

BIG SKY FIRE DEPARTMENT "BSFD"
MINUTES OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 21, 2016

Introduction of visitors and guests

Big Sky Fire Department: Captain Seth Barker, Captain Stephen Pruiett, FF/Medic Jason Gras, FF/EMT Mitch Hamel, FF/EMT John Foster, FF/EMT Matt Mohr, EMT Chuck Tufts, EMT Heather Walker, EMT Rich Piercy, FF Jay Miller

Master Plan Presentation: Lane Wintermute, ESCI

Community Members: Seth Nowlin, Matt DesLauriers, David Lisac, Paul Hennigan, Bob Byrd, JeNelle Johnson, Alex Ide, Tracy Reamy, Patrick Lonergan, David Fowler, Beth Van Horn, Ryan Stratman, Peter Bing, Jon Olsen, Kari Gras, Brandon Kelly, Kirk Dige, Ron Edwards, Kevin Germain, Brian Wheeler and Amanda Eggert

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Chair Alan McClain at 8:30am

Present: Trustees Alan McClain, Carol Collins, Steve Johnson, Renae Schumacher and Tom Reeves; William Farhat, Fire Chief; Alecia Fischer, Office Administrator

2. Public Comment - None

3. Consent Agenda Items - Action Required:

- a. Approval of draft minutes of December 16, 2015 Regular Meeting
- b. Financial Reports for December 2015
- c. Monthly Financial Statements
- d. Check Register: Checks 6115199 – 6115253; including voided check 6115241
 - **Motion Made and Seconded** by Carol Collins and Renae Schumacher to approve the consent agenda items of the January 21, 2016 regular meeting, with a correction to the members present in the Call to Order agenda item on the December agenda. Passed Unanimously

4. Fire Chief's Report – William Farhat

See report included in board packet.

- Trustee Johnson requested that data on the number of concurrent calls be provided.

5. Correspondence

See correspondence included in board packet.

6. New Business

- a. ISO Public Protection Classification Rating Update
 - Chief Farhat is pleased to announce that, unofficially, the district's rating will remain a 5.

7. Unfinished Business

- a. Fire Station #1 Renovation Update
 - Chief Farhat stated that the construction plans are about 60% complete. R&R Taylor is working on a final estimate for the cost of renovating Station #1 and should be completed this week. David Fowler stated that R&R Taylor is located in Bozeman and did the Sourdough Fire Station and the West Yellowstone Fire Station, in addition to other projects. The estimate should be ready to discuss at the February board meeting.

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b. Deputy Fire Chief Position Update

- Chief Farhat briefed the board of trustees on the individuals that are sitting on the evaluation panels and the schedule of events for the interview process.

c. ESCI Master Plan Update – Lane Wintermute, ESCI, Presentation

- Chief Farhat introduced the Big Sky Fire Department trustees, office administrator and the full-time responders. Chief Farhat announced that the deputy chief interview process begins this evening at Station #1 with a meet and greet.
- Chief Farhat explained the master planning process and the goal of the study was to see if the fire department is meeting the needs of the community and also looking forward to strategic planning for future growth. This is just the beginning of the planning process. Chief Farhat introduced Lane Wintermute.
- Lane Wintermute stated what the purpose of a master plan is; where is your organization today, where does it need to be in the future and how do you get there. He went through the report and shared several points from the report. The report can be found on the Big Sky Fire Department website and will also be available in hard copy at the meeting to interested individuals.
- Trustee Reeves would like to see data on the number of concurrent calls that occur to look at if current staffing is adequate. Is this something that can be predicted for the future? Chief Farhat can produce this data to see what the trends are. Lane Wintermute reported that his data analyst can assist with producing this information if they have the data available.
- Trustee Johnson stated that 2/3 of our residential infrastructure is empty at any given time and we have peak skier days that can be up to three times the resident population. This points out the flux of population for medical emergency needs and protection of residential infrastructure. How did ESCI take this information into account in terms of projecting service demands? Lane stated that they did not have good data to project both the transient population and unoccupied housing issues; he will check with his data analyst and get back to Chief Farhat.
- There was discussion of why the ladder truck should be stationed at Station #1. The ladder truck should be centralized for everything in the district and serve the entire community, it is not meant to just be available to the buildings on the mountain.
- There was a question about who has the legal authority to enforce the building codes. Chief Farhat explained that there are no residential building codes. There are commercial building codes that are enforced by the State of Montana. Chief Farhat enforces the fire code which is a time consuming process. He tries to work with people collaboratively and educate them on what is needed and why and in most cases this is effective.
- Community member Beth Van Horn complimented the fire department and is very proud and thankful for the staff and department.

d. 2016-17 Annual Budget Committee Update

- The committee has not had an opportunity to meet yet but will be meeting before the next board meeting and will provide an update at the February meeting.

e. Fire Chief's Review Committee Update

- The committee is in the process of meeting with members of the department and will provide an update at the February meeting.

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f. Big Sky Ski Patrol AED Purchase

- Chief Farhat stated that he consulted with the district's attorney, Kim Christohperson, and that Big Sky Fire Department cannot give the AED to Boyne because it is a for-profit organization. BSFD can donate the equipment to the non-profit portion of Big Sky Ski Patrol with the caveat that they would keep it maintained annually through the original manufacturer, provide insurance for the equipment and return it to BSFD if the organization no longer has use for the equipment.
- **Motion Made and Seconded** by Renae Schumacher and Carol Collins to approve donating the AED to the Big Sky Ski Patrol Dirt Bag Benevolent Society Inc. per the Big Sky Fire District's attorney's recommendations. Passed 3/2; Johnson and Reeves opposed

8. Other Business

- a. Holmes & Turner 2014-15 Audit – Bound Copy for Board Members
- b. Trustee Election Reminder – Nomination Petitions due February 8, 2016
 - Trustee Schumacher stated that she is going to run again for the open trustee positions.
 - Trustee Johnson checked with the Gallatin County Election Office to confirm that his signed oath of office is on file.
 - Matt Dodd has expressed interest in running for the open trustee positions.

9. Public Comment

- Trustee Johnson announced that the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce has scheduled community town hall meetings regarding traffic issues in Big Sky. The meeting dates are scheduled at the Big Sky Chapel for January 27th 9-11am, February 3rd 6-8pm and February 4th 4-6pm.

10. Date for next regular meeting – February 24, 2016 @ 8:30am

- Trustee Reeves will be absent for the February meeting.

11. Adjourned at 10:55am

Respectfully submitted,



Alan McClain, Chair



Steve Johnson, Secretary/Treasurer

cc: Board of Trustees
Fire Chief William Farhat
Local 4732
Gallatin County Board of Commissioners
Gallatin County Clerk & Records Office
Madison County Clerk & Records Office