
**BIG BEAR FIRE AUTHORITY
MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF
OCTOBER 1, 2013**

A Regular Meeting of the Big Bear Fire Authority was called to order by Chairman Caretto at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 1, 2013, at 39707 Big Bear Boulevard, Big Bear Lake, California.

OPEN SESSION

Moment of Silence: Observed

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Director Terry

Directors Present: Chairman David Caretto
Vice Chairman John Green
Director Rick Herrick
Director Bill Jahn
Director Jeff Newsome
Director Jay Obernolte
Director Karyn Oxandaboure
Director Paul Terry
Director Larry Walsh

Directors Excused: Director Bob Jackowski

Others Present: Jeff Willis, Fire Chief
Kathleen Smith, Treasurer-Auditor/Controller
Jeffrey Ferre, Authority Counsel
Rob Hopkins, CSD General Manager
Corinne Flores, Board Secretary

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

None.

PRESENTATIONS

Chief Willis recognized the following personnel for their recent promotions:

Ryan Harold, from Captain to Battalion Chief - pinned by his daughters, Brooke and Emily.

Dan Rogers, from Engineer to Fire Captain – pinned by his sons, Tanner and Austin, who are Big Bear City Fire Explorers.

Mitch Hollenbaugh, from Firefighter/Paramedic to Engineer – pinned by his daughters, Savanaugh and Sunny Ray.

Edwina Scott, Executive Director of the Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council, recognized David Yegge, Fire Fuels Program Supervisor, with a plaque as an expression of their appreciation for his support and technical assistance with their wood shake/shingle roof replacement grant. In turn, Mr. Yegge provided Ms. Scott, Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council, with a carved wooden bear.

BOARD MEMBER GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Director Herrick stated he witnessed different fire techniques he hadn't seen before at the Riffenburgh Lumber fire on Sunday morning, i.e., the ladder truck and a backhoe in operation. He commented the firefighters did a good job of putting the fire out.

Director Jahn advised he enjoyed that afternoon's workshop discussion, but we have a long way to go. He expressed his faith in the Board, the Fire Chief, and the rank & file that we're going to get there.

Vice Chairman Green congratulated everyone involved with bringing the Traveling Vietnam Wall to the Valley as it was a very moving experience.

Chairman Caretto echoed the comments of Director Herrick and Vice Chairman Green. He stated the fire department has been very busy this last week, particularly with the Vietnam Wall celebration, a structure fire, the Riffenburgh Lumber fire, and the plane crash at the airport – all happening at once. The fire department handled everything very well, and he appreciates them. He further stated the ladder truck was very important in reducing the amount of damage to the Riffenburgh structures.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Willis reported on the modifications to Stations-281, -291, and -292; the new patch that is now on all uniforms; the results of the Memorial Stair Climb in San Diego to raise funds for the families of the fallen firefighters on September 11; the purchase of a new ambulance; and a status for duty officer responses.

Received and Filed.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Authority Counsel, Jeffrey Ferre, addressed Item FA4 to clarify that the Board may direct the Board Secretary to adjourn the Regular Meeting of December 3, 2013 to December 10, 2013 instead of cancelling it.

Motion by Director Jahn; seconded by Director Herrick, to approve the Consent Calendar as follows:

FA1. Approval of Demands – Check Issue Date 05/25/13 through 09/20/13 in the amount of \$122,924.65

Approved.

FA2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from the June 4, 2013 Regular Meeting of the Fire Authority

Approved.

FA3. Approval of Meeting Minutes from the June 25, 2013 Special Meeting of the Fire Authority

Approved.

FA4. Proposed Cancellation of the Fire Authority Regular Board Meeting of December 3, 2013 and Proposed Special Meeting of December 10, 2013

Board consideration of cancelling the Regular Meeting of December 3, 2013 and directing Staff to notice a Special Meeting for December 10, 2013.

The Board Secretary was directed to post a Notice of Adjournment of the December 3, 2013 Regular Meeting to December 10, 2013.

The Consent Calendar was approved by unanimous vote.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR

None.

