

**MINUTES OF THE CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FOR A POTENTIAL SPECIAL BALLOT TAX MEASURE FOR FIRE
PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
TWENTYNINE PALMS WATER DISTRICT
72401 HATCH ROAD, TWENTYNINE PALMS, CA**

APRIL 10, 2013

The meeting convened at 6:02 p.m. Chief Jim Thompson led the pledge of allegiance.

Committee Members Present:

Mary Reeves
Adam Lunn
Antonio Jimenez
Larry Bowden
Randy Leazer

Management

Fire Chief Jim Thompson
Tamara Alaniz, General Manager-Absent
Cindy Fowlkes, District Secretary

Committee Members Absent:

None

The meeting began with Committee members introducing themselves and giving their reason(s) for serving on the committee. Chief Thompson briefly went over the Committee's charter, (Composition, Purpose, and Operational Procedures) touching upon key areas. The Chief emphasized that the Committee does not have the authority to direct staff, however, the Committee can dictate future tasks for the Chief. Chief Thompson pointed out that the Committee is to provide written recommendations to the Board of Directors by October 15, 2013.

Selection of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

Larry Bowden moved to elect Adam Lunn as the Chairperson, seconded by Mary Reeves and unanimously approved.

Tony Jimenez moved to elect Larry Bowden as Vice Chairperson, seconded by Mary Reeves and unanimously approved.

Committee Goals and Objectives

Chief Thompson advised the Committee to set their goals objectively without being influenced by him. The Chief commented that the level of service will be dictated by the level of effort supported by the community. The following funding ideas were suggested by the Committee:

- Evenly shared costs, not just property owners
- Formation of a Joint Power Authority (JPA)
- ¼% sales tax
- Shared costs between the City and citizens
- General tax levy
- Shared effort in the community
- Tax with a built in escalator (CPI)
- Utility tax
- Community Facilities District (CFD)
- Fire Facilities Impact Fee

Future Tasks

The Committee asked Chief Thompson to provide them with the following information at the next meeting.

- Simplified revenue and budget history

- Five year projection for sustaining the current level of services
- Research tax initiatives with a built in CPI
- Formation of JPA
- Public Service Announcements (PSA)

Public Comment

Cora Heiser thanked the Committee members for their participation.

Adjournment

Larry Bowden moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mary Reeves. The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 8, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.