scott Schwisow asked all to honor the 15 Firefighters and 10 Law Enforcement Officers across the nation who lost their lives during the last month.

- B. **Discussion/Possible Action: Follow-Up of Executive Session Items:**
1. **Fire Chief Annual Evaluation Process.**

Mr. Montgomery said there is a requirement for the Board to give Chief Kazian an annual evaluation and no standard process to use and wanted input from the Board and Chief as to the format for this year. Chief Kazian said the Board received his self-evaluation in written form as part of their Board packets and any format the Board desires for the evaluation would be acceptable. Mr. Montgomery said normally and historically, there is an Executive Session for the Board and Chief to carry out the review; last year, the Board provided written feedback and could do so again. Chief Kazian said that could be a written summary of a verbal evaluation.

Mr. Jablow stated a verbal interview with the Chief and Board as a “roundtable” format would be fine. Mr. Hazime agreed with the verbal interview, but wanted to leave open the possibility of a survey. Board Member Diane Schoen stated the next step is to set a time for the Board to meet in Executive Session with the Chief to

do an evaluation and decide if any other components are needed; Board Clerk Corrie Cooperman agreed. Mr. Hazime asked about scheduling the evaluation – whether to go back into Executive Session on this matter today or postpone it to next month. Chief Kazian said next month, we have a budget workshop and he is fine with continuing in Executive Session tonight. Chief Kazian commented the self-evaluation the Board received is based on SFD’s formal evaluation system. Mrs. Cooperman expressed concerned about having too much next month with a budget workshop, regular business meeting, possible executive session, and also the Chief’s evaluation. Mr. Whittington noted the Executive Session listed has a termination time of 4:30 PM on today’s Agenda, and does not believe it should be done later tonight. Chief Kazian said the Board could hold a Special Meeting, if desired, and with a possibility of including the purchase of a demo engine from today’s Agenda.

After discussion of schedules, the Board agreed to hold a Special Meeting next Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM for Fire Chief Kazian’s performance review and with the possibility of the engine purchase item. Attorney Whittington will participate by telephone. Mr. Montgomery encouraged all Board Members to put something in writing regarding the Chief’s performance prior to that meeting; as Ms. Cooperman will be unavailable on March 5<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Montgomery suggested she meet with Chief Kazian individually.

## **2. Open Meeting Law Complaint.**

Mr. Montgomery stated the Board’s attorney is looking into the matter and there is nothing else to discuss.

## **IV. REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING – 4:30 PM**

### **A. Consent Agenda – Discussion/Possible Action.**

#### **1. January 22, 2014 Public Budget Workshop and Regular Business Meeting Minutes.**

*Mrs. Cooperman moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented; Mr. Jablow seconded, and the motion unanimously passed at 5 to 0.*

### **B. Public Forum**

#### **1. Public Comments.**

There were no requests from the public to speak.

#### **2. Executive Staff Response to Public Comments.**

There was no Executive Staff response.

### **C. Business**

#### **1. Presentations:**

##### **a. Award-Winning Firefighter Quilt Gifted to SFD by Sharon Angelo.**

Mr. Montgomery said Mrs. Angelo is running late and this presentation will be made at her arrival. Later, at approximately 5:05 PM, Mrs. Angelo, a Chapel-area resident, arrived and presented the quilt to be hung in Station #6 upon its dedication. She made the quilt in 2011, and named it “Arizona Wildfires: Honoring Those that Fight Them”; Mrs. Angelo was inspired by the way the community came together during the Brins Fire. Chief Kazian stated SFD’s appreciation.

