

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

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

Absent: Thomas Mike

Members Present: John Thompson, Paul Boulware, Rick Cramer, Dan Wiltse, Terry Sheriff, Steve McKinley, Bob Payne, Joe Helms, Pete Reid, Derek Church, Richard Dollahan, Phillip Horton, David Romine, Jacob Walsh, Emerson Kovalanchik, Grant Turner, Blake Crosby, Jason Williams, Nancy Hyer, Leslie Jones Hart

VIA Video Conferencing: Joe Dembeck, Justin Olds, Missy Keller, Jacob Lemus, Ed Rhodes, Jeremy Eby, Ted Lange, Derek Beeler, Taylor Kamp, Guillermo Holzmann, Andrew Redhead, Dwane Wilkinson, Tony Crosetto, Barry Descaro, Jayme Beach, Randy McGarvey, Jason Carle, Ben Rushing, Paul Harrelson, Kevin Feltner, Mike Provo, Enrique Baez, Vasont Miller, Jeremy Malo

Community Members: Doug Volk

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Board of Directors Roll Call

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS: Chairman Raymond praised the department on the 40th anniversary celebration, and thanked everyone for the challenge coins and shirts. The crowd was estimated at 1,000 people and everyone enjoyed it. Director Lust said she attended a Chamber of Commerce event and had dinner with the firefighters as part of a fund raiser. She thanked the department as well.

JUNE BOARD MEETING MINUTES: Director Lust motioned and Director Hamilton seconded the minutes of the June 19, 2018 Board of Directors meeting be approved. The motion passed. (YEAS – Raymond, Paolo, Olsen, Lust, Poindexter. NAYS – None.)

FINANCIAL REPORT: Chief Boulware reported that thanks to our financial administrator, Ms. Nancy Hyer, we have once again earned the CAFR award. We are 100% through the FY 2018 budget year, with total expenditures reporting at 93.78%. This may change as there will still be some minor clean-up for the year. Revenues requested for the year were \$13,138,010, which is 93.62% of the budget. All department expenditures were below average for the year. Current impact fee balance is approximately \$404,000. It was also noted that the district has 2-3 months of funds in reserve. Director Olsen motioned

and Director Poindexter seconded the budget be approved as written. (YEAS – Raymond, Paolo, Olsen, Lust, Poindexter. NAYS – None.)

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL: The Consent Agenda was approved by general consensus. No vote was taken.

- **Receipt of Training Update**
- **Receipt of Maintenance Update**
- **Receipt of Oral Chaplains Update**
- **FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:**
 - ***Fire Prevention Update:*** Chief Wiltse said there were 135 Fire and Life Safety Inspections for June. Development Plans and Approvals included several housing developments with a total of over 460 homes and a few commercial property changes. The public Education officer conducted 24 outreach events, including the 40th BTFD anniversary festival, as well as installed 22 smoke detectors and 2 car seats. There was also a discussion regarding the location of fire hydrants around the area stemming from a newspaper article. Because the hydrants belong to BJWSA, all information comes from them.
 - ***Operations Report:*** Chief Cramer stated that there were 522 calls in the month of June, 79 more calls in 2018 than the previous year to date. Average response time for June was 6:41, with the yearly average of 6:37. The monthly average was higher due to several calls being dispatched to wrong addresses. A discussion regarding dispatch issues and errors took place, with several board members requesting that we have someone from the County or Dispatch come to explain the process of how calls and information is dispersed. Chief Thompson will prepare a report for the Board as to what takes place and how we can make improvements in the call times.
 - ***Fire Station 38 Progress Update:*** Hampton Lake Station 38 has received SRT approval. Chief Thompson will meet with the architects on Thursday to get an estimated cost of construction. Immediately following, he will meet with Fraser Construction to discuss the new Station 31 plans and how to combine BTFD, EMS, and BPD into one complex. Soon after, that will go to SRT for staff review. .
 - ***Fire Station 32 Progress Update:*** The architects have created a set of drawings with some small changes, increasing the size of the kitchen, working around an existing beam, and incorporating a drinking fountain.
 - ***Other Updates:*** There was some discussion regarding county-wide consolidation of all fire departments. The issue has been discussed before, both locally and county wide. One of the arguments against consolidation is the tax revenue is so much higher south of the Broad River. Palmetto Bluff Station 37 is slowly making progress toward their new station as well.
- **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - ***Fire Chief Evaluation:*** Chairman Raymond will email evaluations forms for Chief Thompson's annual evaluation. Each board member needs to fill the form out and return it to Chairman Raymond as quickly as possible. He will then consolidate the information and present it to the Board in Executive Session.

- **NEW BUSINESS:**

- ***Anniversary Celebration:*** Director Paolo echoed what others said earlier that the 40th anniversary celebration was a wonderful success and a great show for the community. He suggested we hold another event in the fall when the weather was cooler. Director Hamilton enjoyed the event as well.

ADJOURNMENT: Director Hamilton motioned and Director Lust seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 5:00. (YEAS – Raymond, Paolo, Olsen, Lust, Poindexter. NAYS – None.)