OFFICE OF THE COCONINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

SPECIAL EMERGENCY SESSION MINUTES

JULY 23, 2019

2:00 p.m.
The Coconino County Ft. Tuthill Park
2446 Ft. Tuthill Loop, Flagstaff, AZ

Present: Chairwoman Lena Fowler, Vice Chair Jim Parks, Supervisor Elizabeth Archuleta, Supervisor Matt Ryan, Supervisor Art Babbott.

Also Present: City of Flagstaff Mayor Coral Evans, City of Flagstaff Councilmembers Charlie Odegaard and Austin Aslan, Flagstaff City Manager Barbara Goodrich, Arizona State Representatives Bob Thorpe and Sylvia Allan, County Deputy Sheriff Bret Axlund, County Public Affairs Director Eric Peterson, County Manager James Jayne, Deputy County Manager Lucinda Andreani, Executive Assistant to District 4 – Steven Flanagan, Executive Assistant to District 5 – Miranda Morales, Executive Assistant to District 2- Theresa Munoz, Executive Assistant to District 1 – Michele Ralston, Director of Emergency Management Todd Whitney, Director of Arizona Emergency Management Division Wendy Smith-Reeve, Governor’s Policy Advisor on Natural Resources Hunter Moore, Coconino National Forest Supervisor Laura Jo West, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors Lindsay Daley.

This meeting was planned by the Governor’s office to obtain information about the Museum Fire emergency.

The meeting began at approximately 2:18 p.m.

The Governor’s Policy Advisor on Natural Resources, Hunter Moore, provided an introduction to the meeting and an introduction of Governor Doug Ducey.

Governor Ducey stated that he is present to listen and learn about the Museum Fire and its impacts to the community. He stated he is here to see what resources are needed and stated that he is here to help.

Incident Commander Rich Nieto explained that to date no one has been hurt and that there is information specific to the fire in a packet provided.

Coconino National Forest Supervisor Laura Jo West provided information on the Museum Fire from the perspective of the Forest Service. She explained that the fire began Sunday, July 21 and the Forest Service dispatched every resource at that time. She stated that she ordered a Type I Incident Team for the emergency and that the Burn Area Recovery Team has been ordered. She stated the Forest Service will work with the City and County on the post-fire affects.
Another Incident Command representative provided a situation report to the Governor. He showed a large map on the wall and explained that they have some containment and crews are working around the fire. He explained that the steep slopes on top of Mt. Elden are challenging as well as the burnt roads. He stated that they have crews looking at neighborhoods and assessing the situation. Schultz Pass Road will be used as their next line if things do not go well at this point. He explained that they were using air tankers but are currently down to one air tanker now with other fires occurring in the state. He stated that they are dippin g for water at the City reservoir. He stated he thinks they will have 10% containment by tonight. He also went over the most recent forecast and stated that the chance of precipitation is high and cloud cover is good. He went over the zones on a map that show the areas that are in “Ready,” “Set” and “Go” zones for evacuation purposes.

Director of Arizona Division of Emergency Management Wendy Smith-Reeve spoke about the shelter that has been set up, which allows for up to 400 people and that there have been ten occupants to date.

District Manager for the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management Aaron Green spoke about their collaboration with other agencies and their initial attack plan from a Type 3 Incident Team that transitioned to a Type I Team. He spoke about their work on the Flagstaff Watershed Protection Plan (FWPP) and their work to address forest restoration in the area.

Director of Arizona Division of Emergency Management Wendy Smith-Reeve stated they are utilizing the State Emergency Response Recovery Plan and identifying partners to come in and assist with this. She stated she recommends that Governor Ducey sign a State Declaration of Emergency in response to the Museum Fire.

At this time in the briefing the Governor signed the state’s Declaration of Emergency.

City of Flagstaff Mayor Coral Evans spoke about their concern regarding flood impacts from the fire and their work to create sandbag stations in anticipation of flooding.

County Supervisor Elizabeth Archuleta also spoke about the expected impacts to residents in her district and in the area.

Deputy County Manager Lucinda Andreani pointed to a large map of the burn area and drainages. She explained where they expect debris flow to come down from the burn area and that once it hits a certain area it will fan out. She explained that the County is looking at putting in jersey barriers for those areas that will have the greatest impact. She also stated that they can use prison crews to help make pre-filled sandbags for residents that are expected to be impacted by flooding.

There was no action take by the County Board of Supervisors at this meeting.

Hunter Moore concluded the meeting at 2:47 p.m.

COCONINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Lena Fowler, Chairwoman

ATTEST:

Lindsay Daley, Clerk of the Board

July 23, 2019, 2:00 p.m. – Special Emergency Session Minutes