##### **b. Recognition of SFD by State of Arizona as a “Heart Safe Community”.**

Battalion Chief Ed Mezulis addressed the Board and said contractual changes to the Public Access Defibrillation (PAD) program were discussed earlier this year and the program is going well with the PAD partners participating; there have been many training requests for “hands only” CPR, in conjunction with the PAD program. Former SFD Assistant Chief Bill Boler and Captain Angel Morales started this program around 2007, and to date, in Sedona and the Verde Valley, more than 10,000 people have been trained. Board Member Hazime has been a big proponent of the program. The Arizona SHARE program under the auspices of the Department of Health Services set criteria to be designated as a “Heart Safe Community”, and SFD was given this award last month, and permits signage stating Sedona is a Heart Safe City. He presented a plaque to the Board and commended all personnel that have made Sedona safer. Chief Kazian shared Chief Mezulis’ sentiments and said SFD will continue to provide this type of top level service; he had a firefighter friend visit town last week, who commented how great it was that Sedona had Automatic External Defibrillators in public

places for use in emergencies. He recognized all the people who make the CPR program run smoothly and not just at SFD but across the Verde Valley and how it makes a true, measurable difference in people's lives. Mr. Montgomery commented that is part of SFD's 33% "save" rate for cardiac patients. He also expressed appreciation for the business owners that stepped up to help with the expense of purchasing the AEDs.

**2. Discussion/Possible Action: Review and Approval of January 2014 Financial Report.**

Chief Kazian informed the Board the financial report was included in their packets of information, and asked if they had questions. Finance Manager Sandi Schmidt pointed out SFD has received all the submitted reimbursements for fire billing. SFD budgeted \$55,000 revenue for wildland fire billing this year, but has already received \$65,000, and Chief Kazian stated indicators point to a very active fire season. Mr. Jablow asked if the revenue was from manpower and equipment; Chief Kazian said this is just for equipment, and the actual fire billing itself is much bigger. *Mrs. Cooperman moved to approve the January 2014 financial statement; Mrs. Schoen seconded and the motion unanimously passed at 5 to 0.*

**3. Monthly Staff Report – Fire Chief Kris Kazian.**

- a. Call Summary for Month and Year to Date.**
- b. Calls by Still District Summary for Month and Year to Date.**
- c. Emergency Response Times Summary for Month and Year to Date.**
- d. Regional Communications Center Dispatch Activity for Month and Year to Date.**
- e. Special/Significant Activities and Incidents.**
- f. General Update of Recent SFD Activities, Happenings, and Events.**
- g. SFD Training Report.**
- h. Donations to SFD.**
- i. Update of Grant Activity.**
- j. Correspondence/Thank You Letters to SFD.**

Chief Kazian noted the two fire calls from January, and mentioned the new format of the report. He said interfacility transports were up, probably because of "flu-like symptoms". It was a busy month for SFD, which had four rescue calls, likely due to the nice weather. Chief Kazian pointed out we have removed the remote rescue calls from the time response to a separate category, so our responses are more accurately reflected; additionally, we moved wildland fire responses to land under USFS jurisdiction to a separate category; wildland fire responses in our primary response areas remain in the response time category. Mrs. Cooperman asked for a year-to-date comparison of emergency response times; Chief Kazian said we could add a new column in the report. Chief Kazian said we changed the other charts to mirror the year-to-date comparisons, which suggestion initially came from a citizen for quantifiable data.

Chief Kazian pointed out the last page of the report gives a grant update and tracking mechanism. The HazMat monitor grant is being written by Battalion Chief Jayson Coil and his crew, as well as the backcountry rescue vehicle; the Community Risk Management section is also writing a grant for a new fire extinguisher training program. He explained the new format of the grant updates. As grants are closed, they will be removed from the chart. He asked if the new grant format was acceptable, and the Board agreed.

Chief Kazian said the Fiscal Year 2015 budget is being created, and new law requires special districts to also create a potential budget for the following fiscal year, necessitating additional planning and work. Staff is working hard to minimize the budget as much as possible, but pointed out as an example of increasing costs, new fees from Yavapai County for elections will increase the budget for that area by about \$45,000.

He reported Meet and Confer has started with good dialogue between labor and management. Additionally, the Reserve program is getting off the ground, but is challenging because Reserves are lost to full time jobs and other personal reasons; staff is starting to evaluate the program. Mr. Montgomery stated we did contemplate that possibility when the program was initially discussed.

