

**BLUFFTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Tuesday, January 20, 2026
Bluffton Fire District Headquarters
MINUTES**

Board Members Present: Bill Rickett, Joe Paolo, Natalie Majorkiewicz, Dana Marsh, Drew Bedingfield (arrived late)

Absent: Paul Hamilton

Members Present: David Hindman, Derek Church, Adam Corn, Steve McKinley, Tracy Walling, Rhett Livingston

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

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

BOARD MEMBER ROLL CALL

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

CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Heather Woolwine with Town of Hilton Head introduced herself. She is currently in the Chamber of Commerce Leadership class.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION:

- Joseph Sweeney promoted to Driver Operator
- Carter Dzieciolowski promoted to Driver Operator

APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES: Commissioner Marsh motioned, and Commissioner Rickett seconded the minutes of December 16, 2025, Board of Commissioners meeting be approved. Motion passed. (YEAS – Rickett, Majorkiewicz, Paolo, Marsh) (NAYS – None)

FINANCIAL REPORT: Chief Church reviewed the Finance Report for the month of December 2025. We are through 50% of the 2026 fiscal year budget, and the total expenditures year to date is 44.55%. The revenue requested year to date from the County was \$12,022,478, which is 44.67% of our \$26,913,566 budget. The current fire impact fee balance is \$1,933,299 (Increase of \$66,281).

Approved by the Fire Board 2/17/2026

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

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL:

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

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

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Receipt of Operations Update:** Chief Corn reviewed the Operations Report for December. The overall call volume was 931 calls. Stations 38, 34, 30, and 35 are still the busiest stations.

PROJECT UPDATES:

- ***Strategic Plan Implementation Progress:*** Chief Livingston continues to work with the team leaders to start working on strategic goals.
- ***Fire Station 39/Sun City Property Acquisition:*** The design process is going well. The current timeline has construction starting in February 2026 with an estimated completion date range of October 2026.
- ***American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA):*** Bryx is still working on the dispatch center part of the project.
- ***Policy Update Process:*** Tracy Walling, HR Director, has assembled a team and they are actively working on updating our policies.
- ***Old Station 32:*** Our lawyer is still working with the heir's lawyer and waiting for them to provide proof of their right to the property. No groundbreaking date has been set yet.
- ***Training Building:*** SGR has been contracted and is ordering materials, with hopes of being on-site soon to start the repairs. Their plan is to have all supplies in place at the start of the project and complete all necessary repairs as quickly as possible.

NEW BUSINESS:

Approved by the Fire Board 2/17/2026

- **Moore Bradley Myers Law Firm:** Putting Moore Bradley Myers Law firm on retainer to provide legal advice and/or representation as needed.

Commissioner Rickett motioned, and Commissioner Bedingfield seconded to put Moore Bradley Myers Law Firm on retainer for representation as needed. Motion passed. (YEAS – Marsh, Majorkiewicz, Paolo, Rickett, Bedingfield) (NAYS – None)

ADJOURNMENT: Commissioner Marsh motioned, and Commissioner Bedingfield seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 4:33 PM. (YEAS – Rickett, Majorkiewicz, Paolo, Marsh, Bedingfield) (NAYS – None)

Respectfully Submitted,
Hailey Smith
1/20/2026

Approved by the Fire Board 2/17/2026