



# Copper Canyon Fire & Medical District

26B Salt Mine Road, Camp Verde, AZ 86322  
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**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**  
**Station 81 – 494 S. Main Street, Camp Verde**  
**Friday, April 29, 2022 / 9:00 am**  
**~ MINUTES ~**

1. **Call to Order:** Pursuant to notice, a Special Meeting of the Copper Canyon Fire & Medical District was called to order by Chairperson Linda Welsch at 9:06 am on Friday, April 29, 2022. Payroll/Benefits Assistant Kerrie Tarver recorded the minutes. A quorum was present, and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with business.
2. **Roll Call of Board Members:** Linda Welsch – Chairperson; Brandi Bateman – Clerk; Carol Keeton; Steve Darby (9:17); Justin Largent (10:23) – Members.

**Staff Present:** Fire Chief Terry Keller; Administrative Manager Robyn Cook; Captain Tyler Rezzonico; Engineers Jake Fitzgerald and Tanner McDonald; Firefighters Taylor Hammond; Jackie Pickering; Chad DeWitt; Matthew Hodgson; and Payroll/Benefits Assistant Kerrie Tarver – Recorder.

**Public Present:** Pete and Debbie Roulette

3. **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.**  
Chairperson Welsch led the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

4. **Budget Workshop – Revenue and Expenses**

The changes to the budgeted revenue from the previous version were reviewed and discussed. The tax levy revenue on the Net Assessed Value (NAV) report was calculated using the new cap rate of 3.375. The change to the ambulance revenue was based on the expectation of exceeding the current budget and the increased rate from Department of Health Services (DHS). The carry over funds were increased based off the year-to-date budget, further information will be available in June.

There was a discussion and explanation regarding the percentage of change for staff wage increases. The percentages are skewed due to stipends and opting out of benefits.

The budget did not include an increase in the overtime budgets as other categories will need to be cut. There was a discussion on the amount of overtime used for COVID related wages and that Fire Districts were not included in the legislation for COVID relief.

The Fire Inspector position was budgeted for half the year, and it was recommended to cut the position and related expenses. There was a discussion on growth in the area and the ability to keep up with the demand. The suggestion was to cut the position from the budget and make a contingency plan to hire an inspector if legislation is passed and revenue increases.

Board Member Darby excused himself from the meeting and Board Member Largent joined the meeting at 10:23am.

There was a discussion on balance billing for ambulance services in lieu of raising the mil rate. If the mil rate is not increased, the district will lose \$150,000 in tax revenue. If legislation to increase revenue for fire districts is approved the district can drop the mil rate next fiscal year. There was a discussion on how increasing the mil rate burdens everyone and raising the mil rate and balance billing will upset citizens.

Board Member Keeton excused herself from the meeting at 10:56am. Chairperson Welsch, Clerk Bateman, and Board member Largent were still present.

The Board considered different options for balancing the budget with a goal to adopt the budget in July versus June.

5. **Adjournment**

***Clerk Bateman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Board Member Largent seconded. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.***

The meeting adjourned at 11:16am.

Original signed by Brandi Bateman  
Brandi Bateman, Clerk