

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 April 21, 2021, such meeting duly posted for public notice.

A quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Nearhoof.

Directors present: R. Nearhoof/N. Dowden/J. Hinton/D. Hoffpauir/J. Abendschan

Directors absent: None

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

Roll Call: All directors were present.

Minutes A motion was made and seconded to approve the board meeting minutes for the March 23, 2021 regular board meeting; upon a vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

Financial Reports Treasurer Hinton reported there are total assets of \$2,083,665, with reserves funded. Overtime expense is over budget because six employees have left the District since January 1st for career changes, and backfilling was required to fill shift vacancies. Six new employees have been hired to replace those who quit. The mental health line item is over budget due in part to the awards dinner. **A motion was made and seconded to approve the financial report; the motion carried unanimously.**

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

Administrative:

- Personnel – Interviews and testing of 18 potential employees, with six new hires chosen. They will begin April 26 in a three-week mini-academy. Staffing will be impacted during this period.

Logistics:

- Fleet – SVI offered suggestions for pump engagement issue and declared vehicle functional.
- Pierce contract in progress.
- Facilities – Station 2 had a water leak and resulting flooding. Insurance and mitigation assistance was required.

Operations:

- 87 calls in last month.
- Training – Primarily driver and medical training.

Planning

- Working on variances for commercial properties, with sprinklers a possible remedy.
- FHN can provide a fire hydrant within 1000' of their temporary clubhouse. The permanent clubhouse will need further review. A CO will not be issued until the hydrant is tested and approved by BFFD.
- Re exclusion project, discussions are in progress. More information will be presented at the May board meeting.

Apparatus Discussion The new fire apparatus will be purchased in a piggy-back arrangement with the Columbia, SC fire department at a cost of \$651,554, minus a possible \$19,500 as a pre-payment deduction. Fire fighter Brandon Jones and his team prepared the RFP for the truck, utilizing the piggy-back scheme to keep the final cost at an affordable level for the BFFD. The truck will be two-wheel drive, 1500 gpm pump, 750-gallon tank, with specifications meeting all DOT and NFPA requirements. Treasurer Hinton advised that the First National Bank in Monument can provide a minimum 3.5 percent interest rate, dependent upon what the Treasury rate is on the day of delivery of the apparatus. **A motion was duly made to approve the purchase of the vehicle as described, with a loan of \$651,554 from First National Bank for a period of ten years, at 3.5 percent interest minimum based on the Treasury rate on the day of delivery of the apparatus, with no pre-payment option; the motion was seconded; in a vote, the motion was carried unanimously.** Firefighter Brandon Jones and his team were praised for excellent work preparing the proposal for this vehicle purchase.

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Regarding the SVI truck, SVI believes the problem is due to the four-wheel drive and mechanisms in the transfer case and have offered a possible fix for the problem. This has been tested and the pump has been working as desired. SVI may be able to replace the 4-wheel drive with 2-wheel, and sell the 4-wheel drive chassis. The BFFD will not break even, but the cost will not be as prohibitive as once thought. This is a complicated job and will require 30 to 45 days. Such a reconfiguration would lower the hose bed about 8.5 inches, which would be safer. If SVI is not able to sell the 4-wheel drive chassis, BFFD assumes the financial risk and may not be able to unload this equipment. The cost of such a venture and the time required is unknown and the Board agreed to delay further discussion until the May Board meeting when Chief Langmaid will be able to provide details.

Old Business A certified letter was sent March 31 to Richard Painter from Chair Nearhoof, regarding the cell tower placement dispute, notifying Mr. Painter that this matter is closed. No reply has been received from Mr. Painter.

New Business New position of Administrative Officer is the combining of three other positions into one, with a realignment of duties. Accordingly, the new position will pay more than the previous position of Administrative Assistant.

Reports on Workshops and Meetings None.

Correspondence None.

Public Comments Linda Smith noted that former BFFD Director Jayme McConnellogue is to be congratulated on her position of Deputy Chief of the CSFD.

Future Meetings The next regular meeting will be May 19, 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 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Arkowski, Secretary