

**BLUFFTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Tuesday, March 21, 2017
Bluffton Fire Station #35, Headquarters**

MINUTES

Board Members Present: Mike Raymond, Joe Paolo, Thomas Mike, Elaine Lust, Ed Olsen, Paul Hamilton

Members Present: John Thompson, Paul Boulware, Dan Wiltse, Terry Sheriff, Steve McKinley, Bob Payne, Derek Church, Pete Reid, Joe Helms, Richard Dollahan, Gio Scianna, Jeremy Eby, Emerson Kovalanchik, Mike Provo, Grant Turner, Parker Dennis, Nancy Hyer, Leslie Jones Hart

VIA Video Conferencing: Derek Beeler, Taylor Kamp, Ted Lange, Ben Rushing, Andrew Hatcher, Guillermo Holzmann, Jayme Beach, Randy McGarvey, Jake Hartley, Jason Carle, Joe Dembeck, Justin Olds, Phillip Horton, Jason Williams, Ed Rhodes, Enrique Baez, Vasont Miller, Dwane Wilkinson, David Mack, David Romine, James Thomas, Chris Himes, Tony Crosetto

Community Members: Doug Volk, Chaplain Cranston

Meeting called to order at 4:00 PM by Chairman Raymond.

Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer: Chaplain Cranston led today's prayer.

Board of Directors Roll Call

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS: Chairman Raymond congratulated the graduates of BTFD Recruit School, held Friday, March 17. Director Lust also added her congratulations and said everyone looked very nice in their uniforms.

FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES: Director Lust motioned and Director Hamilton seconded the minutes of the February 17, 2017 Board of Directors meeting be approved. The motion passed. There were no minutes of the March 10 workshop as yet.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Chief Boulware reported that we are 66.67% through the FY 2017 budget year, with expenditures reporting at 66.37%. It was noted that we have only requested 58.31% of our annual budget. Administration is currently over budget at 71.56% due to payment of the fourth quarter workers compensation payment. New HVAC units were needed at Stations 33 and 35, raising the department costs as well. The updated impact fee account balance is \$2,128,507, which is after the \$96,000 payment for the Raider Drive pavement and infrastructure. Director Lust motioned and Director Hamilton seconded that we accept the financial report. The motion passed.

• **FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:**

- **Fire Prevention Statistics:** Chief Wiltse reported the Prevention office performed 239 Fire and Life Safety Inspections in February. Development plans throughout the district include multiple

residential areas as well as a few commercial projects. Health South Rehabilitation Hospital plans, a 46,000 sf rehabilitation facility, were also included. Public Education participated in 35 outreach events involving many schools, Sun City Veterans, Cub Scouts. There were 14 CPR classes held in February, with 143 people taught, including 51 May River High School students. It is now required that all high school students must complete a CPR class before graduation. A new development plan was just received today that will provide 700+ homes in the New Riverside area. We should soon receive another development plan located near Highways 46 and 170 that will provide 300+ homes. An Island Packet news story today reported that a recent fire resulted in a charge of second degree arson for the home owner. Burton Fire District sent their arson dog over who reacted to accelerants. The case was then turned over to SLED in coordination with Bluffton Police Department. The explosion in Hampton Lake resulting in a fatality has also been turned over to SLED for investigation.

- ***Training Report and Training Facility Construction:*** Chief Sheriff reported there were 6 courses held with 7 personnel in attendance. Training included advanced airway management, trauma, and traffic incident management responders training. Chief Sheriff, Chief Boulware, and Captain Hunter toured the new training building and created a punch list. The building should be finished by Wednesday and then electrical work can be completed. Fraser will add the concrete skirt and then SC Fire facilities will hold a final inspection. As for Recruit School, Captain Hunter was the coordinator, with Crystal, Maintenance, instructors, Battalions, and line personnel all helping out to make it successful. Seven of the 15 graduates are members of BTFD. Thanks to everyone for their support. Director Paolo will send information regarding pallets for training. Director Lust asked about our involvement in opiate overdoses and the use of drugs to counteract them. Chief Thompson explained that currently we are very few opiate ODs so we do not have the medications to use. That may change as time goes on.
- ***Operations Report:*** In Chief Cramer's absence, Chief Church reported the monthly statistics of 432 calls last month, with a total of 939 calls for 2017 already. The average response time in February was 6:39 with a yearly average response time of 6:26 minutes. During the month, approximately 30,000 feet of hose were tested. Everyone did a great job on this huge feat.
- ***Maintenance Update:*** Chief McKinley reported the Maintenance Division completed 113 work orders for February: 95 for BTFD, 16 for Bluffton Police Department, and 2 for the Town of Bluffton. Station work and repairs include: Station 30 – stumps from Hurricane Matthew removed and irrigation being repaired; Station 31 – the beautification project continues and adds lots of curb appeal; Station 35 – exterior trim replacement and painting will start in the near future. Almost all fleet apparatus have undergone preventative maintenance. All pumpers completed and passed the annual pump testing. Most of the new staff vehicles have received the new graphics. Several vehicles will be liquidated while others will be reassigned. We have heard nothing as yet regarding maintenance of EMS and County vehicles south of the Broad River.
- ***Chaplains Update:*** Chaplain Cranston reported that they will be trained in CPR at their next meeting. Chaplain Hamilton reported to last month's trailer fire to assist with family needs. The Chaplains are also working to increase their rounds to the stations.
- ***Colleton River Fire Station Agreement:*** Chief Thompson said they are still waiting on the CRM permit, but the capacity certificate has been received. The project is slowly moving forward.

OLD BUSINESS:

- ***Moss Creek Emergency Access Road to Colleton River:*** The emergency access gate between Colleton River and Moss Creek has been carried over from the budget workshop. Director Lust

motioned and Director Olsen seconded we spend \$35,000 to pay for half the cost of the access road. The motion passed, but Director Mike wanted it noted that we are not setting precedence of paying half of all future gates and access roads.

- ***FY18 Budget Discussion:*** Because two Board members were absent from the 3/10 budget workshop, it was decided to hold another workshop on Monday, April 10, 10:00. We hope to have numbers from the County by that time.
- **NEW BUSINESS:** Happy Birthday to Chief Sheriff!
- **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Director Mike motioned and Director Hamilton seconded that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. The motion passed and the Board went into Executive Session at 4:45. The regular Board meeting went back into session at 5:10. No action or vote was taken during Executive Session.
- **ADJOURNMENT:** Director Mike motioned and Director Hamilton seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 5:10.