

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BLACK FOREST FIRE/RESCUE PROTECTION DISTRICT

The Board of Directors of the Black Forest Fire/Rescue Protection District held a regular board meeting on May 19, 2021, such meeting duly posted for public notice.

A quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m. by Vice Chair Dowden.

Directors present: N. Dowden/J. Hinton/D. Hoffpauir

Directors absent: R. Nearhoof/J. Abendschan

Also present: Chief Langmaid/Chief Rebitski/D. Arkowski/fire department personnel/Community Members

Roll Call: Two directors were absent; **A motion was made and seconded to excuse the absences of Directors Nearhoof and Abendschan; the motion carried unanimously.**

Minutes **A motion was made and seconded to approve the board meeting minutes for the April 21, 2021 regular board meeting; upon a vote, the motion was carried unanimously.**

Financial Reports Treasurer Hinton reported there are total assets of \$2,430,384, with reserves funded. Overtime expense continues to be over budget; the newly hired administrative officer has decided to take a job elsewhere; other employees have separated from the department and hiring of replacements is underway; the budget is doing well. **A motion was made and seconded to approve the financial report; the motion carried unanimously.**

Chief's Report Given by Chief Langmaid. A written report was prepared by Chief Langmaid and sent to all directors. A copy is attached to the minutes.

Administrative:

- Personnel – Six new hires in April with employee retention a constant focus as the District faces workforce issues seen across the nation.
- Finance – A CPA firm has been engaged to ensure continuity of financial operations.

Logistics:

- Fleet – SVI has not provided final numbers for the chassis and 4x4 issues. The search for a buyer of this vehicle continues.
- Pierce contract in progress.
- Facilities – Flooding repairs at Station 2 pending.

Operations:

- Standard Operating Guidelines are being issued and the pre-plan for Edith Wolford Elementary School is complete.
- Station 2 was closed for 12 hours on April 26th.
- BFFR assisted with a major structure fire with TLMFPD and DWFPD, with outstanding cooperation and tactical operations among the three departments.
- Training – Captain Piepenburg is due significant recognition for successfully directing a professional career lateral firefighter academy. The three-week training provided excellent team building for the six new hires.

Planning

- Alternative means and methods are being used to meet safety requirements that involve NFPA standards and rural water supply and sprinklers. In addition, the developer of the commercial entity will have their plans stamped by a fire protection engineer.
- BFFR is waiting for a joint plan from the City Attorney for exclusion of BFFR properties in the southern area of the District. Another property north of the District has asked for inclusion into BFFR.
- DWFPD and TLMFPD are discussing unification.

Other Treasurer Hinton reported that he and Chief Langmaid were visited by County Commissioner Holly Williams to discuss the needs of the District, such as lack of water supply and difficult logistics of moving water by tanker within the District. Ms. Williams has met with other fire departments in County District 1 to address similar matters. She did not discuss impact fees, but did cover dual taxation and annexation of BFFR property into the City. She also stated that El Paso County will be receiving \$140 million in federal aid. The Northern Delivery System was addressed, that centers on a

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water system along Highway 83 in the northern part of the County. The prospect of using underground cisterns for storing water was reviewed as well. Other items that were considered were use of water hydrants owned by Cherokee Water, the County Master Plan, development of Flying Horse North and its water needs, the need for a water authority board, and the anticipated loss of tax revenues by the BFFR District as annexation proceeds and the concomitant reduction in service levels by the District.

Old Business None.

New Business None.

Reports on Workshops and Meetings None.

Correspondence The Wedgewood Event Center thanked the District for holding their awards dinner there.

Public Comments Linda Smith asked if BFFR would host an open house in July. It was noted this would be costly for the District as there no longer are volunteers available to handle such events, and it would require overtime wages paid to staff members.

Future Meetings The next regular meeting will be June 16, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment There being no further business, **and upon motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously carried,** the board adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Arkowski, Secretary