

**BLUFFTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Tuesday, May 18, 2021
Bluffton Fire District Headquarters
MINUTES**

Board Members Present: Mike Raymond, Louis Poindexter, Joseph Paolo, Edwin Olsen, Elaine Lust, Paul Hamilton, Thomas Mike Sr.

Absent: None

Members Present: John Thompson, Paul Boulware, Derek Church, Dan Wiltse, Robert Payne, Steve McKinley, Terry Sheriff, Rhett Livingston, Joe Helms, Amanda Cazenave, Nancy Hyer

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 4:00 pm by Chairman Raymond.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

BOARD MEMBER ROLL CALL

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA: Director Lust motioned to move the promotion ceremony to the beginning of the agenda, and Director Mike seconded. Motion passed unanimously. (YEAS – Raymond, Poindexter, Paolo, Lust, Olsen, Hamilton, Mike) (NAYS – None)

PROMOTION CEREMONY:

- **Captain Rhett Livingston to Staff Battalion Chief Community Risk Reduction Division**

CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Chief Boulware stated that he appreciated the Board and District’s support with the recent loss in his family and in another staff member’s family. Director Lust also stated how proud she is of this Board and what a joy it is to serve with each other. Director Olsen stated that this past week he attended a presentation by Chief Thompson and the District for a resident that was revived using an AED with the assistance of our personnel. He is also proud to be a part of this Board and District.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES: Director Lust motioned, and Director Hamilton seconded the minutes of the April 20, 2021 Board of Directors meeting be approved. Motion passed. (YEAS – Raymond, Poindexter, Paolo, Lust, Olsen, Hamilton, Mike) (NAYS – None)

FINANCIAL REPORT: Chief Boulware reviewed the Finance Report for the month of April 2021. We have completed 83.33% of the current fiscal year budget, and the total expenditures year to date are at 84.61%. The revenue requested year to date from the county was \$13,261,333, which is 83.41% of our \$15,898,353 budget. The fire impact fee balance as of April 30th is *Approved by the Fire Board 6-15-21*

\$1,260,290.

Director Hamilton motioned and Director Poindexter seconded that the April 2021 Financial Report be approved as submitted. Motion passed. (YEAS –Raymond, Poindexter, Paolo, Lust, Olsen, Hamilton, Mike) (NAYS – None)

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL:

- **Receipt of Training Update**
- **Receipt of Maintenance Update**
- **Receipt of Fire Prevention Update**
- **Receipt of Operations Update**

Director Mike motioned and Director Hamilton seconded that the consent agenda be accepted. Motion passed. (YEAS –Raymond, Poindexter, Paolo, Lust, Olsen, Hamilton, Mike) (NAYS – None)

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:

- ***Project Updates:***

Accreditation Update: Chief Thompson stated five (5) of the 19 objectives are complete (26%), thirteen (13) objectives are in process and on schedule, and one (1) objective is overdue. The projected date to achieve all recommendation is May 1, 2022.

Strategic Plan Implementation Progress: The strategic plan update for the 1st Quarter was delivered to the board. To date, staff has completed 51% of the objectives contained within the Strategic Plan.

Fire Station 32/Callawassie Progress Update: The station is complete and is now fully open. The Board would like to have an official “re-opening” of the facility on June 15th at 2pm.

Fire Station 31/New Riverside: The contractor continues to make good progress. The substantial completion date was July 21, 2021. However, it appears the completion date may be mid – late June 2021. We should be in there by July 4th.

Fire Station 34/Sun City: The County has approved an MOU with a 50%/50% cost share between BTFD and BCEMS. District and County received a new cost estimate with the sprinkler system included. BTFD and BCEMS will each contribute approximately \$675,000, with \$88,000 attributed to the cost of the sprinkler system.

Fire Station 39/Sun City Property Acquisition: District staff was presented with a completed tree and topographic drawing of the property and learned there is a BJWSA sewer pipe currently traversing the site where the building is proposed to sit. On May 5,

Approved by the Fire Board 6-15-21

2021 staff met with Sun City General Manager Brad Phillips regarding the issue and asked his engineers to determine if the pipe can be relocated. The engineers will work with BJWSA to discuss the prospect of moving the pipe and the estimated costs associated with the work. The Sun City HOA is very interested in this project and is supportive of moving it forward over the next three to five years.

OLD BUSINESS:

- ***COVID-19 Response Update:*** Chief Thompson stated that the District does not currently have any employees out due to COVID-19.
- ***Special Board Budget Workshop Discussion:*** Director Lust motioned, and Director Poindexter seconded to approve the proposed projected budget. Director Lust amended the motion to present the proposed budget subject to adjustment as the numbers become available through the county, starting at \$16,772,442 with a millage rate increase of .50 to 24.60 with the debt millage rate to remain at 1.6. Director Poindexter seconded the motion. (YEAS –Raymond, Poindexter, Paolo, Lust, Olsen, Hamilton, Mike) (NAYS – None)

NEW BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Director Lust motioned, and Director Poindexter seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 4:55 PM. (YEAS –Raymond, Poindexter, Paolo, Lust, Olsen, Hamilton, Mike) (NAYS – None)

Respectfully Submitted,
Amanda Cazenave
5-19-2021

Approved by the Fire Board 6-15-21