

**BLUFFTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Tuesday, March 19, 2013
Bluffton Fire Station #35, Headquarters**

MINUTES

Board Members Present: Terry Reynolds, Jack Bennett, Mike Raymond, Ed Olsen, Bob Rogers (came late)

Absent: John Oram (excused), David Meeder (excused)

Members Present: Barry Turner, John Thompson, Dan Wiltse, Bob Payne, Paul Boulware, Randy Hunter, Sandy Stroud, Vernon Edenfield, Paul Woods, Derek Church, Matt Baker, David Rice, Jeff Meyer, Austin Williams, Derek Franks, Rod Oates

VIA Video Conferencing: Allen Cramer, Mike Vezzossi, Donald Bach, George Brown, Brandon Stevenson, Ben Rushing, Donald Boyd, Jim Donath, Tom Lamb, Steve Arnold, John Roe, Kevin King, Marcos Farr, Charles Eaton, Leroy Savelle, Ryan Magers, Randy Daise, Chris Black

Community Members: Mr. Bryan Hill (Beaufort County Assistant Administrator), Mr. Stewart (Beaufort County Board Member), Joe Paola (community member)

Meeting called to order at 4:00 PM by Board Member Reynolds

Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer

Board of Directors Roll Call

- **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Chairman Reynolds reported that County Council has approved additional funds for the 2013 year . Funding for subsequent years will be explained by Mr. Hill. Formal agreements with Colleton River and Palmetto Bluff are progressing, with a start-up date of 4/20 for the temporary stations. Implementation of changes for the Board of Directors including the selection process of a new Chief when necessary, the availability of using county legal services, the GASB OPEB obligation and adding EMS services at the Moss Creek station.
- **SPECIAL REPORT FROM ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR BRYAN HILL:** Mr. Hill explained the impact of revenue neutrality and that the new mill rates for the County would be released 4/1. While many residents may see an increase in millage due to the roll forward, they will also see a corresponding devaluation in their property. Therefore, many Bluffton residents will not see tax increases from the County. The Fire District will also see an increase in operating revenue due to the New River TIF expiration.
- **FEBRUARY MINUTES:** Chairman Reynolds called for approval of the revised minutes from the regular meeting from February 19th. Board Member Raymond made a motion to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded by Board Member Olson and approved with a unanimous vote.
- **FINANCIAL REPORT:** Chairman Reynolds asked Chief Thompson to provide the update in Board Member Oram's absence. Chief Thompson explained the accounts that were currently over budget but

projected that the district would make budget by the end of the year. Board Member Bennett made a motion to approve the finance report. Motion was seconded by Board Member Raymond and approved with a unanimous vote.

- **FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:**

- ***Fire Prevention Statistics:*** Fire Marshal Wiltse reviewed the monthly Fire Prevention Statistics.
- ***Public Education Report:*** Public Information Officer Stroud reviewed the report for the events performed in the prior month and discussed a Community Risk Reduction program that he will begin developing.
- ***Run, Alarm and Trend Reports:*** Chief Boulware briefed the Board of Directors on these reports.
- ***Training Report:*** Captain Hunter gave the report in Chief Cramer's absence. He reviewed the District's recent training events as well as the testing process of the possible new recruits.

- **OLD BUSINESS:**

- ***Station 30 and 33 Update:*** Chief Thompson explained that Station 30 was on schedule and budget, while Station 33 was in the beginning stages of updates.
- ***2013 Strategic Plan*** – Chief Thompson reported that the objectives of the plan will be written with the previously established Goals as approved by the Board.
- ***Board Members Discussions:*** Board Member Olson asked about the responsibility of the new Catholic high school being built on Route 170. Chief Turner explained that Jasper County will be responsible but BTFD would respond as mutual aid. Board Member Raymond discussed the need for identifying and paving some of the county roads. Fire Marshall Wiltse has been working with the county on this. Mr. Hill encouraged the fire district to continue to work on requesting the road paving.

- **NEW BUSINESS:** None

- **PUBLIC DISCUSSION:** None

- **ADJOURNMENT:** Board Member Rogers made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Board Member Reynolds and approved with a unanimous vote. Meeting was adjourned at 5:08 PM.