



# Hurricane Valley Fire Special Services District

202 East State Street, Hurricane, Utah 84737  
(435) 635-9562



## Hurricane Valley Fire SSD Board Meeting

Monday, August 14, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

BOARD MEETING / Fire Station #46, 56 N Coral Canyon Blvd, Hurricane, Utah

**A. Called to Order** - Invocation by Invitation, Pledge of Allegiance

Randy Aton, Dan McGuire, Richard Hirschi, Bill Hoster, Justin Sip, Nanette Billings on the phone, LaRene Cox, Paul Luwe

Staff: Keen Ellsworth, John Postert, Joe Decker, Ben Ruesch, Cari Bishop

Nick Wright, Blake Curtis, Trent Curtis.

**B. Approval of Agenda:**

1. Approval of Agenda Order.

Motion: Board Member Dan McGuire to approve the agenda.

Second: Board Member Richard Hirschi

Vote:

Board Member Randy Aton	AYE
Board Member Dan McGuire	AYE
Board Member Richard Hirschi	AYE
Board Chairman Bill Hoster	AYE
Board Member Nannette Billings	AYE on the phone
Board Member Paul Luwe	AYE
Board Member Justin Sip	AYE

2. Disclosures and Declarations of Conflicts of interests from Board Members.

No conflict of interest

**C. Consent Agenda:** (Items on the *consent* agenda may not require discussion. These items will be a single motion unless removed at the request of the Chairman or Board Members.)

1. Review and Approval of Minutes: June 26, 2023.

2. Review Checks & Deposits from June and July 2023.

Motion: Richard Hirschi to accept the consent agenda and approve the minutes and the checks June and July 2023.

Second: Dan McGuire

Vote:

Board Member Randy Aton	AYE
Board Member Dan McGuire	AYE
Board Member Richard Hirschi	AYE
Board Chairman Bill Hoster	AYE



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Board Member Nannette Billings	AYE on the phone
Board Member Paul Luwe	AYE
Board Member Justin Sip	AYE

**D. Citizen Comment & Request for Future Agenda Items:** All public comments need to be submitted in writing and emailed to [info@hvfssd.org](mailto:info@hvfssd.org) by noon on the day of the meeting. No action may be taken on a matter raised under this agenda item. This item is reserved for items not listed on this agenda. (Three minutes per person)

**E. Business:**

1. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Proposed Rules of Order and Procedure for Hurricane Valley Fire SSD Board Meetings.

Board Chairman Bill Hoster asking for comments on the by laws and asks if everyone has the document for review and if there are any questions that they have, legal is available for questions. Board Member Nanette Billings asked who the vice chair is, and Chief Joe Decker states Board Member Justin Sip is the Vice Chair.

Board Member LaRene Cox asks about the Board Chair being the sole person that is making the decision on the meeting agenda items.

Discussion on the wording of the document.

Board Member Dan McGuire asks about the motioning and seconding of any of the items on the agenda. They discuss the way that the vote should be.

Board Member Paul Luwe is asking to clarify the last item on the document. Discussion things that may come up in the future. This is a living document so we can change this, Board Member Paul Luwe 2.5 c and b if amended or drawn to a vote if it is amended then the second would need to be amended. Substitute motion.

Discussion goes on in review of the document for by laws.

Motion: Board Member Justin Sip motion to approve the proposed Rules of Order and Procedure for Hurricane Valley Fire SSD Board Meetings, adding section 2.5 c to include amended withdraw and a second with the new amended.

Second: Board Member Richard Hirschi

Vote: all aye

Board Member Randy Aton	AYE
Board Member Dan McGuire	AYE
Board Member Richard Hirschi	AYE
Board Chairman Bill Hoster	AYE
Board Member Nannette Billings	AYE on the phone



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Board Member Paul Luwe	AYE
Board Member Justin Sip	AYE

### 2. Continued Discussion and Possible Approval of the 2023 Consolidated Fee Schedule.

Keen Ellsworth goes over the fee schedule. Each line item, questions on the sprinkler fees and moving on to the vacation rentals, discussion on merging the sprinkler and the fire alarm fee for all the fees and test to be consolidated. The board voices that they agree for the consolidation. Board Member LaRene Cox asks what happens if we need to add something to the fee year after year.

Fire Marshall John Postert speaks on the fee and what they do at the inspections.

