

BENTON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #1
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular meeting of October 4, 2022.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Couch called the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of Benton County Fire District No. 1 to order at 4:00 p.m. at 1811 A S. Ely Street in Kennewick, Washington and via Zoom video-conference. In attendance at this meeting were Commissioner Carpenter, Commissioner Couch, Commissioner Jenkins, 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 made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2022, and September 20, 2022, as submitted. Commissioner Couch seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Transaction Details

Presented to the Board were 2022 transactions #1980 through #2011. The transactions total \$61,881.88. General Fund \$39,185.39; Hazmat Fund \$4,081.10, Fire Training Center Operations Fund \$1,056.14; Training Academy Fund \$353.07 and SCBA Fund \$17,206.18. Commissioner Carpenter made a motion to approve the vouchers. Commissioner Couch 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. Items discussed were sharing of training videos and what platform would work best, the councils 2023 training needs assessment and grant agreement have been turned into the Southwest Regional EMS Council, the WEMIS Data Submission Report Q2 2022 went out the second week of June, and the need to update the MCI Plan.

Fire Chief

Chief Click reported:

- Wildfire season is not over yet! On September 22, the District responded to a brush fire near the interchange of Interstate 82 and Highway 395. On October 2, crews responded to a Natural Cover Fire in the area of Olympia and SR 397.
- He attended multiple meetings over the past few weeks; PNWCG, Fire Defense Committee, and Legislative Committee.
- He attended the BCES Strategic Advisory Committee meeting last week. A significant discussion was held regarding the proposed 2023 BCES Budget. SECOMM is currently 18 positions short, yet they have requested to increase the salary line item by \$750,000. The Fire Districts are seeking to open the Interlocal Agreement and modify how fees are assessed. In general, 70-80% of dispatching services are provided to law enforcement agencies. Of the remaining 20-30%, 70% are provided to City agencies, and the remainder to Fire Districts.
- He met with Knutzen Engineering to discuss the feasibility of converting Station 160 from living quarters back to administrative offices and what code requirements may apply. As long as everything is in order, the next step will be the architect hiring process.

Deputy Chief

Deputy Chief LoParco reported:

- The new Confined Space Tripod Rescue System has been purchased and crews are in the process of being trained on the equipment.
- The air bag kits that were purchased from an Agrium and Williams Pipeline donation have been placed in service.
- He and Mechanic/Firefighter Ball traveled to Yakima with a water tender last week to meet and discuss the refurbish process with a potential vendor. He and Procurement and Administrative Coordinator Ewing are also researching possible State/Federal contracts available for the refurbish project.

Training

Captain Nicholls reported:

- The Recruit Academy is going well. The second hands-on training day was held on Saturday.
- The Fire Training Center has events scheduled every weekend throughout the end of this year.
- The Tri-Tech program is going well, and Firefighter Allington is getting familiarized with his position at Benton One.
- He is leaving tomorrow for a fire mobilization. He has been assigned to the Bolt Creek fire in Skykomish, WA.

Maintenance

Mechanic/Firefighter Ball reported that water tender service will begin next week.

OLD BUSINESS

Temporary Hire

Chief Click reported that the individual hired temporarily will continue through October. District Policy and the Non-Union Affiliated Employee Handbook states that temporary positions will not exceed six months in duration. The Department of Retirement Systems considers a position permanent if the position requires at least 5 months of 70 or more hours of work per month for two consecutive years.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The next Board of Commissioner meeting will be on October 18, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.