

Special Board Meeting
Wednesday May 4, 2011 – 9:00 am
Green Valley Fire District HQ
1285 W Camino Encanto, Green Valley, AZ

Public Hearing
North Sahuarita Block Annexation

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Dave Appleton called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 0900.

ROLL CALL: Members of the Board present included Mr. Dave Smith, Mr. Bill Katzel, Mr. Bruce Howell, Board Clerk Mikel Shilling and Chairperson Dave Appleton.

WELCOME / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: For staff and members of the public present see attached sign-in sheets. Mr. Howell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman's Comments: Mr. Appleton said this year long task was monumental and brings to a conclusion the vision of the District and the Town of Sahuarita for a regional fire and rescue service. The leadership of this Board the under past – chairman, Mr. Ed Clarke, and the District, managed by Chief Simon Davis, are to be commended for their many efforts. The hard work of gathering signatures and doing the day to day work of this process was done by the firefighters themselves under the leadership of Captain Melissa Smith.. Mr. Appleton also recognized the Firefighters Union for the hundreds of volunteer hours donated toward this goal. This Board commends and thanks all for your efforts.

Review of any further comments fro the Pima County Board of Supervisors: Chief Davis said that comments were few from the Pima County Board of Supervisors and the motion to approve the verification of signatures passed 3-1.

PUBLIC HEARING ON SAHUARITA BLOCK ANNEXATION – Mr. Appleton

- A. Continued Public Hearing on Sahuarita Block Annexation** – Mr. Howell moved to continue the Public Hearing on the Sahuarita Block Annexation, Mr. Katzel seconded and the Hearing continued with a vote of 5-0.
- B. Receive Public Comment on Sahuarita Block Annexation** – Mr. Appleton recognized Mr. Ed Clarke, former Fire Board Chairman, per his request to speak. Mr. Clarke began by noting that on May 4, 2011 the Green Valley Fire District Board of Directors is prepared to vote to annex the northern half of Sahuarita. This action is based on the previous consent and desires of a majority of the property owners in the proposed annexation area and a finding by the Board of Supervisors that the GVFD had gathered sufficient signatures to meet all the relevant statutory requirements. This annexation will prove to be exceedingly beneficial to Green Valley, Sahuarita and adjoining areas. It will improve the already superb emergency response services to the region by making additional firefighters, emergency medical

technicians and paramedics as well as equipment into service to meet the needs of the area. Moreover, Sahuarita will now have a fire district that will be a permanent presence in their community and which will build modern stations where needed. It is now time for Rural Metro to exercise some good corporate citizenship and immediately drop its opposition to this annexation. This is the only appropriate course of action for them to take given that the majority of property owners and town council desire to have GVFD as the sole provider for their community. It is more than ironic that over the years Rural Metro has had no reservations about pulling out of many communities even when people have not necessarily wanted them to leave. Yet, in this instance, they have fought vigorously to overcome and ignore the desires of the Sahuarita community. Mr. Appleton thanked Mr. Clarke for his comments and service to the District.

- C. Close Public Hearing on Sahuarita Block Annexation** – After hearing the comment above Ms. Shilling moved to close the Public Hearing, Mr. Kartzel seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON RESOLUTION 2011-2 – Resolution 2011-2 authorizes the amendment of the Green Valley Fire District’s boundaries to include land within Pima County known as the North Sahuarita Block Annexation, which is adjacent to the boundaries of the Green Valley Fire District area, after written request by the property owners in accordance with A.R.S. §48-262. Ms. Shilling moved to approve Resolution 2011-2, Mr. Kartzel seconded and it passed 5-0.

ADJOURN REGULAR BOARD MEETING: Ms. Shilling moved to adjourn the meeting, with a second from Mr. Kartzel, and the meeting adjourned at 0915 after a 5-0 vote.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Mikel Shilling, Board Clerk
Green Valley Fire District