

**BLUFFTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Tuesday, May 20, 2025
Bluffton Fire District Headquarters
MINUTES**

Board Members Present: Bill Rickett, Paul Hamilton (Zoom), Drew Bedingfield, Dana Marsh, Natalie Majorkiewicz, Joe Paolo

Absent:

Members Present: Derek Church, Adam Corn, Steve McKinley, Todd Harvey, Stephen Combs, Rhett Livingston

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 4:00, pm by Vice Chair Rickett.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

BOARD MEMBER ROLL CALL

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA: Vice Chair Rickett moved to accept the agenda. Director Marsh motioned, and Director Paolo seconded to accept the agenda. Motion passed unanimously. (YEAS – Marsh, Rickett, Hamilton, Bedingfield, Majorkiewicz, Paolo) (NAYS – None)

CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION:

- Assistant Chief Corn promoted to Deputy Chief of Operations
- FF Joe Mayo promoted to Driver Operator

APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES: Director Paolo motioned, and Director Majorkiewicz seconded the minutes of April 15, 2025, Board of Directors meeting be approved. Motion passed. (YEAS – Rickett, Hamilton, Bedingfield, Marsh, Majorkiewicz, Paolo) (NAYS – None)

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL CALLED MEETING: Director Paolo motioned, and Director Hamilton seconded the minutes of May 6, 2025, Board of Directors meeting be approved. Motion passed. (YEAS – Hamilton, Bedingfield, Marsh, Majorkiewicz, Paolo, Rickett) (NAYS – None)

FINANCIAL REPORT: Chief Church reviewed the Finance Report for the month of April 2025. We are through 83.33% of the 2025 fiscal year budget, and the total expenditures year to

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date is at 81.64%. The revenue requested year to date from the county was \$19,292,171, which is 81.72% of our \$23,606,911 budget. The current fire impact fee balance is \$1,307,031 (\$51,222 Increase).

Director Marsh motioned, and Director Majorkiewicz seconded that the April 2025 Financial Report be approved as submitted. Motion passed (YEAS – Rickett, Hamilton, Bedingfield, Marsh, Majorkiewicz, Paolo) (NAYS – None)

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL:

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

Director Marsh motioned, and Director Hamilton seconded that the consent agenda be accepted. Motion passed. (YEAS – Rickett, Hamilton, Bedingfield, Marsh, Majorkiewicz, Paolo) (NAYS – None)

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Receipt of Operations Update:** Chief Corn reviewed the Operations Report for April. The overall call volume was 984 calls. The response time report and the response time heat map show a longer response time to calls in the areas covered by Station 34 and between Station 30 and Station 35 as they require a longer distance and time to get on scene. Stations 30, 34, 35 and 38 remain the busiest stations.

PROJECT UPDATES:

- ***Accreditation Update:*** Peer review team was on site the week of May 4, 2025. The District has been recommended to re-accreditation and we will be attending a hearing in Denver, Colorado in August to stand before the CPSE Commission for the final steps.
- ***Strategic Plan Implementation Progress:*** Chief Livingston will be working with the team leaders to start working on the strategic goals.
- ***Fire Station 39/Sun City Property Acquisition:*** Through meetings including Bluffton Fire District, Beaufort County, Cort Atkins, Fraser Construction, and Ward Edwards Engineering, a general floor plan has been approved. The process of obtaining all necessary permitting has begun. The Sun City group has preliminary approved the outside design of the station.
- ***American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA):*** No new updates.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Discussion of legal and personnel matters with the Board.

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Director Marsh motioned to move to set the Interim Chiefs pay commensurate with the former Chiefs pay, exact amount to be determined.

Director Paolo motioned, and Director Hamilton seconded. Motion passed. (YEAS –Paolo, Marsh, Rickett, Bedingfield, Hamilton) (NAYS – None)

Director Paolo moved to enter Executive Session. Director Bedingfield seconded. The motion was passed, and the Executive Session began at 4:38 pm. (YEAS –Paolo, Marsh, Rickett, Majorkiewicz, Bedingfield, Hamilton) (NAYS – None)

Director Paolo moved to end the Executive Session. Director Bedingfield seconded. The motion was passed, and the Executive Session ended at 5:41 pm. (YEAS –Paolo, Marsh, Rickett, Bedingfield, Hamilton) (NAYS – None)

ADJOURNMENT: Director Paolo motioned, and Director Marsh seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 5:42 PM. (YEAS –Rickett, Hamilton, Bedingfield, Marsh, Paolo) (NAYS – None)

Respectfully Submitted,
Hailey Smith
5/20/2025

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