

MINUTES OF TONTO BASIN FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Regular Session
June 18, 2025

Call to Order: This regular session Board Meeting was called to order at 0929 hours by Clerk Debra Morris at Tonto Basin Fire Station #1, 46189 N AZ Highway 188, Tonto Basin, AZ.

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Brian Nail.

Roll Call of Board Members: The following Board Members were present: Clerk Debra “Deb” Morris, Secretary/Treasurer Robert Cooper, Board Member Clifford “Cliff” Metz, and Board Member Brian Nail. Chairman John France via Teams.

Also Present: Chief James Stoltenberg. Firefighter Tristan McBlane.

Ben Archer-Clowes “Ben” with James Vincent Group (JVG) via Teams.

Agenda item 6B. Financial Reports and item 8. 2025/2026 Budget were moved to this portion of the meeting to allow Ben to leave the meeting to attend another meeting.

Financial Report: Ben presented the monthly financial reports with the following ending balances as of 5/31/2025:

National Bank:	\$ 84,593.01
Warrant Account:	\$ 782,660.62
Capital Reserve Account:	\$ 349,797.80

Following discussions on the financial reports a motion was duly made to accept the financial reports as presented by Board Member Deb Morris and seconded by Board Member John France. The vote to accept the financial reports was unanimous.

Discussion/Information and Action: The Tonto Basin Fire District (TBFD) 2025/2026 proposed budget had been posted for the amount of time dictated by the Arizona Revised Statutes and the Statute also states that there needs to be a public hearing on the proposed budget. A motion was duly made to go into a Public Hearing on the 2025/2026 Budget by Board Member Robert Cooper and seconded by Board Member Cliff Metz. The vote to go into a Public Hearing on the proposed 2025/2026 Budget was unanimous. The only comment during the Public Hearing was by Firefighter Tristan McBlane whereby he requested a copy of the budget to review with the other employees of TBFD. Chief Stoltenberg stated he would provide a copy to Tristan following the meeting. Following additional time with no questions or concerns brought forward by anyone in attendance on the budget a motion was duly made to approve and adopt the 2025/2026 fiscal budget of \$2,377,842 at the tax levy limit of \$3.75 by Board Member Robert Cooper. The motion was seconded by Board Member John France. The vote to approve and adopt the TBFD 2025/2026 fiscal year budget was unanimous.

At this time Ben with JVG left the meeting.

Awards & Recognition: Chief Stoltenberg noted that he was continuing to pass out challenge coins and had finally passed one out to all of the Native 7 Crews as well as one Native 1 Crewmember who works on Native 7 at times. Clerk Deb Morris requested a list of everyone who had received a coin.

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Reading and Approval of the May 15, 2025 Regular and May 19, 2025 Special Meeting

Minutes: The draft minutes from the prior Regular Session Board Meeting on May 15, 2025 and the Special Board Meeting on May 19, 2025 were reviewed. There was one spelling error noted by Board Member Deb Morris which was corrected. Following the review of the prior meeting minutes on May 15, 2025 and May 19, 2025, a motion to approve the minutes was duly made by Board Member Cliff Metz and seconded by Board Member Brian Nail. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved and adopted.

Chief's Report: The Chief's Report was presented by Chief Stoltenberg. Discussions ensued on the items as presented. Following discussions on the Chief's Report a motion was duly made to accept the Chief's report as presented by Board Member Robert Cooper and seconded by Board Member Brian Nail. The vote to accept the Chief's report was unanimous.

Call to the Public – Agenda Items: Clerk Deb Morris requested additional information for future financial reports in terms of employee pay and overtime. Following discussion, it was determined that it would be better if Deb met with the Chief outside the Board Meeting to review these items. No action was taken on this subject.

Discussion/Information and Action: proceeded regarding review and approval of the 2025/2026 Budget Resolution Letter dated 06/18/25 as presented by Board Member Robert Cooper which allows TBFD to use current year fiscal funds to pay invoices from the previous fiscal year from the County account. Following discussion on the Budget Resolution Letter a motion was duly made by Board Member Deb Morris to approve the 2025/2026 Budget Resolution Letter. The motion was seconded by Board Member John France. The vote to approve the 2025/2026 Budget Resolution Letter dated 06/18/25 was unanimous. The letter was signed by Clerk Deb Morris and Secretary/Treasurer Robert Cooper.

Discussion/Information and Action: proceeded regarding review and approval of an ambulance write-off for hardship as presented by Chief Stoltenberg. The write-off in question was for a community member in the amount of \$1,228.52. The Chief did state that the community member's insurance had already paid their portion of \$1,386.73 and that since it is private insurance this amount would not have to be returned. Following discussion and questions on the write-off a motion was duly made to approve the ambulance write-off for hardship in the amount of \$1,228.52 by Board Member Deb Morris. The motion was seconded by Board Member Cliff Metz. The vote to approve the ambulance write-off for hardship was unanimous.

Call to the Public – Non-Agenda Items: Board Member Robert Cooper reminded everyone that they needed Chief's Stoltenberg's annual review feedback to Chairman John France by July 7, 2025.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the Board a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Board Member John France and seconded by Board Member Cliff Metz. The vote to adjourn was unanimously adopted and the meeting adjourned at 1126 hours.