
**BIG BEAR FIRE AUTHORITY
MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF
October 24, 2017**

A Regular Meeting of the Big Bear Fire Authority was called to order by Chairman Putz at 4:30 p.m., and adjourned to Closed Session on Tuesday, October 24, 2017, at 39707 Big Bear Boulevard, Big Bear Lake, California.

PUBLIC FORMUM FOR CLOSED SESSION

None.

At the hour of 5:45, p.m., Board adjourned Closed Session.

OPEN SESSION

The Regular Meeting of the Big Bear Fire Authority was called to order by Chairman Putz at 6:03 p.m.

Moment of Silence:	Observed
Pledge of Allegiance:	Led by Director Walsh
Board Members Present:	Chairman Randall Putz Vice Chairman John Green Director David Caretto Director Rick Herrick Director Bob Jackowski Director John Russo Director Larry Walsh Director Al Ziegler
Board Members Excused:	Director Bill Jahn Director Karyn Oxandaboure
Board Members Absent:	None
Others Present:	Jeff Willis, Fire Chief Mike Maltby, Assistant Chief/Fire Marshal Shirley Holt, Senior Finance Officer Dawn Marschinke, Board Secretary

RESULTS OF CLOSED SESSION:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – Anticipated Litigation
Exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9
Number of cases: 1

No reportable action.

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957
Title of Position: Fire Chief

No reportable action.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

In support of Breast Cancer Awareness month, Big Bear Professional Firefighters' Local 935 is hosting Stachtober at Oakside Restaurant, 40701 Village Dr., on October 26th at 6:30 p.m. This fundraiser benefits Soroptimist International of Big Bear Valley's Mammogram program.

The Fire Authority's Administrative Office will be closed:

- Friday, November 10, 2017 in observance of Veteran's Day and will re-open on Monday, November 13, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.
- Thursday and Friday, November 23 and 24, 2017 in observance of Thanksgiving and will re-open on Monday, November 27, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.

PRESENTATIONS

- Presentation of Resolution by Field Representative Joshua Monzon, from the Office of State Senator Mike Morrell establishing First Responders' Day
- Chief Willis recognized the promotions of the following personnel:
 - Norman Dykesten, from Fire Engineer/Paramedic to Fire Captain/Paramedic
 - William Schlosser, from Firefighter/Paramedic to Fire Engineer/Paramedic
 - Shawn Sutherland, from Apprentice Firefighter/EMT to Firefighter/Paramedic
 - Jacob Torres, from Apprentice Firefighter/Paramedic to Firefighter/Paramedic
- Chief Willis recognized the Department's outstanding performance in the Wellness/Fitness Program. The following employees received plaques in recognition of the accomplishments at this meeting:
 - Josh Mandolini, Fire Captain/Paramedic
 - Jake Torres, Firefighter/Paramedic
 - Jim McDaniel, Fire Engineer/Paramedic

- Robert Sandin, Firefighter/Paramedic

Not present at the meeting to receive their plaques, but also recognized were:

- Luke Wagner, Fire Captain/Paramedic
- Matt Sheehan, Firefighter/Paramedic
- Bobby Whitmore, Fire Engineer/Paramedic
- Jon Bidwell, Fire Engineer/Paramedic
- Kevin Cole, Firefighter/Paramedic
- Brandon Medeck, Firefighter/Paramedic
- Ross Winfield, Apprentice Firefighter/EMT
- Dylan Unger, Apprentice Firefighter/EMT
- Casey Williams, Apprentice Firefighter/EMT

DIRECTORS' GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Director Herrick reported that he was making a trip to Washington to secure funding for water re-use in the Big Bear Valley. It will assist in keeping water here and not send it outside the Valley. \$15 million was previously allocated and the City of Big Bear Lake may lose this allocation unless they find a project for it.

Director Caretto thanked the firefighters who have been on strike teams in and outside of the state, and all they have done to help people in such dire situations.

Director Russo agreed with Director Caretto's comments.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

None.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Willis provided updates on the Curbside Chipping Program, Shake Shingle Roof Replacements, Hazardous Tree Abatement, Paradise Training Center Improvements and the New Ambulance Purchase.

FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT

Senior Finance Officer Holt provide September Year-To-Date Financials for the Fire Authority, Big Bear Lake Fire Protection District (FPD), Big Bear City Community Services District – Fire and Ambulance. First Quarter Cash Disbursements were also reported.

Ms. Holt provided an update on Open Enrollment and Benefits, Meet and Confer with Labor and FY 2016-2017 Financial Audits.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Director Caretto requested that Item No. FA7 to be removed from the Consent Calendar.

Motion by Director Jackowski, seconded by Vice Chairman Green to approve the Consent Calendar as follows:

FA1. Approval of Minutes for the Regular Meeting of August 2, 2017

Approved.

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

FA2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from the Special Meeting August 16, 2017

Approved.

