
**BIG BEAR FIRE AUTHORITY
MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF
AUGUST 4, 2020**

A Regular Meeting of the Big Bear Fire Authority was called to order by Chairman Green at 4:08 p.m., Tuesday, August 4 2020, via Teleconference pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20.

OPEN SESSION

Moment of Silence: Observed

Board Members Present: Chairman John Green
Vice Chairman David Caretto
Director Bob Jackowski
Director Bill Jahn
Director Rick Herrick
Director Karyn Oxandaboure
Director Randall Putz
Director John Russo
Director Larry Walsh
Director Al Ziegler

Board Members Absent: None

Others Present: Jeff Willis, Fire Chief
Mike Maltby, Assistant Chief/Fire Marshal
Dawn Marschinke, Board Secretary
Kristin Mandolini, Senior Finance Officer
Authority Counsel, Joseph Sanchez

CLOSED SESSION PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

None

At the hour of 4:09, p.m., the Board adjourned to Closed Session.

CLOSED SESSION

- 1. Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Government Code §54957)**
Title: Fire Chief

3. Recognition of Service/Retirement

- Paid Call Battalion Chief Larry Winslow

Speaker: Chief Willis

EMAILED PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

None

DIRECTORS' GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice Chairman Caretto asked staff to issue a press release or some form of information for the public to know about the Department recognitions since most of those being recognized were not at this meeting.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CHIEF'S REPORT

None

FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT

None

CONSENT CALENDAR

- FA1. Approval of Demands – Check Issue Date 05/01/20 through 06/30/20 in the amount of \$1,684,778.47**
- FA2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from the June 2, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Big Bear Fire Authority**
- FA3. Approval of Meeting Minutes from the July 7, 2020 Special Meeting of the Big Bear Fire Authority**
- FA4. Receive and File Big Bear Fire Department Monthly Activity Reports for May and June, 2020**

Action: Motion by Director Jahn, seconded by Vice Chairman Caretto to approve the the Consent Calendar as follows:

AYES: Ziegler, Caretto, Herrick, Jackowski, Jahn, Oxandaboure, Putz,
Russo, Walsh, and Green
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR

None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Consistent with Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20, any person can be heard regarding any item in the following manner: members of the public may submit comments via email to publicmeetingcomments@bigbearfire.org on or before Monday, August 3, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. Please limit comments to 300 words or less. If your comment is related to a specific Agenda item, please identify the Agenda item in the subject of your email.

FA5. Adoption of the 2019 Edition of the California Fire Code with Amendments, Including Penalties, and the 2019 Edition of the California Residential Code, with Amendments

Board consideration of conducting a Public Hearing and waiving the second reading to adopt Ordinance No. BBFA2020-001.

Speaker: Jeff Willis, Fire Chief, and Mike Maltby, Assistant Chief

Motion by Vice Chairman Caretto; seconded by Director Putz, to conduct a public hearing, waive the second reading and adopt ordinance BBFA2020-001 entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. BBFA2020-001

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BIG BEAR FIRE AUTHORITY, A CALIFORNIA JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY, ADOPTING THE 2019 EDITION OF THE CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE AND THE 2019 EDITION OF THE CALIFORNIA RESIDENTIAL CODE, ALONG WITH CERTAIN CHANGES, MODIFICATIONS, AMENDMENTS, ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, AND EXCEPTIONS THERETO

Staff responded to questions from board members. Board members provided comment.

Action: At the hour of 5:21 p.m., Chairman Green opened the public hearing. Hearing no public comment, at the hour of 5:21, Chairman Green closed the public hearing.

Action: Motion was approved by the following vote:

| | |
|----------|---|
| AYES: | Walsh, Ziegler, Caretto, Herrick, Jackowski, Jahn, Oxandaboure, Putz, Russo, and Green |
| NOES: | None |
| ABSENT: | None |
| ABSTAIN: | None |

NEW BUSINESS

BIG BEAR FIRE AUTHORITY DISCUSSION ITEMS

FA6. Introduction of Ordinance BBFA2020-002 Authorizing Ambulance Service Fee Increase to be Considered for Adoption at a Public Hearing on October 6, 2020

Board consideration of introducing proposed ordinance BBFA2020-002 that increases Ambulance Service Fees for Big Bear Fire Authority, waiving the full reading and introduce by reading title only.

