

## FLFD Board Member Candidates

The Forest Lakes Fire District leadership team consists of five board members plus the Fire Chief, who is hired by the board. Board members are elected by the residents of the District, and serve 4-year terms. Terms of office expire in November of this year for three of the current board members. Therefore the FLFD leadership team is seeking candidates to apply for the upcoming open board positions.

FLFD is a political subdivision of the State of Arizona and is subject to the Arizona Revised Statutes (ARS). The Fire Board has the ultimate responsibility for the protection of life and property within the District boundaries. It oversees the organization of the fire district and its operations to assure compliance with all ARS provisions and make such recommendations as are necessary for the efficient operation of the fire district. The day-to-day operations of the District are managed by the Fire Chief.

Candidates for office must be registered voters of Coconino County and the fire district. Residents interested in board membership who are not registered to vote in Coconino County will need to switch their registration.

By statute, the Forest Lakes Fire Board is required to hold monthly meetings. We have a summer schedule (March through October, 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month at 10:00 am) and a winter schedule (November through February, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month at 10:00 am). Board members may attend telephonically.

Board member training is required by Arizona statute and is offered semi-annually by the Arizona Fire District Association (AFDA) in Laughlin in January and in Tucson in June/July. Costs to attend are covered by the District. The FLFD office staff has copies of the current AFDA handbook for those interested in a more detailed look at fire district operations.

Current board members are willing to meet one-on-one with prospective candidates to provide answers to any questions, to relate their personal experiences regarding board membership and to explain why they find serving the community as board members to be a rewarding and fulfilling experience. Since the relationship of the Fire Board and the Fire Chief is critical to the successful operation of the Fire District, Chief Rodriguez has also offered to meet with candidates. The FLFD Five Year Strategic Plan (STRAP), available on our web site at [www.flfdaz.com](http://www.flfdaz.com), is also an excellent source of information on department operations.

The AFDA handbook describes the perfect board member as one who: understands business principles; has integrity; has credibility; does not allow "end runs"; observes board policies; has good role identification; understands the role of the administrator; has a sense of humor; has a broad scope of vision; is a good listener; is gutsy; has community awareness; is politically aware; maintains a positive attitude; can be flexible on issues; is open minded, without hidden agendas; is consistent; and shares mutual respect with the fire chief. In addition, board members must be willing to consider community opinions and consider each on its merits and judge them accordingly. Active debate is encouraged, but once a consensus is reached, board members are expected to support the majority position.

More information is available on the FLFD website at [flfdaz.com](http://flfdaz.com).

If you have interest, please submit an e-Mail to any of the current Board members, Chief Rodriguez or our admin assistant (Roxie Allen) stating your interest and qualifications. E-Mail addresses are as follows: [jhennessey@flfdaz.com](mailto:jhennessey@flfdaz.com), [jnelson@flfdaz.com](mailto:jnelson@flfdaz.com), [qtolby@flfdaz.com](mailto:qtolby@flfdaz.com), [tcummiskey@flfdaz.com](mailto:tcummiskey@flfdaz.com), [dmassion@flfdaz.com](mailto:dmassion@flfdaz.com), [drodriguez@flfdaz.com](mailto:drodriguez@flfdaz.com) and [rallen@flfdaz.com](mailto:rallen@flfdaz.com).

Formal applications must be submitted to Coconino County between July 9 and August 8. Application forms and instructions are available on the County website, or from Roxie Allen at the FLFD office.

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