Chief Kazian honored Fire Marshal Gary Johnson for his 35 years of service to the Sedona Fire District, and presented his service ribbon. He reminded the Board next month's meeting will be held a week early on March 19<sup>th</sup> and at Station #3 in the Village of Oak Creek beginning at 3:30 PM for a budget workshop.

**D. Items from Staff.**

**1. Update: Station #6 Construction.**

Chief Kazian said the bay doors are being hung and although currently white, they will be painted to blend into the color scheme; the substantial completion date will be April 1<sup>st</sup> even with rain and other delays. He announced the radio microwave unit is substantially smaller from the original planned four foot model to about one foot in diameter; and the projected 20 foot tall antennae will be about 5 feet; he said changes continue due to the availability of newer models. Chief Kazian reminded all the roof will oxidize into a darker color to blend into the environment. The asphalt has been installed and parking lots are paved with striping scheduled for next week. We will occupy the station sometime after April 15<sup>th</sup> to start serving the community. Mr. Jablow asked if the station is still up for the Coconino County sustainability award; Chief Kazian said the architects are handling that and it is on-going. He recommended Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> for the station dedication and would like to welcome the community to a pancake breakfast from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM with an 11:00 AM dedication ceremony, and open house until 1:00 PM; the Department of Public Safety would like to hold its dedication of the memorial for the fallen officer on the same day around 1:00 or 1:30 PM. Chief Kazian will follow up with the Lutheran Church and Jewish Synagogue to make sure there are no conflicting events at that time.

**a. Discussion/Possible Action: Purchase Order #8703 in the amount of \$13,545.11 to Arizona Extreme Fitness for Station #6.**

Chief Kazian noted the amount of the purchase has been reduced due to Captain Jeff Wassell securing a better deal and the Purchase Order has been amended to \$11,481.98. Staff is happy with the quality and consistency of the equipment. *Mr. Montgomery moved to approve P.O. #8703 for \$11,481.98 to Arizona Extreme Fitness; Mrs. Cooperman seconded and the motion unanimously passed.*

**2. Update: Station #1 Generator Project.**

Division Chief Schwisow said the project is completed and no other code issues were found; the City of Sedona signed off on the project. Training on its operation by the contractor will be provided. This project was bid with Station #6 for substantial savings. There may be a couple of small items, such as handrails for the steps, but all should be under the Command Staff's signing authority. The contractor completed the work on Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup>; Telecommunications staff was present until around 11:00 PM that night. The generator will provide power to the Emergency Operations Center in the event of a large incident even with a power outage. Chief Kazian thanked Division Chief Schwisow, Fire Marshal Johnson, Battalion Chief Coil, Fire Inspector Sullivan, Telecom Supervisor Motz, IT Lead Technician Harris, and Telecom Technician Scala for their part in this project. He also stated the City will pay 25%, which means the project will be under \$100,000 for SFD.

**3. Discussion/Possible Action: Authorize Acquisition of Appropriate Credit Cards for staff acting as Wildland Single Resources, Engine Bosses, and/or Battalion Chiefs.**

Chief Kazian said SFD is assigned to multiple wildland fires, and that past Board action removed the ability for credit cards to be issued. Subsequently, personnel deployed must use personal credit cards to purchase items needed for business; on the surface, this does not seem unreasonable, as they will be reimbursed; however, this year, for example, a radiator in an apparatus malfunctioned resulting in thousands of dollars of repair that a Firefighter had to put on a personal credit card; he does not believe this is good practice for employees to have to pay such substantial upfront costs and wait four to six weeks to be reimbursed. Common practice for many organizations in wildland firefighting is to issue credit cards; credit card companies no longer issue cards just naming Sedona Fire District, but rather, must be in the employee's name along with Sedona Fire District. Chief Kazian said he is not interested in all personnel having a district credit card, but specifically for wildland personnel at the Engine Boss and above level, as well as Battalion Chiefs; these cards will not be in the individual's possessions all the time, but will be maintained by Finance or the BCs when those individuals are not on wildland fires. There is a complete tracking and accountability system.