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

FA3. Approval of Monthly Activity Reports for July, August and September 2017

Received and filed.

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

FA4. Proposed Resolution Amending Fire Authority Designated Authorized Agents to Execute Disaster Assistance Requests to California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)

Board consideration of rescinding Resolution BBFA2015-001, and approve Resolution BBFA2017-006, amending its authorized agents to execute disaster assistance requests for future disasters to Cal OES.

RESOLUTION NO. BBFA2017-006

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, AMENDING ITS AUTHORIZED AGENTS TO CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR THE EXECUTION OF STATE DISASTER ASSISTANCE REQUEST APPLICATIONS, RESCINDING RESOLUTION BBFA2015-001

Approved.

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

FA5. Resolution Amending the Fire Authority Designated Authorized Agents to Execute Requests to CAL FIRE for Disaster Assistance Fire Prevention Grant Funds

Board consideration of rescinding Resolution BBFA2015-002, and approve Resolution BBFA2017-007, amending its authorized agents to execute disaster assistant grant requests for future disasters to CAL FIRE for fire prevention funds.

RESOLUTION NO. BBFA2017-007

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, AUTHORIZING AGENTS FOR THE EXECUTION OF CAL FIRE STATE FIRE PREVENTION ASSISTANCE FUNDS, RESCINDING RESOLUTION BBFA2015-002

Approved.

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

FA6. Resolution Authorizing Portal to Portal Pay and Overtime for Employees During Emergency Incident Assignments

Board consideration of rescinding Resolution BBFA2015-004 and adopt Resolution BBFA2017-008 authorizing Overtime Portal to Portal pay for identified employees during Fire Department response away from their official duty station and assigned to an emergency incident.

RESOLUTION NO. BBFA2017-008

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, AUTHORIZING OVERTIME AND PORTAL TO PORTAL PAY FOR EMPLOYEES DURING FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE AWAY FROM THEIR OFFICIAL DUTY STATION AND ASSIGNED TO AN EMERGENCY INCIDENT, RESCINDING RESOLUTION BBFA2015-004

Approved.

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

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR

FA7. Resolution Authorizing Purchase of Maple Lane Property with Option to Purchase Second Parcel

Board consideration of adopting Resolution No. BBFA2017-009, which approves entering into a purchase and sale agreement with Gold Mountain Memorial Park for the purchase of certain real property described as APN # 0312-311-16; and approves entering into an option agreement with Gold Mountain Memorial Park

for an option to purchase certain real property described as APN # 0312-311-17; and authorize staff and legal counsel to take any actions necessary to complete the transactions which are consistent with the purchase and sale agreement and the option agreement.

RESOLUTION NO. BBFA2017-009

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BIG BEAR FIRE AUTHORITY, A CALIFORNIA JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY, APPROVING A PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT AND OPTION AGREEMENT WITH GOLD MOUNTAIN MEMORIAL PARK AND FINDING THE APPROVAL AND EXECUTION OF EACH AGREEMENT TO NOT CONSTITUTE A PROJECT UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

Motion by Director Jackowski; seconded by Vice Chairman Green to adopt Resolution No. BBFA2017-009 and authorize staff and legal counsel to take any actions necessary to complete the transaction which are consistent with the purchase and sale agreement and option agreement.

Said Motion was approved by the following vote:

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

There was discussion whether this item required a majority or two-thirds vote to pass. Chief Willis explained that he consulted with the Authority's General Council Jeff Ferre who reviewed the JPA Bylaws and previous actions of the Board. He stated that since this was a housekeeping item for public noticing of the CEQA process, it only requires a majority vote of the Board.

Director Caretto requested a written legal opinion because this is a \$250,000 purchase.

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.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

Battalion Chief Brian Parham and Fire Captain/Paramedic Norman Dykesten gave a presentation on the vehicles that are out of service and no longer of use to the Department. They are taking up valuable space that could be better used. Because of this, they are requesting the Board discharge the vehicles and authorize their sale at auction.

CS8. CSD-Fire Authorization to Proceed to Auction Surplus Equipment

Board consideration of declaring two 1990 Beck Fire engines and four Ford ambulances that range in model years from 1999 to 2008 as surplus equipment and authorize the Fire Chief to sell at auction to the highest bidder.

A comment was made that a VIN was missing from one of the Beck engines. Captain Dykesten stated that was an oversight, he had the VIN and would provide it to the auction company.

Motion by Director Walsh; seconded by Director Ziegler to approve staff recommendation to declare these vehicles surplus equipment and authorize the Fire Chief to sell at auction to the highest bidder. Proceeds from the sale will be deposited into the Big Bear City Community Services District – Fire’s general fund.

