
**BIG BEAR FIRE AUTHORITY
MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF
JUNE 25, 2015**

An Emergency Meeting of the Big Bear Fire Authority was called to order by Chairman Herrick at 1:35 p.m., Monday, June 25, 2015, at 41090 Big Bear Boulevard, Big Bear Lake, California.

OPEN SESSION

Directors Present: Chairman Rick Herrick
Director David Caretto
Director John Green
Director Bob Jackowski
Director Karyn Oxandaboure - On Phone
Director Randall Putz
Director Larry Walsh
Director Al Ziegler – On Phone
Director Paul Terry

Directors Excused: Director Bill Jahn

Others Present: Jeff Willis, Fire Chief
Norm Walker, Incident Commander, SoCal Team 1
Jeff Veik, Cal Fire, Mountain Division Chief
Mark Stammer, US Forest Service
Chris Fogel, Incident Command Trainee, Team 1
Tom Bradford, Captain, Sheriff's Office
Shirley Holt, Senior Finance Officer
Kathleen Smith, CFO, City of Big Bear Lake
Dawn Marschinke, Board Secretary

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

1. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Chairman Herrick asked for a motion to open the emergency meeting without prior notice to discuss the fire emergency.

Motion by Director Caretto; seconded by Director Jackowski to open the emergency meeting of the Big Bear Fire Authority to discuss the fire emergency.

Incident Commander, Norm Walker, and Chris Vogel Incident Commander Trainee, So-Cal Team 1, reported on the current concerns and issues fighting the Lake Fire.

- Firefighters are taking advantage of fuel breaks created during the Sawtooth Complex Fire
- This fire is acting in a way they have never seen before for this time of year
- Winds from a tropical storm are pushing the fire north. It is usual for the desert winds to push west through the canyon at 10-12 MPH between 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. If winds move through the canyon as expected, this northwest push could shift the fire towards Lake Williams
- With the high potential threat of the fire encroaching further into the Big Bear Fire Department's jurisdiction, Management Action Points were put into place to facilitate the evacuation decision making process. These decision points are as follows:
 1. If the fire reaches the Broom Flats area (2N01) the Incident Command team will consider mandatory evacuation of Lake Williams (Lake Williams takes 45 minutes to evacuate) and ask for a voluntary evacuation of Erwin Lake.
 2. If the fire reaches Arrastre Creek, a decision will be made whether mandatory evacuation of Erwin Lake will be required.
 3. If Erwin Lake is evacuated, Baldwin Lake could go to a voluntary evacuation.

Sheriff's Captain, Tom Bradford reported:

- Plans are already in place for evacuation of Lake Williams, Erwin Lake, Baldwin Lake and Sugarloaf, if needed.
- Captain Bradford has been given ten men in single cars and will have the same for the evening if evacuation is required.
- The Sheriff's Office sent out a press release today to keep people informed of what is happening and to reduce rumors. They also want to give people with livestock time to get them out of the areas of concern.
- Reverse 9-1-1 or TENS will happen immediately if a decision to evacuate occurs. Notice will only go to homeowners in affected areas.
- Notification of evacuation will be done door to door. Typically, with such a small town, the word will spread quickly throughout the Valley, even if residents are not at home when deputies knock on their doors..

Fire Chief Willis reported:

- On June 25, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors, County CEO and Director of Emergency Services, Greg Devereaux, drafted and signed a Proclamation of the Existence of a Local Emergency which was submitted to the State and to be ratified by the County Board of Supervisors within 7 days. CSD was included in the declaration. This declaration allows the county to seek State and Federal reimbursement for firefighting efforts.
- Chief Willis recommends the City of Big Bear Lake should consider preparing a declaration of disaster and have it ready to declare a local emergency if the fire reaches Arrastre Creek.

Director Oxandaboure commented to Corinne Flores that having been in her position and realizing how many board members and how many boards she deals with, she admired Corinne and wished her well in her retirement.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Fire Authority at this session, Chairman Herrick adjourned the meeting at 7:47 p.m.



Dawn E. Marschinke, Board Secretary for Corinne E. Flores, Board Secretary

APPROVED AT THE MEETING OF AUGUST 18, 2015