Discussion on what the fees are and what is included in them.

Board Member Nannette Billings asks about the increase on the other fees and just lowering the fee on the annual business fee. If we have done an analysis and Board Chairman Bill Hoster states that Fire Marshall John Postert and Keen Ellsworth covered that they went over the time and manpower it takes to do the actual job. Chief Joe Decker said that we have calculated the fees. And looked at all of them. The fees have been looked at individually and calculated to true cost for what it takes us to do the job.

Motion: Board Member Justin Sip motion to approve the 2023 Consolidated Fee Schedule.

Second: Board Member La Rene Cox

Vote:

Board Member Randy Aton	AYE
Board Member Dan McGuire	AYE
Board Member Richard Hirschi	AYE
Board Chairman Bill Hoster	AYE
Board Member Nannette Billings	NAY on the phone
Board Member Paul Luwe	AYE
Board Member Justin Sip	AYE

### 3. Discussion on Meeting Times and Dates.

Discussion on the times that work, all discussion their options. Keeping the First Monday of every month, September 5 at 6 pm and to add Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6 at Station 46.

### 4. Discussion only on whether to add Fire Extinguisher Inspection to our Fire inspections.





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Board Member Nanette Billings goes over the item. She wants to clarify that its inspections only, not servicing, is this something that people are doing are certified to do, she has talked to Trent Curtis, who runs fire pro they are certified, and she is asking if our service district is certified to inspect them not service them.

Wants to clarify she does not want to take private business from any company. Is it something that our fire inspectors are certified to do.

Fire Marshall John Postert states that he is not certified to do this he only verifies that the tag is on the fire extinguisher.

Board Member Nanette Billings asks if our district is license and if we should charge for something that they are already being charged for.

Board Member Paul Luwe asks if citizens can come and ask if they need it inspected or is it within the expiration date.

Board Member Richard Hirschi asks what happens if the expiration is not there what to do when you buy. Board Member Justin Sip clarifies that the question was to make sure that the customer is not being charged twice by two different places.

**5. Discussion and Possible Approval of proposed changes to Merit Board Rules and Regulations**

Discussion on the merit board changes, Keen Ellsworth goes over that the minutes have not been implemented or changed on the rules, stating that there have been items that changed.

2-18 asking about this line item. In the minutes that we found it states that Chief Joe Decker, page one section 3 unverified minutes that they came across. Chief Joe Decker and Keen Ellsworth can take what the rules are and go through it so that its cleaner and more appropriate to the district now. This is the very first one that they think was adopted. We can take the lines from

Motion: Board Member Justin Sip motion to table this item for next meeting.

Second: Board Member La Rene Cox

Vote:

Board Member Randy Aton	AYE
Board Member Dan McGuire	AYE
Board Member Richard Hirschi	AYE
Board Chairman Bill Hoster	AYE
Board Member Nannette Billings	AYE on the phone
Board Member Paul Luwe	AYE



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Board Member Justin Sip

AYE

6. Budget Update for Second Quarter of 2023.

Chief Joe Decker goes over the budget for the quarter, we are trending well, we get a majority of our tax revenue at the end of the year. Board Chairman Bill Hoster asks about revenue in Ems fees. This is from two different companies and then reconciling so that the number will come up quite a bit. Should be closer to the million-dollar range. Board Chairman Bill Hoster asking why we are so low we should be at the 75 percent not the 58 percent. We will see a collection from Gold Cross in about two months for collection. Standby wildland fires just started to deploy the money that we get from the deployment will take about 30 days to collect.

Board Chairman Bill Hoster is asking about the miscellaneous income and what it is the components to this item. Chief Joe Decker states that it's the catch all for the district.

Chief Joe Decker states that the overtime changed when the schedule changed. Every employee is doing overtime because of the calculations that were done incorrectly last year. Board Member Randy Aton asks about payroll being down, Chief Joe Decker states that we are not filling positions unless needed. Has not filled positions. We have combined duties so that we can be more efficient.

