SAN SIMON FIRE DISTRICT

PO Box 244 - 2249 W. Firehouse Lane
San Simon, AZ 85632
520-845-2439 admin@sansimonfire.gov

Dedicated to:
Calming Fears
Easing Minds
Saving Lives

San Simon Fire District
Regular Meeting
Thursday, November 19, 2026

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Guzman called the meeting to order at 1104 hours (11:04 am), at the San Simon Fire Station, 2249 W. Firehouse Lane, San Simon, AZ 85632.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chairman Guzman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:

Governing Board:
- Chairperson Fernando Guzman - Present
- Clerk of the Board Pati Fickett – Absent – Arrived at 11:11am
- Member Bill Hegeman - Present

Administration:
- Chief John Novak – Present
- Wildland Division/Vol. Admin. Assistant Chief Chris Anthis – Present
- Fire Prevention Specialist/Firefighter – Michele Larned – Present

Firefighters/Support:
- Chuck Fickett

Guests:
- Rebecca Phifer
- Joan Abney
- Mary Sparkman

Donna Aversa, SSFD Attorney, attended via video.

4. CALL TO PUBLIC:

Joan Abney – Inquired about the Website and stated that many items are outdated or missing, Annual Budget, Financial Report, Minutes, etc.

5. CONSENT AGENDA:

A. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES:

APPROVEAL OF MEETING MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING, October 22, 2026.

Mr. Hegeman moved to approve the meeting minutes for Regular Meeting, October 22, 2026, as presented.

Mr. Guzman seconded the motion.
Motion Passed

Voting	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Guzman	X			
Mrs. Fickett	X			
Mr. Hegeman	X			

6. FINANCIAL REPORTS:

A. **REVIEW/DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: REPORTS PREPARED BY MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTS & CONSULTING, L.P. for October 2026.**

Mrs. Fickett, Clerk of the Board failed to provide Municipal Accounts & Consulting, LP the San Simon Fire District's statements in a timely manner, approval for October 2026 Financial Report. Tabled to next regular meeting.

Clerk Fickett prepared a Summary of SSFD Fund Balances, November 23, 2026:

County M&O Account Balance	$ 340,150.91	
Less-Outstanding Warrants	($ 23,673.72)	
Available Cash – M&O Account		**$ 316,527.19**
Reflects Payments from the Dept. of Forestry.		
County – Fire Capital Account Balance		$ 107.98
County –Fire Reserve Account Balance		$ 230,355.63
County – Fire Wildland Fire Account Balance		$ 22,499.61
Chase Bank – Payroll Account Balance		$ 709.87
Cochise Credit Union Account Balance		
Savings	$ 222.55	
Checking	$ 4,486.43	
Total Balance CCU		**$ 4,708.98**
Total Balance of SSFD Fund Accounts		**$ 574,909.26**
(Cash Available On This Day, Nov. 23, 2026)		

7. CHIEF'S REPORT: November 2026

A. Monthly Activity Report: The Fire District ran 6 calls in October.
B. Public Records Requests: Ongoing.
C. Assistance to Firefighter's Grant: Working with companies to find the best deal.
D. Fireworks implementation: Working with the Fireworks company to setup files.
E. Community Relations:
I was invited and attended the Chili cookoff at the Sunsites/Pearce Fire District on Saturday, October 24, as one of the judges.
We did fire prevention at the school on Tuesday the 27th.
We participated in the fall carnival on Thursday the 29th.
We participated in the Trunk-Or-Treat at the school on the 31st.

8. OLD BUSINESS – REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTON ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

A. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING REPLACING THE LIGHTBARS FOR ENGINE 251:

Chief Novak presented the Board with quotes for purchasing and installing the lightbars on Engine 251.

Light House of Arizona – Purchase Lights	$ 5,173.64
Brian's Fire Apparatus Repair – Install Lights in San Simon	$ 4,000.00
Total Cost:	$ 9,173.64
Velocity Truck Centers – Purchase and Install in Phoenix	$14,072.40
Requires District to transport Engine to Phoenix.	
Fire Truck Solutions – Purchase and Install in Phoenix	$ 9,289.71
Requires District to transport Engine to Phoenix.	
Fire Truck Solution – Purchase and install in San Simon.	$12,345.12

Round trip to Phoenix 465 miles, plus a driver, who might have to stay overnight.

Mrs. Fickett moved to approve the purchase of the Lightbars for Engine 251 from Light House of Arizona for the purchase price of $5,173.64 and retaining Brian's Fire Apparatus Repair to install the lights at the fire station in San Simon, AZ for a cost of $4,000.00, Total: $9,173.64.

