
**BIG BEAR FIRE AUTHORITY
MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF
AUGUST 6, 2019**

A Regular Meeting of the Big Bear Fire Authority was called to order by Chairman Jahn at 5:00 p.m., on Tuesday, August 6, 2019, at 41090 Big Bear Boulevard, Big Bear Lake, California.

OPEN SESSION

Moment of Silence: Observed

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Director Herrick

Board Members Present: Chairman Bill Jahn
Vice Chairman John Green
Director David Caretto (arrived at 5:19 p.m.)
Director Rick Herrick
Director Bob Jackowski
Director Karyn Oxandaboure
Director John Russo
Director Randall Putz
Director Larry Walsh (arrived at 5:19 p.m.)
Director Al Ziegler

Board Members Absent: None

Others Present: Jeff Willis, Fire Chief
Mike Maltby, Assistant Chief
Kristin Mandolini, Senior Finance Officer
Dawn Marschinke, Board Secretary

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Big Bear Professional Firefighters' Association is participating in their annual softball tournament on September 7, 2019. Our firefighters will be competing against Murrieta Fire, Apple Valley Fire, Redlands Fire and our local Sheriff's office. The tournament begins at 9:00 a.m. at Meadow Park.

Big Bear Professional Firefighters' Association is hosting their annual golf tournament "Sink Some for Charity" on September 8, 2019, with a 9 a.m. Shotgun start at Bear Mountain Golf Course.

The Fire Authority's Administrative Office will be closed:

CONSENT CALENDAR

FA1. Approval of Demands – Check Issue Date 05/01/19 through 06/30/19 in the amount of \$2,726,319.85

FA2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from the June 4, 2019 Regular Meeting of Big Bear Fire Authority

Action: Minutes are approved as corrected, under Item No. FA11, 5.5% is corrected to 5.5 cents.

FA3. Approval of Meeting Minutes from the June 18, 2019 Special Meeting of Big Bear Fire Authority

FA4. Receive and File Big Bear Fire Department Monthly Activity Reports for May and June 2019

FA5. Ceremonial Recognition and Proclamations

Board consideration of approving Board Policy 2019-01 Ceremonial Recognition and Proclamations.

FA6. Employer-Employee Organization Relations Resolution

Board consideration of approving Resolution BBFA2019-004 adopting rules and regulations that formalize employer-employee organization relations, entitled.

RESOLUTION NO. BBFA2019-004

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BIG BEAR FIRE AUTHORITY, A CALIFORNIA JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY, COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, RELATING TO EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION RELATIONS

Action: Motion by Director Putz, seconded by Director Herrick to approve the Consent Calendar as follows:

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

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR

None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Any person may appear and be heard in support or opposition to the proposals at the time of the meeting. If you challenge the action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues which you or someone else raised at the public meeting described in the notice or in written correspondence delivered to the Fire Authority at or before the public meeting.

FA7. Public Hearing of Proposed Ordinance BBFA2019-001 Authorizing Establishment and Adoption of Ambulance Service Fees

Board consideration of conducting a Public Hearing to adopt Ordinance No. BBFA2019-001 that increases an Ambulance Service Fee schedule for Big Bear Fire Authority based on rates set by Inland Counties Emergency Medical Authority.

Speaker: Kristin Mandolini, Senior Finance Officer

Action: At the hour of 5:40 p.m., Chairman Jahn opened the public hearing. Hearing no public comment, at the hour of 5:40 p.m., Chairman Jahn closed the public hearing.

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

Action: Motion by Director Caretto, seconded by Director Walsh, to approve staff recommendation to read the title, waiving second reading and adopt Ordinance No. BBFA2019-001, entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. BBFA2019-001

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

Board Secretary Marschinke read the title of the ordinance.

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

ABSTAIN: None

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

FA8. Approval of Resolution Adopting Local Goals and Policies to Implement a Community Facilities District

Board consideration of approving Resolution No. BBFA2019-005 adopting Local Goals and Policies for the Implementation of the Mello-Roos Community Facilities act of 1982.

Speaker: Jeff Willis, Fire Chief
Lutfi Kharuf, Legal Counsel, Best Best & Krieger
Andrea Roess, Managing Director, DTA

Staff, Legal Counsel Lutfi Kharuf, and Consultant Andrea Roess responded to questions from board members. Board members provided comment.

Members of the public spoke regarding the proposed Community Facilities District.

- Joe Kelly, Big Bear City opposed this measure being on the ballot as it is now. Opposed to a Mello-Roos tax.
- Annette Karnes, Big Bear Lake stated that \$.67 per square foot sounds high for new development. This is a deterrent for development. \$78 per bedroom seems high for vacation rentals. She is concerned about properties going under ground because they don't want to pay fees.

Action: Motion by Director Caretto, seconded by Director Walsh to approve Resolution No. BBFA2019-005, entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. BBFA2019-005

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BIG BEAR FIRE AUTHORITY, A CALIFORNIA JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY, ADOPTING LOCAL GOALS AND POLICIES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MELLO-ROOS COMMUNITY FACILITIES ACT OF 1982, AS AMENDED

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

ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

FA9. Resolution Declaring Intention to Form a Community Facilities District

Board consideration of adopting Resolution No. BBFA2019-006 declaring its intention to establish the Big Bear Fire Authority Community Facilities District No. 2019-1 to authorize the levy of special taxes to finance fire suppression and, emergency medical services for the Big Bear Fire Authority.