Mr. Hazime asked how many cards this would be; Chief Kazian replied it is close to 20, but not 20 separate credit lines. These cards are for wildland deployments with the exception of the Battalion Chiefs who will have access to their cards because there are opportunities when they need the account. Mr. Montgomery said he considers this two separate issues and totally agrees with the wildland portion, but wants more information about the Battalion Chief accounts as he remembers tracking issues in the past. Chief Schwisow said Finance meticulously tracks the credit cards and if receipts are not submitted, they follow-up, and ultimately, if a receipt is not submitted, it will be taken from the employee's paycheck. Regarding the BCs, there are policies in place with spending limits and authority, and for example, some items are cheaper when purchased on line, which requires a credit card; this would be a credit card for the individual BC purchasing equipment within his budget account; Chief Schwisow remembers there may have been a past problem with a credit card, but recalls there have been no issues within a number of years and this method has more accountability and tracking, and also will be part of the annual audit. Mr. Montgomery asked why those BCs would be going outside the purchasing process in the example given; Chief Schwisow replied they would still write a purchase order and follow policy, but getting best value sometimes requires a credit card number, not a purchase order number.

Battalion Chief Jayson Coil added this is common practice; land management agents in the field are issued credit cards for travel and if it is used for a non-allowable cost, reimbursement is denied; another favorable point for wildland use is firefighters who are considered "self sufficient" by the Federal agency are more likely to be allowed to stay on incidents longer. Mrs. Schoen said credit card use is a problem for many organizations, and asked if the Battalion Chiefs would be limited by their budget; Chief Schwisow said they are limited by several things – their budget, spending authority of \$2,000, and credit card limit of approximately \$2,000. Mrs. Schoen said if there are limits to the amount they can charge, then she does not see a problem with this proposal. Chief Schwisow agreed and commented when the BCs had the cards, it made doing day to day business easier and more efficient with the tracking mechanism; he said these officers are given authority to manage large budgets, and trust to handle large-scale emergency incidents. Chief Kazian said besides purchasing items on-line, although that happens on a fairly frequent basis, and noted the Board signs off on the credit card bills so they can track purchasing, the best example is at 11:30 AM, a crew is sent to a remote rescue and may be on that call until late at night on a mountain without food, and a credit card helps BC order food; he said it is common practice and not a matter of being a "free for all". Mrs. Schoen stated these individuals are elevated to the level of Battalion Chief with heavy responsibilities and budgeting, and this is a more efficient way of doing business, and comes down to trust. Mr. Montgomery said having their names on the cards is different than it was previously, which does add to the accountability. ***Mr. Jablow moved to authorize the Fire Chief acquire appropriate credit cards for staff members acting as single resources, engine bosses, and/or Battalion Chiefs; Mrs. Cooperman seconded and the motion passed unanimously.***

#### **4. Discussion/Possible Action: Contingency Funds for Purchase of "Demo" Engine.**

Chief Schwisow explained the engine wrecked in the station accident last year was declared surplus and sold on the public auction website for \$6,500, as well as previously received insurance in the amount of \$34,000; the idea of purchasing a demonstrator "demo" engine was discussed at a reduced price; it appears the quotes we are receiving will save SFD from \$50,000 to \$100,000 over purchasing a new engine, which was part of our capital purchase plan prior to the accident. He said a committee of operational personnel reached out to vendors for what is available in our price range; although this did not generate a large response, the committee considered two; the committee went to Phoenix to look at a similar engine at Pierce and three committee members are traveling for a one-day trip at Rosenbauer Company's expense to review one of their demos. The companies will not agree to hold these demo engines until they receive a purchase order, and if one is identified meeting our needs and our price range, we must take action quickly to secure the purchase. SFD sold a number of surplus vehicles this year for about \$48,000 total, and garnered the insurance payment from the wrecked Engine 532; these funds could be used along with financing a purchase this year with contingency funds of about \$160,000 with the plan to pay it off early in the next fiscal year. There are a number of specific items required for SFD that would be included in the purchase order. With fire season upcoming, this will put a first-out engine at Station #1, and the current Station #1 engine will become a reserve engine.