Mr. Hegeman seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

Voting	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Guzman	X			
Mrs. Fickett	X			
Mr. Hegeman	X			

B. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING OBTAINING AN ATTORNEY FOR THE SAN SIMON FIRE DISTRICT IN LIGHT OF THE PENDING RETIREMENT OF THE CURRENT ATTORNEY DONNA AVERSA, ESQ.:

Ms. Aversa recommended Devon M White, Esq. as a possible replacement. Mr. White is with the Law Firm of Boyle, Pecharich, Cline, Whittington & Stallings, P.L.L.C. located in Prescott, AZ and they are active in the practice area of Special Taxing Districts.

Mrs. Fickett moved to allow Chief Novak contact Mr. White and inquire about his interest in taking the San Simon Fire District as a new client.

Mr. Guzman seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

Voting	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Guzman	X			
Mrs. Fickett	X			
Mr. Hegeman	X			

9. NEW BUSINESS – REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

A. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING THE JANUARY 2027 ARIZONA FIRE DISTRICT'S ASSOCIATIONS CONFERENCE:

Arizona Revised Statutes §48-803.H *(as amended by SB 1387) specifies that fire district board members must complete a statutory training program within* ***one year*** *of being elected, re-elected, or appointed.* The statutory training all the Board Member are required to complete is offered at the January Conference. The San Simon Fire District is responsible for the Board Members', Conference Registration, Meals, Lodging and Milage to attend the conference.

Mr. Hegeman moved to approve all the Board Members to attend the AFDA Conference, January 5th-7th in Tucson with their allowable expenses paid by the San Simon Fire District.

Mrs. Fickett seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

Voting	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Guzman	X			
Mrs. Fickett	X			
Mr. Hegeman	X			

B. CANVASS OF OFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS AND APPROVE PRESENTING TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS A CERTIFIED COPY OF THE OFFICAL CANVASS OF THE ELECTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH A.R.S. §642-(A)(3) & (B):

Chairman Guzman reported the totals for all the candidates vying for the two positions on the San Simon Fire District Governing Board as provided from Cochise County Elections Director: Fernando Guzman 105, Pati Fickett 92, Rebecca Phifer 37, Mary Sparkman 10, and Write-In Jennifer Gray 0, there for declaring Mr. Guzman and Mrs. Fickett receiving the highest votes.

Mr. Hegeman moved the San Simon Fire District Governing Board hereby certifies the San Simon Fire District election results held November 3, 2026, as set forth on the Certified Copy of the Official Canvass of the San Simon Fire District as presented and that the Certified Copy be presented to the Cochise County Board of Supervisors at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

Mr. Guzman seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

Voting	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Guzman	X			
Mrs. Fickett	X			
Mr. Hegeman	X			

10. SET TIME AND DATE FOR NEXT MEETING:

Next Regular Meeting – December 10, 2026, at 11:00 am.

11. ADJOURN:

11:57am

Submitted Respectfully By: Pati Fickett

Patricia Fickett, Clerk of the Board Date

CERTIFIED COPY OF OFFICIAL CANVASS

SAN SIMON FIRE **DISTRICT**

Pursuant to A.R.S. §16-642, at a noticed public meeting held on Nov. 19, 2026, the Board of Directors of SAN SIMON FIRE District canvassed the results of the District's election held on Nov 3, 2026 and by (majority/unanimous) vote approved certification of the results of the election as shown below as a full, true and correct copy of the vote tabulations for said election.

Name		No. of Votes Received
FICKETT, PATI	37.70%	92
GUZMAN, FERNANDO	43.03%	105
PHIFER, REBECCA 'BECKY' J.	15.16%	37
SPARKMAN, MARY	4.10%	10
WRITE IN: GRAY, JENNIFER	0.00%	0

Rejected Ballots: 0

Number of positions up for election: 2

Approved and adopted on Nov. 19, 2026.

Chairman, Board of Directors

ATTEST: Pati Fickett

Clerk, Board of Directors

(Pursuant to A.R.S. §16-642(B), this certified copy of the canvass must be presented to the Board of Supervisors at its next regular meeting following your canvass. Please file this certified copy of the canvass with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.)

Board Member San Simon Fire District

Vote Method

Follow

Vote for 2

Candidate	Percentage	Votes
Fickett, Pati Nonpartisan	37.70%	92
Guzman, Fernando Nonpartisan	43.03%	105
Phifer, Rebecca "Becky" J. Nonpartisan	15.16%	37
Sparkman, Mary Nonpartisan	4.10%	10
Write-in: Gray, Jennifer Nonpartisan	0.00%	0
Write-in: Unofficial Nonpartisan	0.00%	0
Write-in: Unassigned Nonpartisan	0.00%	0

Precincts reporting **1/1** ⓘ as of *2 days ago*

View results by precinct