

MINUTES
SUN CITY WEST REPUBLICAN CLUB
October 4, 2025, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: President Bob Randle called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at The Church on the Green, Sun City West, Arizona. Marjorie Favia gave the Invocation. President Randle led the Pledge to the Flag of the United States of America and Janie Randle led the singing of God Bless America.

WELCOME VISITORS: There were 94 members, 19 guests, 5 speakers and 9 representatives from the fire department were present: a total number of 127 present. Guests were Avis Bennett, Dan Beutley, James Casey, Dan Chiappone, Maggie & Ross Howay, Diana Hurst, Camille Jesmont, Laurie Johnson, Josh Lind, Hugh Marlin, Leona Medite, Larry Placek, Sharon Rodgers, CR Schoen, Lori Schroeder, Jack Senill, Barbara Wyllie, Barry Yurtis,

Bob Randle asked for approval of the September minutes as published on the Sun City West Republican website. Motion approved.

President Randle reported that services for long-time member, Robert Bryant, Sr., are scheduled for October 19, 2024.

Randle reported the Candidate Forum on Saturday, September 27, hosted by our Club was a success. Shane Krauser was the MC and speakers were Andy Biggs, Randy Glassman and Alex Kolodin. Attendance was about 375. He thanked Linda Barnes for all her hard work and had the Club volunteers stand.

President Randle reported on the Nominating Committee slate of officers for the election next month:

Bridget Nelke	President
Linda Barnes	Vice President
Fran Church	Treasurer
Connie Loper	Secretary
John Schalk	Membership
Art Goes	Webmaster
John Heep	Member at Large
Rod Martinson	Sargeant at Arms

Nominations from the membership were requested. There being none, the slate of officers was approved.

Randle encouraged people to support Turning Point after the death of Charlie Kirk as a volunteer or monetarily. He reminded the group that donuts and coffee are for a donation.

Tom Matthew, President of the Sun City Republican Club invited those in attendance to join them for their meeting on the third Tuesday at their meeting that begins at 6:30 pm at the SunDail. Their program is Seth Levson who will speak of the controversy of Freedom of Speech.

Officers of Sun City Festival Republican Club and Sun City Grand Republican Club are here today.



Linda introduced David Marshall and Dr. Ralph Heap who are Republicans running for the Arizona Corporation Commission. David Marshall is a State Representative for the 7th District. He is currently on Committees for Law Enforcement, Safety and the Border. Dr. Ralph Heap an orthopedic surgeon. Both were recruited to run for the Commission because of the mission through APS to be net zero by 2050. This was approved by the Arizona Corporation Commission. Dr. Heap said they want to represent affordable, reliable energy sources. The current goal of the Corporation Commission and APS is to close all the coal plants in the next 15 years. This plan was approved in 2023. The Corporation Commission would have normally done an independent analysis to check the information provided by APS but they didn't. The Free Enterprise contracted for the independent study which showed there will be shortages and blackouts under the plan presented by APS. The affordable energy program will cost Arizona ratepayers \$42 billion in the next 38 years. Currently Europeans under their clean energy program pay triple what U.S. pays. The Trump Administration said they do not want to close all the coal plants and specifically wants the Coronado plant to remain open (it is scheduled for closure 2027-2031). APS closed Navajo Generating Station, one of the Arizona coal plants, in 2019

David Marshall reported APS is requesting a 15.9% increase. The Commission is pushing Net Zero. He said it is not widely known that it takes diesel fuel to run the wind turbines. He said 60% of the solar fields by Palm Springs are non-functioning but there is no place to dispose of these units so they remain standing. The wind turbines also kill lots of birds including bald eagles. Solar panels on roofs burn when there is a house fire. He said President Trump has allocated \$600 billion for coal as it is the most economical form of energy. Natural gas and nuclear plants are said to be better than wind and solar.

Questions: Why are two republicans running now for the Corporation Commission. They were solicited to run because the current Corporation Commission is voting for APS plans and rate increases.

Does Corporation Commission have control over junk billing fees? They are concerned with the big picture and plan to study all fees. Look at separating residential and commercial charges.

Is the Corporation Commission hamstrung by Governor Hobbs? No.

What is the best economical form of energy? Fossil fuels currently but in the next 10 years it will be nuclear power. There was \$500 billion of solar subsidies removed by Trump's Big Bill but the Democrats saved \$90 billion of those cuts.

In closing, the speakers noted the APS management must push the Green New Deal as their bonuses are tied to GND. \$11,000,000 is the salary of the top executive.