Speaker: Kristin Mandolini, Senior Finance Officer

Action: Motion by Director Oxandaboure; seconded by Director Ziegler to introduce and waive first reading and pass to public hearing and second reading at the August 4, 2020 meeting an ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. BBFA2020-002

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
BIG BEAR FIRE AUTHORITY, A CALIFORNIA JOINT
POWERS AUTHORITY, INCREASING AMBULANCE
SERVICE FEES

Staff responded to questions from board members. Board members provided comment.

Chairman Green asked that when this item comes back in October for the 2nd Reading, that Staff has information on how much is our cost increasing vs. what the rate increase is that is being asked for.

Said motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Russo, Walsh, Ziegler, Caretto, Jackowski, Jahn, Oxandaboure,
Putz, and Green
NOES: Herrick
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

FA7. Fleet Replacement and Acquisition

Board consideration of approving a fleet replacement schedule and corresponding three-year acquisition purchase plan that includes use of fund balance for lower cost vehicles and debt financing for larger expensive apparatus. Authorize staff to complete cost and specification for type one structure engine. Approve a budget adjustment to the FY 2020-21 Big Bear Fire Authority Operating Budget.

Speaker: Jeff Willis, Fire Chief and Kristin Mandolini, Senior Finance Officer

Staff responded to questions from board members. Board members provided comment.

The Board directed the Administrative Committee to convene to consider plans to replenish Reserves for equipment and fiscally depreciating equipment.

Action: Motion by Director Putz; seconded by Director Herrick approving the Administrative Committee and staff recommendation by the following vote:

AYES: Putz, Russo, Ziegler, Caretto, Herrick, Jackowski, Jahn,
Oxandaboure, and Green
NOES: Walsh
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

FA8. Approval of Amendment No. 3 to Fire Chief Employment Agreement

Board consideration to authorize the Chairman of the Board to execute, Amendment No. 3 to the Fire Chief Employment Agreement that extends the Fire Chief's contract through June 26, 2022.

Speaker: John Green, Chairman

Staff responded to questions from board members. Board members provided comment.

Action: Motion by Vice Chairman Caretto; seconded by Director Oxandaboure approving Amendment No. 3 to the Fire Chief employment agreement by the following vote:

AYES: Oxandaboure, Putz, Ziegler, Caretto, Herrick, Jahn, Green
NOES: Russo, Walsh, and Jackowski
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Fire Authority Administrative Committee Meetings were held on June 23 and July 28, 2020 represented by Chairman Green, Vice Chairman Caretto, Director Herrick, and Director Ziegler.

DIRECTORS' CLOSING COMMENTS

Chairman Green commented that he hopes all firefighters come home safe from the Apple fire and wants the fire under control soon.

Director Putz thanked everyone from the Administrative Committee and the Ad Hoc Committee. There is a lot of heavy lifting that goes on at those Committee meetings and he wants to thank everyone who worked hard at those meetings.

Director Ziegler agreed with Director Putz.

Director Herrick commented that in all the years he has lived in Big Bear, he has never seen anything like the smoke cloud from the Apple Fire that came up behind Snow Summit. It shows that we need to be so careful, especially when a fire starts at a lower elevation in flashy fuels and how quickly it can move up into homes.

Director Ziegler said this valley is loaded with people right now and we need to be concerned with how we would get the people out of this valley if we had to.

Chairman Green stated that the illegal campfires in the forest are out of control and someone needs to shut that down.

Director Herrick said that he observed someone on the beach with a barbeque or a small fire on the beach amongst the bushes. He call the Sheriff's Department to report, but it was not as effective as he hoped it would be getting information to the right people. He was not sure the fire department ever got the information. He wondered if there was a way to improve the system to be more efficient in getting responses out to these types of calls.

Chief Willis commented that the Department has seen a considerable uptick in open and abandoned fires and is working with the Forest Service. A lot of it is happening in the forest.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Fire Authority at this session, Chairman Green adjourned the meeting at 6:18 p.m.


Dawn E. Marschinke
Dawn E. Marschinke, Board Secretary

APPROVED AT THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 6, 2020