Board Member Nanette Billings thanks Chief Joe Decker for living within the budget. Board Member Justin Sip asks about sick leave is low and Chief Joe Decker states that we allocate in our fund balance we will change that aspect next year. Board Chairman Bill Hoster wants to understand the overtime and that we now have overtime with the 48/96 what does that do to the current pay rate for each employee? Chief Joe Decker goes over the explanation of the timeframe in the pay period, going over straight vs overtime. Brings up the way it was based on the schedule last time. The 52,000 was an error and should have been 152,000. Board Chairman Bill Hoster asks about the percentage. Board Member Justin Sip asks how do we get to where we do not pay out overtime. Chief Joe Decker states that with this schedule will get 10 hours of a pay period and there is no way to get out from it.

Board Chairman Bill Hoster is asking about physicals and why we spent the money on that and what it consists of. May was when that all happened. Employee appreciation is over budget. And membership dues. They may be allocated incorrectly. Vehicle Ins has gone up we did change our deductible, but the market caused it. Board Chairman Bill Hoster is asking if we can go out for bid on Ems fees. Board Chairman Bill Hoster wants to go through this item. Chief Joe Decker states that the 196 that is in there for our replacement rigs, we got a refurbishment loan. We will need to have some loose equipment for these vehicles so we will not go over the amount budgeted. Chief Joe Decker stated that we took what we could off the rig that we went to refurbishment so



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that we would not need to buy at that time. Board Chairman Bill Hoster asking if we would be net positive in this line-item Chief Joe Decker states most likely. 44 23 and 24 line items are sitting significantly below for year today, where there others Chief Joe Decker states that ESO, you will see hardware will be bought in the near future.

Talking about the Harris system that everyone will be going to in 2025 or so.

Board Chairman Bill Hoster brings up radios that are needed to purchase. Chief Joe Decker states that we will start with captains and stations moving into getting them purchased slowly. We could do significant with the overage on the line item.

The system that we are on is a Motorola for the state and the bid was taken by Harris system that is completely different than the system that we are in now. There is state funding with a percentage being 90% to us and 10 % from the state. The cost of the replacement is if we match everything that we have now its 8,000 dollars.

Break at 7:30pm

Back at 7:35pm

## 7. Continuing Operations

Board Chairman Bill Hoster starts a discussion on open discussion for this board to discuss open topics.

Board Chairman Bill Hoster is discussing the letter that was sent to all the cities from Hurricane City Council and that they are distancing themselves from the board and that they are in opposition of HB 392. Hurricane City had a city council meeting that they formed a resolution opposing the bill and tax. Chief Joe Decker and Board Chairman Bill Hoster went to that meeting and wanted to go through the math that is associated with the tax and the difference with property tax and the Ems tax.

Board Chairman Bill Hoster goes over the math say a home cost \$700,000 they are charged .000723 which would be \$506.10 from that residence and times that by one hundred. That would be the worst-case scenario they would need to spend \$50,610.00 to exceed this cost spending within the district.

Discussion on the different math for different percentages and amounts that would be spent in the district. The district is getting 3.8% percent in property tax right now.

The discussion on getting rid of property tax or keeping property tax if you take the percentage down, we won't need to go back to asking for the rate.





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We need to educate on this tax, Board Member Justin Sip states. Board Chairman Bill Hoster supports the statement that we need to show what the tax will do.

Board Member Justin Sip asks about seeing the residence vs the nonresidents.

The letter was sent to the commissioners and the letter stated that they have a lack of representatives on the board, that is why this passed.

Board Chairman Bill Hoster drafted a letter countering the letter that was sent out to all the cities. Board Chairman Bill Hoster going over the letter that he wrote stating that we are a district and work together.

Board Chairman Bill Hoster is wanting the blessing of the board to support him with this letter.

8:04 went into closed session.

**F. Closed Session**

The Board may vote to discuss certain matters in Closed Session pursuant to Utah Code Annotated 52-4-5.

Motion: Board Member Dan McGuire to go into closed session for threatened litigation.

Second: Board Member Richard Hirschi

Vote:

Board Member Randy Aton	AYE
Board Member Dan McGuire	AYE
Board Member Richard Hirschi	AYE
Board Chairman Bill Hoster	AYE
Board Member Nannette Billings	ABSENT
Board Member Paul Luwe	AYE
Board Member Justin Sip	AYE



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**G. Adjourn:**

Motion: Board Member Dan McGuire motion to adjourn.

Second: Board Member Richard Hirschi

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm

Date approved:

Minutes taken by Cari Bishop

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Hoster, Board Chairman

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cari Bishop, District Clerk