

BENTON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #1  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular meeting of January 16, 2024.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Carpenter 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, Fire Chief/District Secretary Click, Deputy Chief LoParco, and Executive Director Paden-Lilly. Commissioner Phillips attended remotely via video-conference.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

There were no additions to the agenda.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

The correspondence received log and correspondence sent was reviewed.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the regular minutes of January 2, 2024, as presented. A second was provided by Commissioner Phillips, and the motion passed.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

**Fund Transaction Details**

Presented to the Board were 2023 transactions #2705 through #2727 and 2024 transactions #13 to #139. The 2023 transactions total \$48,292.86. General Fund \$48,012.14, Fire Training Center Operations Fund \$252.96, and MPD Fund \$27.76. The 2024 transactions total \$267,111.92. General Fund \$66,789.00; electronic fund transfers \$124,111.00; federal payroll tax payment \$45,997.96; retirement systems transfer \$27,461.13; WA Support Registry \$1,291.00; TCRA Fund \$1,206.57 and MPD Fund \$255.30. Commissioner Jenkins 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 Revenue and Expenditure Reports**

The budget revenue and expenditure reports were reviewed.

**REPORTS**

**Fire Chief**

- The first leadership and team building training was held last week with excellent attendance. A second session will take place this evening, followed by one every week for a total of five weeks.
- Labor negotiations ended on January 5, and both parties were pleased with the outcome.
- The recent cold weather has led to an increase in structure fires.

- Employment offers were made to the top four candidates on the Firefighter Eligibility List. On February 1, Tess Alder, Jennifer Browning, Zack Tamburello, and Kaven Tucksen will start full time.
- The Southeast Washington Special Operations Group (SEWSOG) formerly the Tri-County Hazardous Materials Response Group and fund have been hosted by the Fire District for 21 years. With the current administrative work load he recommends that the District provide 90 days' notice and allow another agency to take over hosting of the group. The Board was in favor of terminating the agreement.
- Next week is Legislative Day in Olympia, he plans to be there on Monday and Tuesday.

### **Deputy Chief**

Deputy Chief LoParco reported:

- He continues to work with Mobile Modular on a floor plan for the administrative office and hopes to get a price quote by the next meeting.
- Painting is underway on the first water tender refurbishment project.

### **Training**

Captain Nicholls reported:

- The Fire Training Center is planning a variety of upcoming hosted training opportunities.
- He attended a Tri-Tech Advisory meeting last week.
- He is part of the Type 3 IMT managing the Walla Walla line of duty funeral next week.
- The City of Kennewick is leading the bid process for the conversion of the training towers to propane, which has been a slow process. It is hoped that a project manager will be hired to oversee the project.

### **Labor**

Union President Bibe reported that a tentative agreement was reached during negotiations. They hope to have it approved by the end of next month after presenting it to the E-Board and to the rest of the body.

### **Maintenance**

Mechanic/Firefighter Ball reported that he is finishing up structure service and that Apparatus #119, Ford F250 has sold at auction in the amount of \$6,669.69.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Southeast WA Fire Commissioners Meeting**

Commissioner Carpenter announced that the next meeting of the Southeast WA Fire Commissioners will be held March 15 in Dayton. A discussion was held as to who planned on attending.

#### **Snure Seminar - Spokane**

Commissioner Carpenter shared that the WFCAs Spring Series for New and Experienced Commissioners, Chiefs and Secretaries is scheduled for March 2 in Spokane. A discussion was held as to who planned on attending.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comments were received from the public.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no executive session.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next Board of Commissioner meeting will be on Tuesday, February 6 at 4:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Approved by:

Submitted by:

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Scott E. Carpenter, Board Chair

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Lonnie E. Click, District Secretary