



HIGHLANDS FIRE DISTRICT  
FIRE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES • 12/10/2020

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A special meeting of the Fire Board of Directors was held on Thursday, December 10, 2020 at 5:00 PM entirely through video conferencing.

1. CALL TO ORDER. The meeting began at 5:01 PM, and was officially called to order at 5:07 PM.
2. ROLL CALL: Board member present were Chairperson Kloeber, Clerk Favazzo, Director Hirsch, and Director Bippus. There is one vacancy on the Board.

Administrative personnel present were Chief Foreman, Chief Miller, and Ms. Jones.

Mr. Tom Hanecak was present for an interview with the Board.

3. INTERVIEW CANDIDATE(S) TO FILL VACANCY ON THE FIRE BOARD. Chairperson Kloeber informed the Board that the special meeting was called to interview Mr. Hanecak for the vacant position on the Board. Members of the Board and staff introduced themselves. Mr. Hanecak informed the Board that he is a Mountaineer resident and employee of Coconino County since 2007. He has worked with Chief Foreman, Director Hirsch and Director Bippus on various projects.

The meeting was officially called to order at 5:07 PM, roll call was taken, and the Board asked Mr. Hanecak prepared interview questions. (9:20)

Mr. Hanecak informed the Board that volunteering was instilled by his parents to help others. Early on he volunteers as a candy striper and well as work with the Peace Corp. He believes that this Board is opportunity to serve and have impact on the local community. He stated that he has no hidden agenda or for wanting to serve on the Board.

Chairperson Kloeber described the time commitment of Board members. Mr. Hanecak understands the time commitment and does not see any conflict with attending the monthly meeting, etc.

Mr. Hanecak is familiar with the District's mission to provide fire protection, wildfire suppression and fuels reduction, and community outreach. He has a basic understanding of natural resource management, fuels reductions, and fire suppression. He would bring is talent for community outreach, which has been has developed through several years' of experience as a County employee. Mr. Hanecak would also bring his knowledge of local governments and experience working as a public servant to serve its citizens.

Mr. Hanecak has consulted with the Director of his Department, and they see no conflict of interest with him serving on the Board. If all goes well, he is likely to run for office again when this term expires (November 30, 2024).

Mr. Hanecak believes Board members support to staff; he requested adequate information to provide proper guidance.

## HIGHLANDS FIRE DISTRICT

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Mr. Hanecak believes that contributing to something positive would make for a satisfying experience on the Board. He is willing to do what needs to be done and is not above any necessary job.

Chief Foreman described many of the challenges the District is facing including: 1) PSPRS unfunded liability, 2) property values and tax revenue, and 3) Chief's retirement and replacement.

Board members described their most satisfying experiences of serving on the Board.

After discussion, the Board took an informal consensus regarding the appointment of Mr. Hanecak to the Board; the appointment will be formally voted on at the December Meeting.

4. ADJOURNMENT. A MOTION was made by Clerk Favazzo and was seconded by Director Hirsch to adjourn; the motion was unanimously APPROVED. The meeting adjourned at 5:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jayne Jones  
Administrative Specialist