Linda Barnes introduced Lisa Everett of the West Valley Republican and Independent Coalition. Their office is supported by donations. They have scheduled a Comedy Night Fundraiser on Friday, October 24, from 6:00-8:00 pm at the TYR Tactical, 9330 North 91st Avenue, Peoria. Tickets are \$30 per person. Call 623-248-5175 for ticket information.



Linda Barnes introduced North County Fire & Medical District Fire Chief, Mark Burdick and Eric Kriwer, Assistant Chief. They are speaking about Proposition 407. Chief Burdick reported our District has the highest fire rating. They are part of the Phoenix Area Assistance. All fire engines have onboard paramedics. They respond to 11,000 calls last year of which 87% were emergency or rescue.

Bond 407 is important as their funding has not caught up with the high rises of equipment prices. Over the past 5 years, equipment costs have risen 41% - Ambulances have risen 76%. They have chest compression units and heart monitors on the ambulances so best treatment is available once the rescue squad arrives. Many of their vehicles are approaching 20 years and need replacement. They do routine upkeep of vehicles through the years to get maximum usage out of the units.

Questions:

Are the billings for ambulance service the same throughout the District? Sun City West residents are not billed the \$350 emergency charge.

Why do we need these bond funds in addition to your budget?

Capital needs are underfunded. Sun City West has limited growth so new building assessments cannot keep up. Also, lower Corporate Taxes impact their budget.

Are there many fires in Sun City West?

There are 5-6 home fires per year plus garage fires.

Why have the costs of fire trucks spiraled.

There is one supplier supplying all the trucks. It is about a 3-year timeframe from start of negotiations to arrival of new equipment.

Why doesn't the fire department stay if there is a death in the home.

Once a death has been confirmed, the coroner takes over. In the time waiting arrival of the coroner arrival, Maricopa Sheriff staff will stay & the Posse assists. They cannot keep a crew of firefighters there.

Will the BSF development in Whitman raise our fire costs?

That facility is in Morrystown, which is another fire district, but, since we are members of the Phoenix Area Assistance, they may be called in to help. The hazmat issues are unknown currently.



Linda Barnes introduced Justin Heap, County Recorder, to report on the upcoming election. This election is a Proposition Election. Mail in ballots will be mailed to all registered voters. There will be no “in person” voting. Ballots can be returned by mail or there will be limited drop-off locations. He addressed the issue of people receiving ballots for other people. He suggested you mark “RETURN TO SENDER” on the envelope although the Postal Service scanner equipment just reads barcodes so they come back to the addressee.

Heap wanted to clarify his dispute with the Board of Supervisors. From 1980-2016 the Recorder handled all elections. In 2018-19, the County took back some of the duties. This was handled by a Shared Service Agreement. Ten days before he took office, the old Supervisors Board did a

new SSA with the outgoing Recorder. The current split of duties is the Recorder does Mail In & Early voting and the Board does election day and counting. The County took half of his staff including all the IT staff. He currently must ask the Supervisor staff to run queries to respond to specific voter questions. He encouraged everyone to periodically check your current registration at BeBallotReady.com. The MVD can update your voter registration when you pay licensing fees. Sometimes they may mark (or not mark) the correct box. His office is not aware of those changes. He hopes his dispute with the County will be in November or December as there needs to be an evidentiary hearing before.

Linda Barnes noted that PC and volunteers going door to door find different people at addresses than county records show or people tell them they are getting ballots for people not living at that address. Heap said they cannot change registration information without reasonable information and then they must send 30-day notice to that address so they have time to respond. He must do it the right way.

Barb Willey wanted audience to be aware of a change in the charge to get electricity to a site. In 1952, the policy was that you would get 1,000 sf of electric hook up free. In 2007, they did away with that law. She was going to be charged \$2100 to get power to a site she owned.

Linda Barnes noted this upcoming election is November 4. There will be a drop box at the Fire Administration building in Sun City West. She encouraged people to use the drop box versus USPS.

Linda Barnes noted that the speaker for the next meeting will be Alex Kolidin who is the only candidate running for Secretary of State currently. Club Elections will be held that day, also.

Bob Randle encouraged members to look at the pathway from doorways to rooms to make sure there is room for a fire-rescue gurney to get your loved ones out for treatment. He asked people to fill out the straw poll for their Bond preferences and leave them on the table.

50/50 winners were drawn.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Loper
Recording Secretary