

*Peeples Valley Fire District, PO Box 936, Yarnell, AZ 85362*  
*17275 W. Burning Bush Drive, Peeples Valley, AZ 86332*  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES and PUBLIC HEARING**  
Location of Meeting Held: Historic Peeples Valley School  
18205 S. Highway 89, Peeples Valley, AZ  
**Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at 10:00 AM**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** Neil Rifenbark called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The pledge was led by Wendy Qualls.
- 3. ROLL CALL OF BOARD:** Neil Rifenbark, Phil Lobeck, Wayne Keller, Scott Mayer, absent: Gregg Carr
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Regular Session 01-20-2026
  - **Scott Mayer** made a motion to approve the 01-20-2026.
  - **Seconded: Phil Lobeck**
  - **Ayes: Neil Rifenbark, Wayne Keller, Phil Lobeck, Scott Mayer**
  - **Nays: 0**
  - **Abstain: 0**
- 5. CALL TO PUBLIC:**  
Public in attendance: Shawn Bomar, Kelley Paiz, Ray Paiz, Sue Dickerson, Wendy Qualls, Ben Archer
- 6. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**
  - A. Fire Chief's Report: see website
  - B. Duty Officers' Reports: see website
  - C. Fire Prevention and Safety Officer's Report: see website
  - D. Report from Weaver Mountains Firewise Committee Coordinators: see website
  - E. Correspondence received by the Board of Directors: tax levy documents
  - F. Auxiliary Report: see website.
- 7. PUBLIC HEARING**
  - A. Consider recessing the regular meeting to hold a Public Hearing to discuss adjacent annexation requests.
    - **Neil Rifenbark** made a motion to recess the regular meeting to hold a Public Hearing at 10:21 AM.
    - **Seconded: Scott**
    - **Ayes: Neil Rifenbark, Wayne Keller, Phil Lobeck, Scott Mayer**
    - **Nays: 0**
    - **Abstain: 0**
  - B. Consider adjourning the Public Hearing and reconvening the Regular Session. Returned to regular meeting at 10:31 AM.
- 8. BUSINESS and ACTION**
  - A. Discussion/possible action to approve the January 2026 Financial Report

presented by The James Vincent Group.

- **Scott Mayer** made a motion to approve the January 2026 Financial Report presented by the James Vincent Group.
- **Seconded: Phil Lobeck**
- **Ayes: Neil Rifembark, Wayne Keller, Scott Mayer, Scott Mayer**
- **Nays: 0**
- **Abstain: 0**

B. Discussion/possible action to approve February Warrant Requests.

- **Phil Lobeck** made a motion to approve February Warrant Requests.
- **Seconded: Neil Rifembark**
- **Ayes: Neil Rifembark, Wayne Keller, Phil Lobeck, Scott Mayer**
- **Nays: 0**
- **Abstain: 0**

C. Discussion/possible action to approve the Chief to appoint a committee to review district bylaws.

- **Neil Rifembark** made a motion to table the Chief to appoint a committee to review district bylaws until the March 18 meeting
- **Seconded: Phil Lobeck**
- **Ayes: Neil Rifembark, Wayne Keller, Phil Lobeck, Scott Mayer**
- **Nays: 0**
- **Abstain: 0**

D. Discussion/possible action to approve the Chief to form a budget workshop committee.

- **Wayne Keller** made a motion to approve the Chief to form a budget workshop committee.
- **Seconded: Scott Mayer**
- **Ayes: Neil Rifembark, Wayne Keller, Phil Lobeck, Scott Mayer**
- **Nays: 0**
- **Abstain: 0**

E. Discussion/possible action to approve a resolution for adjacent annexation requests.

1. Resolution No. 2026-02-18 – 001P
2. Resolution No. 2026-02-18 – 001Q
3. Resolution No. 2026-02-18 – 001R
4. Resolution No. 2026-02-18 – 001S
5. Resolution No. 2026-02-18 – 001T
6. Resolution No. 2026-02-18 – 001U
7. Resolution No. 2026-02-18 – 001V

- **Resolution to approve:** A FORMAL RESOLUTION OF THE ELECTED BOARD OF THE PEEPLES VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT ORDERING A CHANGE OF THE FIRE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES TO INCLUDE THAT PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT “A” AS ATTACHED HERETO;  
WHEREAS, the Peoples Valley Fire District Governing Board has been presented with

a valid request for annexation of the area of the property described in **Exhibit “A”** as attached hereto, requesting that said property be annexed into the jurisdictional boundaries of the District; and

WHEREAS, the subject property is located within Yavapai County and is contiguous to the boundaries of Peoples Valley Fire District as shown on the map attached hereto as **Exhibit “B”**; and

WHEREAS, the Peoples Valley Fire District Governing Board believes that said annexation would be in the best interest of the District and the property owner, and would promote the public health, comfort, convenience, necessity or welfare; and

WHEREAS, all other pertinent requirements of A.R.S. § 48-262 have been addressed and met according to law; and

WHEREAS, the Peoples Valley Fire District Board has determined that the inclusion of the subject property within the boundaries of the Peoples Valley Fire District will benefit the Peoples Valley Fire District and the property owner.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fire District Board does hereby find that the proposed annexation satisfies the requirements of A.R.S. § 48-262(I), and does hereby order the change to its boundaries to include the area described above, as more specifically set forth in the attached legal description and map.

- **Wayne Keller** made the above resolutions 1-7 for parcels 202-13-001C, 202-13-002, 202-13-003, 205-25-006, 205-25-007, 205-25-008, 205-25-014J.
- **Seconded: Phil Lobeck**
- **Ayes: Neil Rifembark, Wayne Keller, Phil Lobeck, Scott Mayer**
- **Nays: 0**
- **Abstain: 0**

## **9. DISCUSSION**

1. Self-termination of Employee ID 205 (January 19, 2026)
2. Employment of Employee ID 222 (February 2, 2026)
3. Employment of Employee ID 227 (February 2, 2026)
4. Status of the Weaver Mountains Regional Public Safety Facility – update on site and floor plan
5. Community meeting hosted at Ruger Ranch – discussion on Station 82 and COERT.
6. Station 82 Ruger Ranch – board would like information on the cost of a building.
7. Yarnell Fire District – no difference with day-to-day operations.

## **10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- A. New Business Agenda Item Requests for the next regular meeting, workshops, and other meetings.
- B. Upcoming Meeting Date: Next Regular Session – March 18, 2026, at 10:00 AM.

## **11. ADJOURNMENT by Neil Rifembark at 11:24 AM**