Speakers: Lutfi Kharuf, Legal Counsel, Best Best & Krieger
Andrea Roess, Managing Director, DTA

At the hour of 6:35 p.m. Director Russo left the meeting and returned at 6:36 p.m.

Staff, Legal Counsel Lutfi Kharuf, and Consultant Andrea Roess responded to questions from board members. Board members provided comment.

At the hour of 6:59 p.m. Director Putz left the meeting and returned at 7:00 p.m.

Members of the public spoke regarding the proposed Community Facilities District.

- Joe Kelly, Big Bear City stated there is no guarantee that if the CFD is approved that the proposed TOT within the City of Big Bear Lake will pass. What is the dollar amount to qualify for exemptions for low-income seniors and disabled persons. There is a parcel tax on every parcel in Big Bear City of \$157 for the fire department. There is also a property tax. This is triple taxation.
 - Director Green provided the low-income qualifying numbers.
- Edward Stanik, Big Bear City questioned what is the Fire Authority's Mission Statement, couldn't find it anywhere. What is the cost of the Fire Authority per person per year in the Big Bear Valley?

Action: Staff will provide speaker Edward Stanik with the answer to his question, "What is the cost of the Fire Authority per person per year in the Big Bear Valley?"

Director Walsh commented that the form on the RMA to apply for the low-income exemptions in Section 2, should indicate that the person applying for exemption is at or below the very low-income threshold. It currently only stipulates "low-income."

Action: Staff will adjust the language as stated to “very low-income.”

Action: Motion by Vice Chairman Green, seconded by Director Caretto to approve Resolution No. BBFA2019-006, entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. BBFA2019-006

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BIG BEAR FIRE AUTHORITY, A CALIFORNIA JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY, DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO ESTABLISH THE BIG BEAR FIRE AUTHORITY COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 2019-1 (BBFA FIRE PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY SERVICES), AND TO AUTHORIZE THE LEVY OF SPECIAL TAXES THEREIN TO FINANCE FIRE PROTECTION AND SUPPRESSION AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

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

FA10. Transient Occupancy Tax Discussions with the City of Big Bear Lake and San Bernardino County

Board consideration of authorizing the Fire Chief to begin earnest discussion with the Big Bear Lake City Manager and the San Bernardino County CEO and the respective councils and boards regarding TOT pass-through to partially fund Fire Authority services that are provided to visitors.

Speaker: Jeff Willis, Fire Chief

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

A member of the public spoke regarding the proposed Community Facilities District relative to a Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT).

Action: Motion by Director Herrick, seconded by Director Walsh to approve staff recommendation.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A Fire Authority Administrative Committee meeting was held on June 19, 2019, represented by Vice Chairman Green, Director Caretto, Director Herrick and Director Ziegler.

Director Herrick reported that the Administrative Committee meeting was accurately reported in the meeting notes.

DIRECTORS' CLOSING COMMENTS

Director Putz encourages anyone in the public who has questions, to contact the Board's Directors or the Fire Chief to get a clear understanding. These are complicated issues and it takes some effort to understand them. There have been some questions tonight that would seem people are mis-informed. There is an opportunity for the public to understand the details.

Director Ziegler fully agrees with Director Putz.

Director Walsh commented that his party affiliation is irrelevant but his is conservative to the point that he wants the public to have the opportunity to have a say.

Director Caretto reported that he attended the California Joint Powers Authority (CJPIA) Annual Meeting on July 17, 2019, representing the Fire Authority, the City of Big Bear Lake and Mountain Transit Agency. The incumbents running for the Executive Board were re-elected. This is not unusual, but one candidate did run opposed. We benefit because one of the council persons on the Board is from Grand Terrace in the Inland Empire. This gives us some input. There were Bylaw's amendments and Joint Powers Agreement amendments, primarily to add a Risk Manager's Committee. They also adopted Bylaw changes that are best practices in accordance with the California Joint Powers Association. There are now 165 members. West Hollywood has been added back. They've added a liability program that makes it more attractive for independent cities like West Hollywood.

Vice Chairman Green asked the Fire Chief if he would be having more meetings in the community for the public to come for updates and ask questions. And, will these be posted on the Department's website? He also commented that he put in an application to be on the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) Board. He filed all the paperwork, but there was a mistake on CSDA's part and did not put his name on the ballot. By the time they figured it out,

it was too late to put his name on the ballot. It is important that we, at the local level have representation. They work a lot on legislation as well. He would have liked to have done that.

Chairman Jahn thanked the Ad Hoc Committee for all the work they have done. He also re-emphasized Director Putz' comment stating that we are not at the end of the tunnel, but we are beginning to see the light.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Fire Authority at this session, Chairman Jahn adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.


Dawn E. Marschinke
Dawn E. Marschinke, Board Secretary

APPROVED AT THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 1, 2019