

BENTON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #1
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular meeting of October 3, 2023.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Jenkins called the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of Benton County Fire District No. 1 to order in-person and via video-conference at 4:00 p.m. at 1811A S. Ely St. Kennewick, Washington. In attendance at this meeting in-person were Commissioner Carpenter, Commissioner Jenkins, Commissioner Phillips, Fire Chief/District Secretary Click, Deputy Chief LoParco, and Executive Director Paden-Lilly.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

CORRESPONDENCE

The correspondence received log and correspondence sent was reviewed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Carpenter requested a change to the September 19, 2023, meeting minutes. A motion was made by Commissioner Carpenter to approve the September 19, 2023, minutes as edited. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jenkins and passed.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Transaction Details

Presented to the Board were 2023 transactions #1973 to #2006. The transactions total \$36,874.74. General Fund \$32,254.43; Bond Funds \$550.00; Special Operations Group Fund \$2,059.94; and Fire Training Center Operations Fund \$2,010.37. Commissioner Carpenter made a motion to approve the vouchers. Commissioner Phillips seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. The voucher registers are attached to these minutes and constitute a part thereof.

Budget Expenditure Reports

The budget expenditure reports were reviewed.

EMS Report

The EMS and Ambulance Collection Statistics Report was reviewed.

REPORTS

Commissioners

- Commissioner Carpenter attended the EMS Council meeting.
- Commissioner Jenkins attended the L1296 negotiations meeting.
- Commissioner Phillips will start a contract job this month and won't be able to attend the next meeting.

Fire Chief

Chief Click reported:

- As a result of attending the BCES Board Meeting, he learned that the Dispatch Center is still down 12 employees, the Red Mountain MOU has not been completed, agency funding models are still being researched, and a VHF/Microwave system upgrade is in the works.
- A stakeholder's meeting was held last week to discuss the future of the Fire Marshals office and whether it should be separated from the Washington State Patrol.
- He and Mechanic/Firefighter Ball went and picked up the second command truck; it will receive radio programming next.
- Battalion Chief Gutzmer and Mechanic/Firefighter Ball will travel to Wisconsin on October 17 to inspect the Pierce fire apparatus and drive it back.
- He received the VIN numbers and final blueprints and specifications for both Type 5 apparatus.

Battalion Chief(s)

Battalion Chief Gutzmer reported that this session of recruit academy is going well with a full class and great support from other agencies.

Training

Captain Nicholls reported:

- The Training Captains met with the chiefs last week to discuss the Fire Training Center.
- He gave an update on the training tower prop project.

OLD BUSINESS

2024 Budget

Chief Click presented the draft budget for the fiscal year 2024. The budget was reviewed by the staff, who highlighted the key points and components. Since the mid-year budget discussion, a few adjustments have been made to ensure a balanced budget. Some budget requests have been added, while certain cuts have been made to maintain financial stability. The Board will review and come back with any questions or concerns at the next meeting. Staff will present draft budgets for reserve, custodial, bond, and project funds for review at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

BVFF Pension Certification

The 2022 Board for Volunteer Firefighters' Pension Certification was presented to the Board. Commissioner Jenkins signed approving the document.

New Member Application

A support services application for Larynda Kern was submitted to the Board for review. Commissioner Phillips made a motion to approve the application. Commissioner Carpenter seconded the motion and the motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 4:36 p.m. Commissioner Jenkins called a 15-minute executive session per RCW 42.30.110 to discuss the performance of a public employee. The announced time of resumption in the open public meeting was 4:51 p.m. The actual time of resumption into the open public meeting was 4:51 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Board of Commissioner meeting will occur on October 17.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 4:51 p.m.