

**BLUFFTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Tuesday, April 17, 2018
Bluffton Fire District Headquarters
MINUTES**

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

Absent: Louis Poindexter, Ed Olsen

Members Present: John Thompson, Paul Boulware, Rick Cramer, Dan Wiltse, Steve McKinley, Pete Reid, Rhett Livingston, Bob Payne, Joe Helms, Todd Harvey, Chris Garniewicz, Mark Eiden, Don Matchette, Andrew De La Cruz, Nancy Hyer, Leslie Jones Hart

VIA Video Conferencing: Mike Rehill, Joel Martin, Taylor Horton, Cam Terio, Jeff Smith, Adam Corn, Mike Tuten, Toby Bonsall, Allen Cramer, Roberto Cuevas, Trey Fludd, Keegan Alcock, Ian Evans, Eric Ligeikis, Walt Cooker, Walt Arlt, Craig Hysell, Tyler Marion, Kaleb Spears, Tim Walsh, David Adams, Dan Heslin, Shawn Fitzpatrick, Gio Scianna, Dan Connelly, Devon Quance, Brandon Stevenson, Brendan Long, Tiffany Torma, Matt Wallett, Dustin Brown

Community Members: Doug Volk

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

Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer: Director Hamilton led today's prayer.

Board of Directors Roll Call

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS: Chairman Raymond spoke of the importance that Beaufort County Council has in approving our large projects and budget and the great working relationship we have with them. That being said, Chairman Raymond announced to the fire board his candidacy for County Council member. He asked for the support of the board and fire members and their vote of those living in district 9. The primary election is June 12, with run-off elections later.

MARCH BOARD MEETING MINUTES: Director Lust motioned and Director Hamilton seconded the minutes of the March 20, 2018 Board of Directors meeting be approved. The motion passed. (YEAS – Raymond, Paolo, Mike, Lust, Hamilton. NAYS – None.)

FINANCIAL REPORT: Chief Boulware reported that we are 75.0% through the FY 2018 budget year, with total expenditures reporting at 70.13%. Revenues requested for the year to date are \$9,681,577, which is 68.99% of our budget. All departments continue to report below average expenditures. Capital projects and expenditures last month included new laptop computers, a tire changer, recruit firefighters uniforms, communication equipment, and workers' compensation monthly payment. Impact fee expenditures through the end of March are \$2,506,552, which includes \$300,584 for Station 36 and \$1,490,400 for 2 new trucks. This leaves an impact fee balance of \$294,249. Director Mike motioned

and Director Hamilton seconded the Financial Report be accepted. The motion passed. (YEAS – Raymond, Paolo, Mike, Lust, Hamilton. NAYS – None.)

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL: Director Mike motioned and Director Paolo seconded that the Consent Agenda be approved. The motion passed. (YEAS – Raymond, Paolo, Mike, Lust, Hamilton. NAYS – None.)

- **Receipt of Training Update**
- **Receipt of Maintenance Update**
- **Receipt of Oral Chaplains Update**
- **FIRE CHIEF’S REPORT:**
 - ***Fire Prevention Update:*** Chief Wiltse reported the Prevention office performed 232 Fire and Life Safety Inspections for the month of March. Development plans review and approvals include a several commercial and housing developments. There has been some pushback by the community for the Extended Stay Hotel that will be built in front of Seagrass Station. Public Education participated in 51 outreach events and installed 31 smoke alarms in 14 area homes. Per the construction report, we are over 1.2 million square feet of commercial construction once again.
 - ***Operations Report:*** Chief Cramer reported that March had 504 calls, with a total of 1,582 calls since January of 2018. This is an increase of 104 call from the same period last year. The average response time for the month was 6:38, and the yearly average response time was 6:36 minutes.
 - ***Fire Station 36 Construction Update:*** Chief Boulware reported that Station 36 is 99.9% completed. We are waiting on surety bond for the landscaping and backflow testing to get the CO from the County. Weight room equipment has been moved in and furniture will soon follow. A grand opening for the station will be held in early June. In the meantime, a press release will be send on the change of location for the station and Colleton River will contact their residents.
- **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - ***FY2019 Budget Schedule:*** Chief Thompson stated we are still waiting for the mil values from the County Assessor. Director Mike indicated that we may have numbers as soon as Wednesday afternoon. We will schedule the budget workshop as soon as we get those numbers. Our budget needs to be turned over to the County by May 1.
 - ***Opioid Overdose Responses:*** Chief Thompson asked Captain Hart to research our costs of opioid overdoses. The results showed that since the spike 6 months ago, the ODs in our district have decreased to 1-2 a month. Narcan is relatively inexpensive compared to many other drugs that we use. Each dosage of Narcan costs \$52, and it may not be cost effective to invoice those clients as a large portion of those bills would not be paid. Chief Thompson stated that in order to bill for those services, an ordinance would need to be written to include the ability to bill for any medical supplies and not just Narcan. This would need to be approved by County Council. It was also suggested that we write an ordinance for a fee structure for the lift and assists that we perform as those take a larger portion of our resources and time. Chief Thompson will have more information at the next meeting.

- ***Palmetto Bluff Station 37:*** Chairman Raymond requested the board move to Executive Session to discuss Station 37 issues.
- **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Director Lust motioned and Director Hamilton seconded that the board go into Executive Session to discuss Station 37 issues. The motion passed. (YEAS – Raymond, Paolo, Mike, Lust, Hamilton. NAYS – None.) The board went into Executive Session at 4:55. The board resumed regular session at 5:21. No action or vote was taken while in Executive Session. The discussion centered on the build out of Station 37 and the prospect of renovating the bay and adding firefighter living quarters. Director Hamilton motioned and Director Lust seconded that Chief Thompson continue to negotiate with Palmetto Bluff for the renovation of Station 37. The motion passed. (YEAS – Raymond, Paolo, Mike, Lust, Hamilton. NAYS – None.)
- **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - ***False Alarm Responses:*** A fee structure was passed out to board members.

ADJOURNMENT: Director Mike motioned and Director Paolo seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 5:23. (YEAS – Raymond, Paolo, Mike, Lust, Hamilton. NAYS – None.)