

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
GROOM CREEK FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

January 7, 2025, 6:00 pm

1110 E. Friendly Pines Road, Prescott, AZ

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order on January 7, 2025, at 6:00 pm by Board Chairman Andy Lamar.

Note the following acronyms are used throughout this document: GCFD = Groom Creek Fire District, GCFFA = Groom Creek Fire Fighters Association, PSPRS = Public Service Personnel Retirement System, Hazmat = Hazardous Materials

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present at the meeting were Chairman Andy Lamar, Clerk Annette Starr, Board Members Eric Rogers and Mick Gleason. This constitutes a quorum and the meeting was continued and chaired by Chairman Lamar according to district bylaws. Also present were District Fire Chief Ernesto Manzanedo and Assistant Chief Nate Hollowell.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Lamar made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of December 3, 2024, seconded by Eric Rogers. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

None.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES

None.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Calls for service: For the month of December— 8 EMS calls, 1 car accident, 1 wildland fire that turned out to be someone smoking meat underground, 1 structure fire in Walker, 3 public assists, 2 illegal burns, 1 false alarm, 1 move up to Prescott.

Received the Smart and Safe Arizona Fund: The department received \$9482.74 from Arizona dispensary sales that are awarded twice a year.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial report for November 2024, given by Board Clerk Annette Starr.

		Capital Reserve	
General Fund	(\$330,523.61)	Undesignated	\$2,324.28
Line of Credit	\$0	Engine Fund	<u>\$26,339.73</u>
OneAZ – Checking	\$1,000	Total	\$28,664.01
OneAZ – Savings	\$5.00		

Chairman Lamar asked about the transfer of money back to the capital reserve account, and Chief Manzanedo said that \$150,138 was transferred in November.

Chairman Lamar made a motion to approve the financial report given, seconded by Mick Gleason. The motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Fire Engine Fundraising Committee Report: Given by Board Member Gleason, who reported that due to the holidays there had been no changes, and asked if Assistant Chief Hollowell had anything to add. Assistant Chief Hollowell said that due to the event being so far out the committee is meeting every two months, and that there was a meeting planned for the next day, January 8, 2025 at 10 am. During the next meeting the committee will be discussing approximately how much money will be needed upfront for the Groomapalooza event to get started.

2. New engine acquisition: Given by Assistant Chief Hollowell. As promised, three formal bids have been received. After reviewing the bids, the bid from US Fire Apparatus, which came in at \$499,500, was determined to be the best choice for the department. They are confident that for the price, this engine will include everything that they need, and will be well equipped. The time frame for the new engine would include a wait time for the 4x4 chassis. It would be delivered to US Fire Apparatus by June, with remainder of the build being completed by October. For the financing they will use their current and local bank, OneAZ Credit Union. OneAZ is currently offering a 6.75% interest rate with a .5% service fee. Assistant Chief Hollowell added that ARS 42-5061 would exempt them from paying sales tax on the purchase of the new engine.

After some discussion, Board Member Rogers made a motion to start the finance process. It was seconded by Mick Gleason. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

A community member suggested that someone from the department travel to US Fire Apparatus to inspect the quality of their work before spending a large sum of money with them. Chief Manzanedo said that was a part of the plan, and they would be doing that.

A community member asked if anyone had talked another department who had ordered an engine from US Fire Apparatus. Assistant Chief Hallowell said that he had talked to a department who did order an engine, and they had a great experience with US Fire Apparatus.

A community member asked how old fire engines are recycled, and Chief Manzanedo said that they are repurposed as secondary engines as long as the department feels in good faith that the engines are not detrimental to fire personnel or the community.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Board Member Gleason mentioned that the new fire danger sign on Senator Highway looked nice.

Chairman Lamar mentioned and gave thanks to Terry and Anna Marie Hammon, Nena Ward, and The Sparks Family for their generous donations.

Chairman Lamar asked how the new board member, and reappointed member, were proceeding with the classes required by the state of Arizona. Annette Starr responded that she is planning on completing it this month. Chairman Lamar asked if they had everything they needed to get started with the class and Eric Rogers said yes.

Chairman Lamar made the reminder that there is a fundraiser at the Prescott Chipotle on February 1, 2025, between the hours of 4 and 8 pm. Orders can be made in person or online, but must mention the GCFD fundraiser. Chipotle will donate 20% of their sales, after the first \$150.00.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Lamar made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Board Member Gleason. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:38 pm.

Prepared by:

Annette Starr, Board Clerk
Groom Creek Fire District