

BENTON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #1
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular meeting of October 6, 2020.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Morris called the virtual regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of Benton County Fire District No. 1 to order at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom video-conference. In attendance at this meeting were Commissioner Christenson, Commissioner Morris, Fire Chief/District Secretary Click, Deputy Chief LoParco, and Executive Director Paden-Lilly. Commissioner Jenkins was excused.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED LOG

The correspondence received log was reviewed.

CORRESPONDENCE SENT

The correspondence sent was reviewed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Christenson made a motion to approve the September 16, 2020, minutes as submitted. Commissioner Morris seconded the motion and the motion passed.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Transaction Details

Presented to the Board were 2020 transactions #1854 through #1923. The transactions total \$136,606.19. General Fund \$109,551.64; Fire Training Center Operations Fund \$1,000.25; Training Academy Fund \$881.50; SCBA Fund \$354.88; and Bond Project Fund \$24,817.92. Commissioner Christenson made a motion to approve the vouchers. Commissioner Morris 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.

REPORTS

Commissioners

- Commissioner Christenson reported that the Hazmat Board is still waiting for the Attorney to review the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporations in preparation of the implementing the Quad-County Special Operations response model. The Cities of Kennewick and Richland will be meeting with their Unions regarding the change in response model.

Fire Chief

- Chief Click reported that he's currently out of the office on vacation through October 18.

Deputy Fire Chief

- Deputy Chief LoParco reported that an engine crew has been assisting with the California fires since September 23. The crew includes; Lieutenant Ryan Chambers, Firefighter Danielle Gore, Lieutenant Brian Nance, Captain Nicholls, Ivan Zuniga, and Jeff Varzende.

The crew started in Bakersfield and are assigned to the Zogg Fire in Redding. They have been requested to extend for an additional 14 days, so Deputy Chief LoParco is working on switching out crew members that are unable to commit to the extension, as well as making sure staffing is covered adequately for the Fire District.

Training

- Captain Nicholls reported that the California assignment is going well. There have been a few minor apparatus maintenance issues that have been taken care of.
- He is trying to keep up on emails and online training for members while he is on assignment.
- The Resident Program is at 100% plus capacity with a total of 16.

Maintenance Department

- Maintenance Supervisor Schoenwald reported that work is slowly progressing on the new engine installation on E1126 (Westmark).
- Currently working on regularly scheduled apparatus maintenance.

Other

- An emergency repair was made at the Arrowhead Building due to an HVAC issue in one of the tenant offices.

OLD BUSINESS

Apparatus and Facility Bond Project

Facility Project

Chief Click reported that the Engineering Firm has submitted a septic system design to the Health Department, and we are waiting to hear back from them to move forward with the repairs. He and Deputy Chief LoParco continue to meet with Design West Architects every other week. Commissioner Christenson questioned whether a ventilation assessment has been done on the existing structure. Chief Click reported that there are currently no funds available in the current budget to modify the existing ventilation system, however, he and Deputy Chief LoParco continue to research ventilation options that can help to prevent the spread of COVID. Chief Click will request that the architects add the ventilation upgrade as an option, should funds become available as the project gets going.

Apparatus Project

The ladder truck is still on track for delivery in 2021.

COVID-19 Impacts

- Deputy Chief LoParco reported that operations continue to be the same for COVID-19 safety. An employee developed a fever today and was sent in for testing. The rapid test was negative and has been sent on for further laboratory testing. The employee will quarantine until the second test is received. The station has been deconned and necessary precautions have been made to prevent potential exposure.
- Commissioner Christenson mentioned that a new testing site has opened in Pasco and is expected to double the availability of free COVID tests, even for those who are asymptomatic to better prevent the spread of the virus.

Arrowhead Facility/Admin Office Relocation

The realtor has received interest in the Arrowhead Facility and has a walk through scheduled this week with a prospective buyer.

The Station 170 administrative office property is complete and ready for the staff to move in once the septic system is operational. Meanwhile, the office staff continues to work out of Station 140.

NEW BUSINESS

Resident Firefighter Agreement

Resident Firefighter Agreements for Jorge Guerrero, Ariel Morfin, Gavin Reid, and Brandon Siegel were presented to the Board for review. Commissioner Morris made a motion to approve the four volunteer member applications. Commissioner Christenson seconded the motion and the motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The next Board of Commissioner meeting will be on October 20 via Zoom.
- The next Hazmat Board meeting will be on October 21 via Zoom.
- The Washington State Legislative leadership authorized an extension to the proclamation prohibiting in person Board of Commissioner meetings through November 9, 2020, for counties in Phase 1 and Phase 2.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 4:38 p.m.