Said Motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Russo, Walsh, Ziegler and Green
NOES: None
ABSENT: Oxandaboure
ABSTAIN: None

FP9. Fire Protection District Authorization to Proceed to Auction Surplus Equipment

Board consideration of declaring one 1989 Seagraves Type 1 fire engine as surplus equipment and authorize the Fire Chief to sell at auction to the highest bidder.

Motion by Vice Chairman Herrick; seconded by Board Member Jackowski to approve staff’s recommendation to declare this vehicle surplus equipment and authorize the Fire Chief to sell at auction to the highest bidder. Proceeds from the sale will be deposited into the Fire Protection District’s general fund.

Said Motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Caretto, Herrick, Jackowski and Putz
NOES: None
ABSENT: Jahn
ABSTAIN: None

CS10. CSD-Fire Authorization to Proceed to Auction Miscellaneous Equipment

Board consideration of authorizing the Fire Chief to discharge small miscellaneous surplus fire equipment.

Motion by Director Walsh; seconded by Director Russo, to approve staff's recommendation to authorize the Fire Chief to discharge small miscellaneous surplus fire equipment. Any proceeds generated from the sale will be deposited into the Big Bear City Community Services District - Fire's general fund.

Said Motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Russo, Walsh, Ziegler and Green
NOES: None
ABSENT: Oxandaboure
ABSTAIN: None

FP11. Fire Protection District Authorization to Proceed to Auction Miscellaneous Equipment

Board consideration of authorizing the Fire Chief to discharge small miscellaneous surplus fire equipment.

Motion by Board Member Caretto; seconded by Vice Chairman Herrick, to approve staff's recommendation to authorize the Fire Chief to discharge small miscellaneous surplus fire equipment. Any proceeds generated from the sale will be deposited into the Big Bear Lake Fire Protection District's general fund.

Said Motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Caretto, Herrick, Jackowski and Putz
NOES: None
ABSENT: Jahn
ABSTAIN: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chairman Putz shared notes from the Administrative Committee meeting held on October 18, 2017. There were multiple items discussed, including surplus equipment, health and life insurance benefits, and the lease agreement with Snow Summit which have already been covered tonight. There was also discussion of the recommendation of establishing a budget committee. The Administrative Committee believes that there is not a current need for one due to time and cost. However, they did determine that there is currently a bigger need for an ad hoc committee to assist with doing the groundwork necessary to develop a strategic plan and how to balance service with finances.

DIRECTORS' CLOSING COMMENTS

Director Caretto reiterated his objection to approval of Item No. FA7 without seven affirmative votes. He stated that the staff recommendation is to enter into a purchase and sale agreement and to enter into an option agreement, both of which total \$235,000, and recognizing that there would be Board members absent, and two Board members present with long-standing objections, he questioned why the attorney was not present to explain his position, or provide a written opinion for the Board to review. Director Caretto went on to say that he intends to call Mr. Ferre regarding his opinion, or call his supervisor to get clarification. He believes this approval is contrary to the JPA agreement that requires seven affirmative votes for this large of a purchase.

Vice Chairman Green thanked the fire crews that have been working in Northern California on the fires. He is glad everyone made it home in one piece and lived to fight another day.

Director Herrick called attention to the fires in Northern California and the similarity to Big Bear where fires can do unbelievable destruction. He stated that we need to focus on the possibility of that happening here; they were not anticipating the level of fires they had. We might not even be able to imagine the level of fire we could have in our community.

Director Jackowski commended all the firefighters and support staff for their help during this very difficult summer of fires. Whether personnel were sent up North, somewhere else, or stayed here and picked up the load left behind, every one of the staff is appreciated for their hard work.

Director Walsh commented that he consistently voted against the property purchase, so it should be no surprise that he would vote no tonight. He believes there could be further problems. with the CEQA, it is rather nebulous and there could be further problems later. Also, there is nothing in writing from the San Manuel Indians whether this site could turn out to be a problem for them. Big Bear City Community Services District (CSD) just went through seven years of work on the Paradise Park, and at the last minute, the tribe stepped in and said they would object to anything CSD did. Further, he is surprised that the map that was included in this Board packet shows a 70' drainage easement through the middle of the parcel Chief Willis finds most important, splitting it in half. He is wondering if we are going to end up with a white elephant.

Director Ziegler agreed with Director Walsh stating that CSD had quite an experience trying to put a park in for the kids, so it was a surprise when the Tribe came in and said the land was useless. Director Ziegler believes that there is no way that everywhere in this valley, there is a native American laid to rest. He believes the County of San Bernardino let CSD down on Paradise Park by not standing up for CSD. He is very involved with that decision because he is Chairman of the Park Commission. It bothers him, that we as citizens and property owners have a beautiful piece of property that they have been working on for 20 years, and have just abandoned it.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Fire Authority at this session, Chairman Putz adjourned the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

Dawn E. Marschinke

Dawn E. Marschinke, Board Secretary

MINUTES APPROVED AT THE DECEMBER 12, 2017 MEETING