

QCCIFD Meeting Minutes – May 22, 2024

The Queen Creek County Island Fire District (QCCIFD) governing board met in a properly posted open public meeting on Wednesday, May 22, 2024. The meeting was held at the Town of Queen Creek Municipal Services Building - San Tan Conference Room, located at 22358 S. Ellsworth Road, Queen Creek, Arizona

The following agenda items were considered at the meeting:

- A. The meeting of the QCCIFD board was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by board chair Memmott.
- B. Roll Call: Chair Kuefner, Clerk Holthouse and Members Ruscetti and Doyle in attendance.

Item 1: Consideration of approval of the governing board meeting minutes of March 20, 2024 (QCCIFD #24-014):

Motion by Ruscetti / 2nd by Doyle: To approve the March 20, 2024 minutes as presented; Passed 4-0.

Item 2: Call to the Public: None

Item 3: Report from the fire chief regarding the provision of fire and EMS to the QCCIFD, including but not limited to the following items (QCCIFD #24-n/a):

- a) Monthly response and service report: Chief Marlar discussed the March and April response reports and answered general questions from the board on information provided in the reports. There are 3 new ambulances in production that will be ready mid August.

Discussion only – no action taken

Item 4: Consideration of district financial matters:

- a) Review of monthly financial reports (QCCIFD #24-015):

Administrative Manager Vaughn reviewed the March financial reports prepared by the district's C.P.A. (finance reports included within board packet). Vaughn addressed general questions from the board regarding information contained within the reports. The financial reports for April will be reviewed at the next scheduled meeting in July.

Motion by Kuefner/ 2nd by Doyle: To accept the finance reports as presented; Passed 4-0.

- b) Review of invoices / payables and authorization for payment (QCCIFD #23-022):

Administrative Manager Vaughn presented invoices (included within board packet)

QCCIFD Meeting Minutes – May 22, 2024

and warrants (checks) for board review and authorization for payment: PolicyLogic, LLC (\$2,606.11); Angela Bertram, CPA \$175); Town of Queen Creek-2nd half of fire services (\$1,143,303.50)

Motion by Kuefner / 2nd by Holthouse: To authorize payment of the invoices presented; Passed 4-0.

Item 5: Discussion concerning future potential boundary change to the QCCIFD. (QCCIFD #24-017).

Consultant, John Flynn, gave an update on the potential boundary change. He mentioned that the boundary change process started about a year ago. The board notified the area affected, along with a formal public hearing. Petitions were circulated and signatures of half the parcels plus one were needed to move forward with the boundary change. This was a citizen-driven movement. The petitions were short 5 signatures. There will be a 6 month waiting period to try again.

Discussion only – no action taken

Item 6: Presentation and review of fiscal year 24/25 budget proposal and financial projections from the Town of Queen Creek (QCCIFD #24-018).

The board discussed a one-page summary from the Town of Queen Creek. The increase in the contract cost is due to several factors: staffing increases (ambulance crews and a fire inspector on staff) and 7 new positions (4 captains and 3 firefighters).

Discussion only – no action taken

Item 7: Review and discussion of Qasimyar v Maricopa County tax classification lawsuit and court ordered refund. (QCCIFD #24-019).

The court ordered judgement will require the QCCIFD to take several actions as specified by law. Judgements requiring tax refunds are required to be paid in the next fiscal year (ARS 42-16214 Tax Refunds)

- The law specifies how each taxing agency accounts for the judgement within their budget. We'll prepare the QCCIFD Tentative Budget for FY24/25 to delineate the tax refund amount.
- The QCCIFD has a tax refund liability in the amount of \$67,994 (direct levy and district assistance tax / FDAT). FDAT to be verified by Maricopa County.
- The judgement amounts include court ordered interest of 8% calculated through February 2024. The remaining additional interest accrued from February 2024 to the actual payment date will be calculated by Maricopa

QCCIFD Meeting Minutes – May 22, 2024

County.

More information will become available as the county works out how the refund will be paid back.

Discussion only - No action taken

Item 8: Consideration of establishing a tentative revenue and expenditure budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 pursuant to A.R.S. §48-853; declaring such for publishing and public notice; and setting July 24, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. local time for a public hearing prior to adoption (QCCIFD #24-020).

Administrative Manager Vaughn discussed the proposed budget for FY 24/25 and answered general questions from the board regarding the budget. The contract cost from the Town of Queen Creek is projected to be \$2,603,146 TY compared to \$2,286,607 LY. The proposed tax rate is 2.2553 TY vs 2.2045 LY.

Motion by Kuefner/ 2nd by Holthouse: Consideration of establishing a tentative revenue and expenditure budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 pursuant to A.R.S. §48-853; declaring such for publishing and public notice; and setting July 24, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. local time for a public hearing prior to adoption; Passed 4-0.

Item 9: Consideration of noticing the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors and the Maricopa County Elections Department the district will call for an election of board members on November 5, 2024 pursuant to ARS §48-852 and ARS §16-226.A; will use the Maricopa County Elections Department to conduct the election; and to direct staff to facilitate compliance with ARS §16-227, ARS §16-228 and ARS §16-229 as required for the election of district board members (QCCIFD #24-021).

Administrative Manager Vaughn discussed the upcoming election and answered general questions from the board regarding the election. There are two board member positions that are up for reelection. All signatures must be in by Monday, July 8th. A minimum of 28 signatures are required. It is always recommended to get a few more.

Motion by Kuefner/ 2nd by Doyle: Consideration of noticing the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors and the Maricopa County Elections Department the district will call for an election of board members on November 5, 2024 pursuant to ARS §48-852 and ARS §16-226.A; will use the Maricopa County Elections Department to conduct the election; and to direct staff to facilitate compliance with ARS §16-227, ARS §16-228 and ARS §16-229 as required for the election of district board members; Passed 4-0.

Item 10: Consideration of items for the agenda of the Queen Creek County Island Fire District's next regular scheduled meeting July 24, 2024 and or a special meeting called by the governing board for the purpose of carrying out its powers and duties (QCCIFD #24-022):

QCCIFD Meeting Minutes – May 22, 2024

- Standard agenda items
- Budget Adoption

Item11: Announcements:

- None

Item 12: Adjourn; Motion by Kuefner / 2nd by Doyle to adjourn the meeting at 7:51pm.
Passed 4-0.

QCCIFD meeting minutes approved: July 22, 2024:

Dan Kuefner, Board Chair

James Holthouse, Board Clerk

Phil Ruscetti, Board Member

Ryan Doyle, Board Member