NEW BUSINESS

FA5. Emergency Medical Dispatch System

Board consideration of receiving and filing the report.

Battalion Chief Ryan Harold introduced Karon Humphreys-Assistant Dispatch Manager and Linda Luna-Case Reviewer, both of Confire. Ms. Humphreys gave

a brief presentation on Emergency Medical Dispatch (standard protocols to assist with call processing and unit response by sending only those resources that match the identified need).

Chairman Caretto presented Ms. Humphreys and Ms. Luna with a proclamation congratulating Confire for earning an Accredited Center of Excellence Award from the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch in September 2012.

Received and filed.

FA6. Community Risk Reduction

Board consideration of authorizing Staff to develop a presentation that can be given to various stakeholder groups to obtain their input.

Chief Willis advised that, for all the right reasons, the fire department has evolved into areas of expanded scope of services, but as it assumed community risk reduction programs, which were largely funded with grant funds, regular reoccurring revenue to continue the programs did not occur. Community risk reduction programs include: Curbside Chipping, the Community Wildfire Protection Plan, Forest Care, Ready, Set, Go, Fire Safe Council, Wood Shake/Shingle Roof Replacement, Fire Hazard Abatement, shaded fuel breaks, Hazardous Tree Abatement, and Disaster Mitigation/Management (emergency evacuation route signage).

Chief Willis provided a Power Point presentation of the above past, grant funded programs and the associated costs to continue said programs. He asked for Board direction to develop a presentation(s) to be given to service groups in order to seek their input for the programs that the community sees value in and to identify regular reoccurring revenue that can be relied upon.

Motion by Director Obernolte; seconded by Director Terry to approve Staff's recommendation and direct the Chief to include existing programs/costs on the list so the public can help prioritize them and to not include a per parcel cost as we're not yet at a point of how to fund.

Said Motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Jahn, Newsome, Obernolte, Oxandaboure, Terry, Walsh, Herrick,
Green, Caretto
NOES: None
ABSENT: Jackowski
ABSTAIN: None

FA7. Consolidate Fleet Replacement

Board consideration of approving the consolidated fleet replacement schedule to be considered as part of the Fiscal Year 2014/15 Big Bear Fire Authority Budget.

Chief Willis stated that fleet maintenance is currently in the Fire Authority's budget. After today's meeting, he will move into budget preparation for the Authority, and he desired Board direction for developing that budget.

Chief Willis introduced Eileen Berne, EMS/Fire Financial Coordinator, who gave a Power Point presentation on fleet consolidation that includes a proposed vehicle replacement schedule for the Authority. Ms. Berne also reported on a possible lease/purchase option for replacement of the ladder truck.

Motion by Director Newsome; seconded by Director Terry to approve Staff's recommendation.

Said Motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Newsome, Obernolte, Oxandaboure, Terry, Walsh, Green, Herrick,
Jahn, Caretto
NOES: None
ABSENT: Jackowski
ABSTAIN: None

OLD BUSINESS

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

BOARD MEMBER CLOSING COMMENTS

Director Obernolte expressed that he continues to be impressed and amazed at how well the process of consolidation has gone. He congratulated his colleagues for the congeniality with which they are approaching this issue.

Director Terry agreed with Director Obernolte's comments.

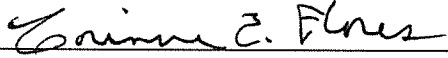
Director Herrick welcomed Deputy Collins to the Big Bear area. It's great to see him back at work.

Director Walsh stated he received another annual invoice for a CAL FIRE State Responsibility Fee and expressed concerned that the unincorporated area of the Valley is not represented by a State-recognized fire agency even though the fire departments have

consolidated. He asked the Chief if he was aware of Sacramento's efforts to address this. Counsel replied that Staff can look into the matter and return to the next meeting with an update.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Fire Authority at this session, Chairman Caretto adjourned the meeting at 8:51 p.m.



Corinne E. Flores, Board Secretary

APPROVED AT THE MEETING OF DECEMBER 17, 2013.