Mr. Hazime asked what turnaround time is expected; Chief Schwisow said they are hoping by late April or early May. This will give our fleet some depth and the ability to send out an engine for wildland to generate revenue. Chief Kazian said the other important component is the ladder truck currently at Station #1 and frequently used as a reserve, will be placed at Station #6, and therefore, not available for a back-up at Station #1. He said not having a reserve engine in the event of a mechanical failure has been uncomfortable; this item could be placed on the Special meeting Agenda for March 5<sup>th</sup>. He said this would leave SFD with about \$110,000 in contingency. Chief Kazian remarked the use of these contingency funds does not signal a failure in planning, as it was caused because an individual crashed into an engine at our fire station, but we are trying to fix issues that need to be addressed. Mrs. Cooperman commented it seems a smart move to save money and get apparatus we need. Chief Kazian said, initially, staff considered purchasing a refurbished engine originally owned by another agency, but taking someone else's refurbished engine without knowing its history seems somewhat risky versus purchasing a 2012 or 2013 model with new safety equipment; he also pointed out the demo engine will come with warranties. The Board gave its consensus to place this on the March 5<sup>th</sup> Agenda.

**5. Discussion/Possible Action: Purchase Orders for Mobile Data Tablets, Related Equipment, Software Support, Implementation, Training, Testing, and Installation – P.O. #8802 in the amount of \$22,905.99 to DH Wireless Solutions; P.O. #8803 in the amount of P.O. \$34,962.40 to Public Safety Systems, Inc.; P.O. #8804 in the amount of \$15,508.40 to Public Safety Systems, Inc.; P.O. #8805 in the amount of \$51,301.09 to GOV Direct; and P.O. #8807 in the amount of \$10,925.00 to Merit Technology Partners.**

Chief Kazian said the mobile data tablet program has been discussed and budgeted for this year; this will be electronic tablets in response vehicles, which when dispatched, automatically map incidents and an “en route” feature to automatically log into the computer, and provide more accurate data. Through prioritization and cost saving in other projects, we were able to transition some of that money into this project; he said Telecom Supervisor Motz stated a project of this size could easily be upwards of \$250,000, and we created a project to address our needs and is fiscally responsible. Chief Schwisow added that all the purchase orders are either under government contract pricing or a sole source vendor. *Mrs. Cooperman moved to approve the purchase of mobile data tablets, related equipment, software support, implementation, training, testing and installation in P.O. #8802 in the amount of \$22,905.99 to DH Wireless Solutions; P.O. #8803 for \$34,962.40 to Public Safety Systems; P.O. #8804 in the amount of \$15,508.40 to Public Safety Systems; P.O. #8805 in the amount of \$51,301.09 to GOV Direct; and P.O. #8807 for \$10,925 to Merit Technology partners; Mr. Jablow provided a second and the motion unanimously passed at 5 to 0.* Chief Kazian said the majority of hardware and implementation is multi-use and in the future, if necessary, could be used by other systems.

**6. Discussion/Possible Action: Delegation Agreement #06-053 from Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.**

Fire Marshal Johnson stated this Agreement with ADEQ is to allow SFD to issue permits for fire pits, sweat lodges, and burn permits for brush twice a year. He noted there are a few items in process awaiting comment by the Arizona Attorney General's Office, and is not yet ready for approval.

