

**\*\*ACTION MINUTES\*\***

**NOTICE OF MEETING  
COOLIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT  
FIREFIGHTER'S PENSION BOARD  
THURSDAY, JULY 29, 2020 @ 5:00 PM  
COOLIDGE CITY HALL – 130 W. CENTRAL AVENUE  
COOLIDGE, ARIZONA, PINAL COUNTY**

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**CALL TO ORDER – *The meeting was called to order at 5:14 p.m.***

1. Pledge of Allegiance – *President Thompson dispensed with the Pledge of Allegiance.*
2. Roll Call – *Present: President Jon Thompson, Secretary Mark Dillon, Board Members Norma Ortiz, Victor Mendoza, Raymond Garcia and Ralph Felix. Board Member Larry Wainscott was absent.*

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

3. Consider approval of the minutes for the meeting held on July 19, 2018. **Discussion and action.**

***\*\*The Board considered approval of the minutes for the July 19, 2018 meeting. There was no discussion. MOTION was made by Board Member Felix to approve the minutes for July 19, 2018. SECOND was made by Board Member Mendoza and passed unanimously.***

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

4. Consider approval of the 2018 and 2019 Annual Reports from the Coolidge Volunteer Fire Department Qualified Pension Plan. **Discussion and action.**

***\*\*Board Member Ortiz advised the Board of the need to approve the completed 2018 and 2019 Annual Reports from the Coolidge Volunteer Fire Department Qualified Pension Plan; and distributed the annual statements for each contributing member. There was discussion. MOTION was made by Secretary Dillon to approve the 2018 and 2019 Annual Reports from the Coolidge Volunteer Fire Department Qualified Pension Plan. SECOND was made by Board Member Mendoza and passed unanimously.***

5. Review the June 2020 Bank Statement from the Coolidge Firemen's Pension Checking Account. **Discussion only.**

***\*\*Board Member Ortiz reviewed the balance from the June 2020 monthly statement from the Coolidge Firemen's Pension Checking Account in the amount of \$2,949.55, and Secretary Dillon briefly reviewed the latest quarterly statement from Broadridge Matrix Trust. There was discussion. NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.***

6. Update on JP Morgan Chase Bank as former Investment Broker for the Coolidge Volunteer Fire Department Qualified Pension Plan; and, approval to authorize Fire Chief Dillon to initiate or execute any necessary documents to continue investment options. **Discussion and action.**

***\*\*Secretary Dillon gave an update on the notice received by JP Morgan discontinuing their service as the broker-dealer on the Coolidge Volunteer Fire Department Pension Plan, stating Broadridge Matrix is recommending the Board switch Broker as Record to Ameriprise who handles (457) plan types, until other investment options can be sought. There was discussion.***

*MOTION was made by Board Member Mendoza to authorize Fire Chief Dillon to initiate or execute the necessary documents to appoint Ameriprise as Broker as Record for the Coolidge Volunteer Fire Department Pension Plan. SECOND was made by Board Member Felix and passed unanimously.*

7. Approve and accept the resignation of Cody Garcia-Heet from the Coolidge Volunteer Fire Department as a Volunteer Fire Fighter effective November 24, 2018; and, approval to withdraw his contributions in the amount of \$412.39 from the Coolidge Volunteer Fire Department Qualified Pension Plan. **Discussion and action.**

*\*\*Board Member Ortiz advised the Board of the need to accept the resignation of Cody Garcia-Heet from the Coolidge Volunteer Fire Department as a Volunteer Fire Fighter effective November 24, 2018; and approve payout of his contributions in the amount of \$412.39 from the Pension Plan. MOTION was made by Board Member Mendoza to accept the resignation of Cody Garcia-Heet from the Coolidge Volunteer Fire Department as a Volunteer Fire Fighter effective November 24, 2018; and, approve a payout in the amount of \$412.39 from the Pension Plan. SECOND was made by Board Member Felix and passed unanimously.*

8. Approve a second distribution check in the amount of \$74.68 from the Coolidge Volunteer Fire Department Qualified Pension Plan to Tyler Kleinman based on the updated calculations from Edberg & Perry. **Discussion and action.**

*\*\*Secretary Dillon advised the Board of the need to payout an additional \$74.68 to Tyler Kleinman who was a former firefighter based on the updated calculations from Edberg & Perry. MOTION was made by Board Member Mendoza to approve a second distribution check in the amount of \$74.68 from the Coolidge Volunteer Fire Department Qualified Pension Plan to Tyler Kleinman based on the updated calculations from Edberg & Perry. SECOND was made by Board Member Garcia and passed unanimously.*

9. Approve a second distribution check in the amount of \$89.31 from the Coolidge Volunteer Fire Department Qualified Pension Plan to John Schlosser based on the updated calculations from Edberg & Perry. **Discussion and action.**

*\*\*Secretary Dillon advised the Board of the need to payout an additional \$89.31 to John Schlosser who was a former firefighter based on the updated calculations from Edberg & Perry. MOTION was made by Board Member Mendoza to approve a second distribution check in the amount of \$89.31 from the Coolidge Volunteer Fire Department Qualified Pension Plan to John Schlosser based on the updated calculations from Edberg & Perry. SECOND was made by Board Member Garcia and passed unanimously.*

10. Consider approval of the request from Ralph Felix to withdraw his contributions in the amount of \$52,418.34 from the Coolidge Volunteer Fire Department Qualified Pension Plan. **Discussion and action.**

*\*\*Board Member Ortiz advised the Board of the need to approve the request from Ralph Felix to withdraw his contributions in the amount of \$52,418.34 from the Coolidge Volunteer Fire Department Qualified Pension Plan, and recommended Board Member Felix recuse himself from this item. MOTION was made by Board Member Mendoza to*

*approve the request from Ralph Felix to withdraw his contributions in the amount of \$52,418.34 from the Coolidge Volunteer Fire Department Qualified Pension Plan. SECOND was made by Secretary Dillon and passed unanimously with Board Member Felix abstaining from voting.*

11. Consider approval of claims and authorize payments. **Discussion and action.**

*\*\*Board Member Ortiz reviewed the claims for the period ending July 28, 2020; and asked the Board to approve and authorize payment of the claims. There was discussion. MOTION was made by Board Member Mendoza to approve and authorize the claims for payment. SECOND was made by Board Member Felix and passed unanimously.*

#### **CALL TO THE BOARD**

*\*\*Board Member Ralph Felix and Ray Garcia expressed their concerns with the investments, the amount of participant payouts, and, the misinformation given to employees on the pension plan, stating they are very disappointed on how the plan has been administered and invested throughout the their years of service.*

*President Jon Thompson inquired on the Board possibly looking at other investment options for the Fire Department; that obviously there was a lack of communication in explaining the plan, and, stated he is hoping additional funding will become available for public safety as the City begins to generate more revenues due to growth and commercial/industrial businesses. He also expressed his appreciation to all the members of the Coolidge Fire Department who attend fires and calls and put their lives at risk. There was discussion.*

#### **CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

*\*\*Firefighter Dennis Gillespie was present to comment on his 20 years of service with the Coolidge Volunteer Fire Department, echoing the comments made by Board Member Felix and Garcia on the misinformation given to employees on the pension plan, stating he will remain on the department, but, requested to be removed from the active duty list. There was discussion.*

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

*\*\*MOTION was made by Board Member Felix to adjourn the meeting at 6:09 p.m. SECOND was made by Board Member Mendoza and passed unanimously.*

**THESE ACTION MINUTES WERE PREPARED AND POSTED ON THE CITY'S WEBSITE BY BOARD MEMBER NORMA ORTIZ ON JULY 31, 2020.**