

BENTON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #1
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, April 21, 2026

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 videoconference at 6:03 p.m. at 144610 E. Law Lane, Suite D, Kennewick, Washington. In attendance at this meeting in-person were Commissioner Carpenter, Commissioner Jenkins, Commissioner Phillips, Chief LoParco, Deputy Chief Nicholls, Volunteer Battalion Chief Gutzmer, Captain Bibe, Mechanic/Firefighter Ball, Admin. Assist Misty Ferrell, Finance Manager Christie Brown, Sandi Quesenberry and Secretary/Attorney, Heidi Ellerd.

The District provided a link for interested parties to participate through Zoom. Station 120, Travis Wakefield, Teresa Alder and Kaven Tucksen attended via videoconference/telephone.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- A. Excess Apparatus and Equipment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Carpenter made a motion to approve the regular minutes of April 7, 2026 as submitted. Commissioner Phillips seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Carpenter made a motion to approve the regular minutes of March 17, 2026 as corrected. Commissioner Jenkins seconded the motion, the motion passed. Commissioner Phillips refrained from voting due to not being present at the last meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Excess Apparatus and Equipment – Chief discussed some excess apparatus and equipment that he would like to excess. Commissioner Jenkins made a motion to excess the following: #120 1998 Freightliner #1FV7MOY99YPPF57568, #128 1970 Lowboy #LBT1022, #130 1981 Onan Generator, #165 2005 ALF Type 1 #4Z3AADCY25RU48256, #166 2005 ALF Type 1 #4Z3AADCY85RU48259, #179 1978 Cat Dozer and #191 1998 Enclosed Trailer #1WC200G24W4033999, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Phillips and passed. Commissioner Carpenter voted against the motion.

CORRESPONDENCE

The correspondence received and sent was reviewed.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Expenditure Transaction Details

Presented to the Board were 2026 transactions #712 to #796, #799 to 802. The transactions totaled \$235,556.04. General Fund \$235,556.04.

Presented to the Board were 2026 transactions #766, 805 to #817, #819 to 855. The transactions totaled \$134,246.25. General Fund \$131,717.09, and Custodial Funds \$2,529.16.

Presented to the Board were 2026 transactions #797, 798, 803 and #804. The transactions totaled \$3,005.80. General Fund \$2,839.04, and Custodial Funds \$166.76.

Commissioner Carpenter made a motion to approve the vouchers. Commissioner Phillips seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Budget Revenue and Expenditure Report

The Board reviewed the Budget and Expenditure Report.

STAFF REPORTS

Fire Chief LoParco:

- A. Advised he met with the Fire Marshall regarding new construction and what he expects moving forward.
- B. Talked about the productive Staff meeting held on April 6, 2026.
- C. Advised that tender bids have been posted.
- D. Talked about the new employee to the District who will be starting June 1, 2026.
- E. Advised he is hoping he has located a company to do a strategic planning session for the District.

Training Officer Captain Bibe:

- A. Advised Wildland Training will start April 22, 2026, and last for a couple weeks.
- B. Advised he is still working on new software for the training platform.

Maintenance/Firefighter Ball:

- A. Type 1's are back in service at their stations.
- B. Type 3 sold at auction.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The next Board of Commissioner meeting will be on May 5, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
- Tomorrow is administrative professionals' day.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:29 p.m. the Chairman announced an executive session to last for 10 minutes to discuss with legal counsel representing the District litigation or potential litigation to which the District is, or may be, a party.

At 6:39 p.m. the open meeting was reconvened.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Approved by:


Commissioner

Submitted by:


Heidi Ellerd, District Secretary/Attorney