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**BIG BEAR FIRE AUTHORITY  
MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF  
August 22, 2023**

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A Special Meeting of the Big Bear Fire Authority was called to order by Board Chair Mote, at 4:01 p.m., Tuesday, August 22, 2023, at 41090 Big Bear Boulevard, Big Bear Lake, California.

Board Members Present:

- Board Chair Bynette Mote
- Vice Chair Bob Rowe
- Director Rick Herrick
- Director Perri Melnick
- Director Randall Putz
- Director John Russo
- Director Kendi Segovia
- Director Larry Walsh
- Director Al Ziegler

Board Members Absent:

Others Present:

- Jeff Willis, Fire Chief
- Chardelle Smith, Board Secretary
- Nicholaus Norvell, Assistant Authority Counsel

**OPEN SESSION**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Moment of Silence: Observed

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Director Herrick

**ROLL CALL**

**CLOSED SESSION PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS:** (Any member of the public is entitled to speak on Closed Session Agenda items. If you wish to address any other items listed on the Agenda, you must do so during Open Session.)

**Bob Ybarra, Sugarloaf:** *I'm here for one reason. That's to offer support for our chief. I know that there are some things going on here that I don't understand. What I do want to say is we are privileged to have a man of his caliber heading our fire department. I don't know what's happening, I don't understand it. I want you people to understand what you have before you right now. I've been here 18 years full time. I've seen throughout all the years in Bear City Fire. I've seen how his leadership has brought us forward in this particular consolidation in 2012. I've seen the decisions he has made throughout the meetings. I've attended all government meetings for the last 18 years. Not all regularly lately, but I know what's going on in this valley. From the hospital to CSD, to the school board meetings. I know what's going on here, and I don't like the trend I see in this particular faction right now regarding our Chief. I hope everyone understand what they are*

*doing. This is serious. We live in a fire district and we need the right people heading our fire department. Are there problems, sure there are problems everywhere. Talk it out. Figure it out. I don't like this trend I am seeing. I want to make sure I say my peace as a member of this valley that has been involved in many of these meetings throughout the years. Thank you very much. Chief has been great as far as I'm concerned. I've seen this man in action. Whatever it is please figure it out. come to a resolution, talk it out, give and take whatever it takes. But I am telling you, if you are looking to make a replacement and you are thinking Calfire or the County. Boy are you going up the wrong tree. What are the other options we have? Look at what happened to Victorville when they made a change. Grass is not always greener on the other side folks. I could be talking out of scope because I don't have the details, I just know what I'm feeling and hearing. I appreciate your time. Thank you.*

**CLOSED SESSION**

1. **Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Government Code § 54957)**  
Title: Fire Chief
  
2. **Conference with Labor Negotiators (Government Code §54957.6)**  
Agency Representative: Fire Chief  
Employee Organization: Big Bear Professional Firefighters' Assoc., IAFF, Local 935

**REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION**

At the hour of 4:07, p.m., Board Chair Mote adjourned to Closed Session.

At the hour of 7:48, p.m., Board Chair Mote adjourned Closed Session.


At the hour of 7:48, p.m., Board Chair Mote re-opened Regular Session

**REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION**

No other reportable action.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Fire Authority at this session, Board Chair Mote adjourned the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

  
Chardelle Smith  
Board Secretary

APPROVED AT THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 10, 2023