



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
—

San Simon Fire District
Regular Meeting
Thursday, August 13, 2026

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Guzman called the meeting to order at 1805 (6:05 pm), 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 – Present

Board Member Vacant

Administration:

Chief John Novak – Present

Wildland Division/Vol. Admin. Assistant Chief Chris Anthis – Absent

Fire Prevention Specialist/Firefighter – Michele Larned –Present

Firefighters/Support:

Chuck Fickett

Guests:

Mary Sparkman

Rebecca Phifer

Bill Hegeman

Melissa Leyva

Donna Aversa, SSFD Attorney, attended via video.

4. CALL TO PUBLIC:

Rebecca Phifer

5. CONSENT AGENDA:

A. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES:

Approve meeting minutes for Regular Meeting, July 9, 2026.

Mr. Guzman moved to approve the meeting minutes for Regular Meeting, July 9, 2026, as presented.

Mrs. Fickett seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

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

6. FINANCIAL REPORTS:

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

Mrs. Fickett moved to accept the July 2026 financial reports as presented.

Mr. Guzman second the motion.

Motion Passed

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

Clerk Fickett presented the Summary of SSFD Fund Balances for August 13, 2026:

County M&O Account Balance	\$172,765.82
Less-Outstanding Warrants	<u>(\$ 10,620.05)</u>
Available Cash – M&O Account	\$162,145.82
<i>This includes \$91,639.85 Payment From the Dept. of Forestry for Pocket Fire deployment.</i>	
County – Fire Capital Account Balance	\$ 107.07
County –Fire Reserve Account Balance	\$146,666.54
County – Fire Wildland Fire Account Balance	\$ 22,201.29
Chase Bank – Payroll Account Balance	\$ 28,201.05
Cochise Credit Union Account Balance	\$ 75.00
Total Balance of SSFD Fund Accounts	<u>\$359,397.09</u>
<i>(Cash Available On This Day, August 13, 2026)</i>	

Payment Pending for Squad:

Sold for	\$92,000.00
Less 10% Commission	<u>(9,200.00)</u>
Balance Due	\$82,800.00

7. CHIEF’S REPORT: August 2026

The fire district ran 20 calls in July.

I attended the Arizona Fire Chief’s Association/Arizona Fire Districts Association meeting in Glendale, AZ. It was very informative.

Our Type 3 Engine is returning from a 2-week deployment to California. The crew initially was assigned to per-position but then were deployed to a couple of different fires.

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

None

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

A. EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR LEGAL ADVICE FROM THE FIRE DISTRICT’S ATTORNEY, *FOR ITEM B – PURSUANT TO A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A3):*

Mrs. Fickett moved to enter Executive Session at 6:09pm.

Mr. Guzman seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

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

Returned to open meeting at 6:20pm.

B. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING OPEN BOARD POSITION:

The District received 2 letters of interest for the vacant Board position.

Mrs. Fickett moved to fill Ashley Petersons vacant position on the San Simon Fire District Board with William ‘Bill’ Hegeman. The term ends in 2028.

Mr. Guzman seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

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

On advice of the District’s council, Mr. Hegeman will sign the Oath of Office on August 14, 2026, following his review of Arizona’s Open Meeting Laws.

C. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING AZ FORESTRY PAYMENT FOR THE POCKET FIRE:

Chief Novak confirmed the District had received payment for the Pocket Fire from the Arizona Dept. of Forestry and Wildfire Management in the amount of \$91,639.85.

No action on this item.

D. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING THE CHASE BANK AND COCHISE CREDIT UNION ACCOUNTS:

Clerk Fickett confirmed she established a new account with the Cochise Credit Union.

This account will be used for payroll, and the Chase payroll account will be closed.

No action on this item.

E. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING THE REIMBURCEMENT TO MICHELE LARNED:

Ms. Larned submitted a reimbursement request in the amount of \$136.69 for expenses she incurred during transporting the fire truck from Junction, Tx and EMR Recertification.

Mrs. Fickett moved to approve reimbursement in the amount of \$136.69 to Michele Larned.

Mr. Guzman seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

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

F. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING REIMBURCEMENT TO PATI FICKETT:

Mrs. Fickett moved to table the item to the next SSFD meeting.

Mr. Guzman seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

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

G. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO SET DATES AND TIMES FOR FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS:

Mrs. Fickett moved to set the time and day for future meetings to be held on the second Thursday of each month at 11:00 am, unless otherwise stated.

Mr. Guzman seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

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

H. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNIN SELLING WATER TO I-10 PAVING PROJECT:

Chief Novak stated he had been approached by a contractor to sell them water for the future paving project of I-10. Approximate need would be 80,000 gallons per week.

Following discussion, no action was taken.

10. SET TIME AND DATE FOR NEXT MEETING:

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

11. ADJOURN:

Chairman Guzman adjourned the meeting at 6:43 pm.

Submitted Respectfully By: Pati Fickett

Patricia Fickett, Clerk of the Board

Date