**7. Discussion/Possible Action: Cooperative Greater Flagstaff Area Fire Agencies All Risk Emergency Intergovernmental Agreement.**

Chief Kazian stated this is being drafted by Flagstaff Fire, with which SFD currently has an agreement from 2008 to provide a mechanism to work with agencies in Coconino County; the new Flagstaff Fire Chief wanted to update the IGAs to be more functional and user friendly; in the meantime, Mr. Whittington expressed some concern and suggestions. Chief Kazian is meeting with Flagstaff Fire's Chief tomorrow to discuss legal issues. Mr. Whittington would rather not go through the specifics of the documents right now, but is working to get several waivers for conflicts of interest to be able to represent SFD in this matter. Chief Kazian said since this could be cooperative agreements to potentially share services and because of two counties, Mr. Whittington will require a motion. SFD was overlooked in some of the discussions because of being in a different county, and wants to be a part of the agreement, although we may not have all the direct benefits; however, there are opportunities and Chief Kazian believes we should continue to work on this process. *Mr. Montgomery then*

*moved to allow Mr. Whittington to proceed representing Sedona Fire in the agreement with Flagstaff listed on the Agenda; Mrs. Cooperman seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.*

**8. Discussion/Possible Action: Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) for SFD Employee Salary Scale for Fiscal Year 2015.**

Chief Kazian said every year, staff works on the budget and the Board has the opportunity to consider a COLA adjustment to the salary scale; our Memorandums of Understanding with the employee groups state the Social Security and Western States CPI-U through January will be reviewed, which just came out and is included in the packets. He said Social Security gave a 1.5% increase and CPI is at 1.6%. This is informational tonight and Chief Kazian will come back to the Board with a fuller picture of the budget and Meet and Confer issues before requesting the Board vote on this item.

**E. Item from Board Member Scott Jablow.**

**1. Clarification on Questions from Citizen during 1/22/14 Board Meeting – Re: “Secret Meetings” related to Lowell Johnson Settlement.**

Mr. Jablow read the following: *During the Public Forum portion of last month’s Board meeting, former Board Member Craig Dible expressed concern regarding Executive Sessions held relating to a legal matter before this Board. On August 22, 2012, as a Board Member, Mr. Dible received Open Meeting Law literature from SFD Attorney Bill Whittington, and should remember that Executive Sessions are not, in fact, secret, as he asserted. He should also be well aware that our meeting Agendas, even Executive Board meetings, are posted for all to see according to Arizona Statutes which negates his secret concern. Moreover, while this topic was on the Agenda 21 times, there were only 18 actual meetings where the topic was discussed with our legal counsel. Before Board Member Dible’s term ended, he was actually present for 9 of those meetings, and yet, I don’t recall Mr. Dible ever voicing any concerns back then that he thought those meetings he attended were secret. There are very specific Arizona Statutes providing the parameters under which Executive Sessions may be held. The prior Board, three of whose members were recalled, then subsequently, defeated and of which Craig Dible himself was a member, violated those Statutes as determined by the Arizona Assistant Attorney General Kevin Smith in his findings of June 20<sup>th</sup> of 2012. Mr. Dible went on to question the character of some of the members of this Board and the platform on which they ran. He questioned the accountability, openness, and transparency. I can say without question, assure Mr. Dible and any citizens served by the Fire District that in all my years of working with commissions, boards, and councils, both here and back in New York, that I have never witnessed a more accountable, open, and transparent and honest, dedicated group of people than the members of this Board and it is my ongoing privilege to work with each and every one of them.*

**F. Item from Board Chairman Ty Montgomery.**

**1. Monthly Update: Fees for Legal Services Provided to SFD.**

Mr. Montgomery announced last month’s legal bill from Mr. Whittington was under \$2,000.

**V. FIRE MARSHAL’S SAFETY MESSAGE**

Fire Marshal Gary Johnson noted lack of winter snow and precipitation in the west caused winter wildland fires to occur, and if our area does not get precipitation, the old growth forest makes the hazard greater; this is being stated to make the public aware it is time to start thinking about their yard clean-up projects. He also reminded all who are traveling to make sure to have water, food, blankets, and flashlights in their vehicles.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 PM.

*Original signed by Corrie Cooperman*

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Corrie Cooperman, Clerk of the Board

:tg