

**BLUFFTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Tuesday, February 18, 2025
Bluffton Fire District Headquarters
MINUTES**

Board Members Present: Rick Krob, Bill Rickett, Joe Paolo, Paul Hamilton, Drew Bedingfield, Dana Marsh, Natalie Majorkiewicz

Absent:

Members Present: Derek Church, Adam Corn, Dan Wiltse, Rhett Livingston, Steve McKinley, Stephen Combs, Tracy Walling

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

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

BOARD MEMBER ROLL CALL

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

CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION:

- Cal Shanks promoted to Driver Operator
- Bill Richardson promoted to Firefighter II
- Alex Gerards promoted to Firefighter II

APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES: Director Marsh motioned, and Director Hamilton seconded the minutes of January 28, 2025, Board of Directors meeting be approved. Motion passed. (YEAS – Krob, Paolo, Rickett, Hamilton, Bedingfield, Marsh, Majorkiewicz) (NAYS – None)

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES: Director Marsh motioned, and Director Hamilton seconded the minutes of February 11, 2025, Special Called meeting be approved. Motion passed. (YEAS – Krob, Paolo, Hamilton, Bedingfield, Marsh, Majorkiewicz) (NAYS – None) (ABSTAIN- Rickett as he was not present for this meeting)

FINANCIAL REPORT: Chief Church reviewed the Finance Report for the month of January 2025. We are through 58.33% of the 2025 fiscal year budget, and the total expenditures year to date are at 59.06%. The revenue requested year to date from the county was \$13,983,617, which

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is 59.24% of our \$23,606,911 budget. The current fire impact fee balance is \$1,170,447 (\$104,792 Decrease).

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

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL:

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

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

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Receipt of Operations Update:** Chief Corn reviewed the Operations Report for January. The overall call volume was 910 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.
- **Social Media Update:** Stephen reviewed the statistics from social media platforms at the request of the Board. We currently use Facebook, Instagram, Nextdoor, X (formerly known as Twitter), and LinkedIn. In 2024, the BTFD Facebook had 2.24 million impressions (which is how many times the post is viewed). We have had a 15.2% increase on Facebook, 10.6% on Instagram and 9.8% on X. In 2024, we have 25,000 unique visitors to our website.

Project Updates:

- ***Accreditation Update:*** All documents were uploaded to CPSE, and they will be in touch regarding the next steps. A team lead has been assigned, and Chief Livingston is working on the next steps. The site visited is estimated to occur in May.
- ***Strategic Plan Implementation Progress:*** Teams for each strategic plan have been identified. As time allows, they will begin working on this project.
- ***Fire Station 39/Sun City Property Acquisition:*** On January 27, 2025 Beaufort County Council approved a Contract Award to Fraser Construction and Court Atkins Group for IFB# 06182 Station 39 for the design portion for this Design/Build Project.

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- ***American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA):*** Bryx Station Alerting is installed but not fuller operational. Chief Corn is leading a team of representatives from each agency to try and mitigate issues as they are found.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Discussion of personnel matters with the Board. No actions were taken while in the executive session.

Director Krob moved to enter Executive Session. Director Marsh seconded. The motion was passed, and the Executive Session began at 4:51pm. (YEAS –Paolo, Marsh, Krob, Rickett, Majorkiewicz, Bedingfield, Hamilton) (NAYS – None)

Director Bedingfield moved to end the Executive Session. Director Paolo seconded. The motion was passed, and the Executive Session ended at 5:46 pm. (YEAS –Paolo, Marsh, Krob, Rickett, Majorkiewicz, Bedingfield, Hamilton) (NAYS – None)

ADJOURNMENT: Director Marsh motioned, and Director Hamilton seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 5:47 PM. (YEAS – Krob, Rickett, Paolo, Hamilton, Bedingfield, Marsh, Majorkiewicz) (NAYS – None)

Respectfully Submitted,
Hailey Smith
02/18/2025

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