



SHERIDAN FIRE DISTRICT

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 23, 2021 - 6:00pm
VIRTUAL MEETING ONLY

Meeting called to order by President Cooley, followed by flag salute.

Roll-call -Board attendance: President Harry Cooley, Vice-President Tammy Heidt, Secretary Ray Bottenberg, Director Carol Harlan, Director Pete Gutbrod

Staff Attendance: Chief Les Thomas, Deputy Chief Larry Wooldridge, Office Admin. Susan Shepard

NEW/OLD BUSINESS:

Introduction of potential West Valley Fire Interim Chief Steve Abel & Contract for Services with WVF:

Chief Thomas introduced Steve Abel, welcomed. Chief Abel told a little about himself and his past experience.

Chief Thomas gave the board a brief review of the previous West Valley board meeting. Stated they feel they can't afford so came back with an offer they feel they can do, new terms on contract is about only change.

Discussion: Sheridan Fire is guaranteed the \$125k for 6 months and then after that, if needed, a 90-day out. Chief Abel was asked if he feels West Valley will stay with this proposal and not continue to counter. He replied that he's only been here 2.5 days so has limited experience with West Valley but he is trying to get something workable and believes West Valley will accept and sign.

Chief Thomas stated add an addendum that Sheridan Fire will have exclusive rights for Fire and Ambulance. If we want added resources we will ask for them, not West Valley. Appreciates working with Steve.

Steve Abel stated that he wants to help WV get things settled down and guide the board in this process.

Discussion: If after 6 months Mr. Abel says he's out, where does this leave Sheridan Fire. Mr. Abel stated that the agreement is for Sheridan Fire to provide Fire and EMS services, sharing with Tribe. West Valley has to determine what they are going to do by the start of next fiscal year. Two things will happen; they will enter into an agreement with someone or get things back together, but thinks they will be fine for 6 months for sure. Board members agreed they are ready to move forward and start providing services, Sheridan won't get hurt, ready to do this and get moving forward for both districts.

Vice-President Heidt – Motion to proceed with contract with West Valley Fire and authorize President Cooley to sign if West Valley agrees to contact.

Director Harlan – Second

Roll-call vote: President Cooley-yes; Vice-President Heidt-yes; Secretary Bottenberg-yes; Directors Harlan-yes; Director Gutbrod-yes.

Unanimous approval – Motion approved.

Audience: Steve Abel thanked the board for signing the contract and looks forward to working with them and moving forward.

Board Comments: Pres. Cooley thanked the board and believes we can do this.

Director Harlan thanked both chiefs for all the work and working together on getting this put together.

Chief Thomas looks forward to us working together and with Steve Abel.

Director Harlan – Motion to adjourn

Vice-President Heidt – Second

All in Favor – meeting adjourned at 6:21pm - Happy Holidays & Merry Christmas to all!

Minutes by Susan Shepard