

BENTON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #1
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, July 2, 2024, 6:00 pm

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 6:00 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 LoParco, CEO Click, and Executive Director Ewing.

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 Jenkins made a motion and Commissioner Phillips seconded the motion to approve the regular minutes of June 18, 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Transaction Details

Presented to the Board were 2024 transactions #1316 to #1346. The transactions totaled \$47,840.79; General Fund \$34,599.47 and the Custodial Funds \$13,241.32. Commissioner Phillips made a motion to approve the vouchers. Commissioner Jenkins 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

Commissioners

Commissioner Carpenter reported that he attended the Southeast Washington Fire Commissioners Association (SEWFCA) meeting in Dayton, and he was very impressed with CEO Click's presentation about the Lineage Logistics Fire at the meeting.

Chief Executive Officer Click reported:

- He attended the SEWFCA meeting in Dayton and shared a presentation that he had prepared about the Lineage Logistics fire.
- There was a fire incident in Starbuck that resulted in a firefighter sustaining injuries and the loss of a fire truck. In response to the agency's urgent need, CEO Click

approached Chief LoParco to explore the possibility of selling the surplus fire truck to Columbia County Fire District.

- There is a lot going on at Walla Walla Fire District #4 and Franklin County Fire District #3. They both have levy lid lifts on the ballots and have been doing a lot of public education.
- His absence for the last board meeting was due to traveling to Oregon to pick up the new Type 5 engines.
- The new Can-Am is waiting for door skins and we were informed on July 1st that we are receiving a \$1,500 rebate. The rebate will be used to purchase other miscellaneous items needed.
- He was on vacation last week and attended the BCES meeting.
- The Red Mountain Motorola Tower is going up and is on schedule.

Training

Training Officer Nicholls reported:

- Preparations are underway for the testing of new applicants scheduled for July 20. A total of 24 new applicants will be evaluated.
- A schedule is being developed for the Fall recruit academy, and curriculum is being evaluated.
- On-boarding of seasonal firefighters.
- A significant number of Tri-Tech students will be participating in ride-alongs during the summer months. It is now a requirement of the program, and we will see many of them.
- He has been coordinating training on new apparatus (T5 engines and T1 engine).

Maintenance Department

FF/Mechanic Ball reported:

- He repaired the Can-Am ATV transmission.
- He is working on the type 5's to get them into service.

OLD BUSINESS

Columbia Basin Dive Rescue (CBDR) Building

Chief LoParco attended the CBDR Board meeting on June 19. During the meeting, the CBDR Board reached an agreement to sell the CBDR building located on Station 160's property to the Fire District for \$144,000. Chief LoParco informed the Board that Attorney Brian Snure has been tasked with drafting a Purchase Agreement for the sale.

Chief LoParco then requested authorization to execute the Purchase Agreement with CBDR. Commissioner Phillips made a motion to grant Chief LoParco this authority, which was seconded by Commissioner Jenkins. The motion was subsequently passed by the Board unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Budget Amendment

Executive Director of Business Operations Ewing presented Resolution No. 2024-11 amending the Capital Project Fund (Administrative Office Construction Fund) in the following manner:

402 CAPITAL PROJECT FUND	From	To
<i>Expenditures</i>		
594 22 62 50 – Admin Office Building Supplies	\$0	\$0
594 22 62 52 – Admin Office Contracted Services	\$0	\$1,088,504
594 22 62 51 – Arrowhead Bond Payoff	570,000	\$0
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$570,000</i>	<i>\$1,088,504</i>

Commissioner Jenkins made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2024-11; Budget Amendment as presented. Commissioner Phillips seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

Intern Agreement

An Intern Agreement for Seth Delgado was presented to the Board for review. Commissioner Phillips made a motion to approve the Intern Agreement as submitted. Commissioner Jenkins seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Employment Agreement

An Employment Agreement to appoint Ryan Nicholls to the position of Deputy Chief was presented to the Board for review. Commissioner Carpenter does not see the need to spend the extra money at this time and would like to wait until January. Commissioner Phillips made a motion to approve the Employment Agreement for Ryan Nicholls as Deputy Chief as of July 1, 2024, as submitted. Commissioner Jenkins seconded the motion and the motion passed. Commissioner Carpenter voted nay.

With the appointment of Ryan Nicholls as Deputy Chief, Chief LoParco approached the Board to request a decision regarding the proposed transfer of Captain Aaron Bibe into the Training Officer position effective as of July 1, 2024. Commissioner Carpenter does not see the need to spend the extra money for this transition at this time and would like to wait until January. Commissioner Phillips made a motion to support the appointment of Aaron Bibe as the Training Officer, effective July 1, 2024. Commissioner Jenkins seconded the motion and the motion passed. Commissioner Carpenter voted nay.

Temporary Employees

Fire Chief LoParco presented Temporary Employment Agreements for Travis Wakefield and Soren Baney to the Board for the wildland season positions effective as of July 1, 2024. Commissioner Jenkins made a motion to approve the Temporary Employment Agreements as submitted. Commissioner Phillips seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The next Board of Commissioner meeting is Tuesday, July 16 at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Approved by:

Submitted by:

Scott E. Carpenter, Board Chair

P. Scott LoParco, District Secretary