

## Minutes for April 20, 2022

### Beckwourth Fire District

1. **Board members may attend this meeting via teleconference as permitted by California Law. Members of the public were able to join the meeting via Zoom live streaming or in person. Board Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM by Daniel Smith.**
2. **Roll Call: Board Members:** Daniel Smith – here, Gay Miller – absent, Daniel Greenwood – here, Dick Spencer – here, Alyson Ceresola - here. **Board Secretary:** Mercadez Flewell – here(Via Zoom), **Fire Chief:** Bret Russell - here, Deputy Chief: Kenny Osborn - absent, **Safety Officer:** Absent, **Division Chief:** Absent, **BFD members:** Absent, **Public:** Pat Morton, John Reynolds, Ashlee Sims (Via Zoom)
3. **The Pledge of Allegiance:** Recited by all.
4. **Opening remarks.** Daniel Smith thanked all the board members for their time as well as the staff and volunteers for everything they do. He also Thanked John Reynolds for all the work he has done on Firewise programs and thanked Pat Morton for being there from Portola.
5. **Approval of Minutes** for the Board Meetings held March 16, 2022. There was one minor correction that needed to be adjusted, Daniel Greenwood **motioned to approve the minutes** from the prior month, and Dick Spencer seconded. Daniel S. – yes, Gay – absent, Daniel G. – yes, Alyson – yes, Dick Spencer - yes. All in favor, **motion passed without objection.**
6. **Approval of the Account Revenues, Expenditures, and Balance Sheet for months of March 2022.** There were no edits or corrections needed. Bret Russell went over the monthly expense sheet and broke down amounts of what has been spent and where BFD will be receiving reimbursements or funds back from other departments. Dick Spencer **motioned to approve the revenues, expenditures, and balance sheet** from the prior month, and Alyson Ceresola seconded. Daniel S. – yes, Gay – absent, Daniel G. – yes, Alyson – yes, Dick Spencer - yes. All in favor, **motion passed without objection.**
7. **Public Comment:** John Reynolds spoke on behalf of the Firewise program at Grizzly Ranch. He also spoke about the Eastern Plumas Fire Prevention grant. This grant is a 5.7 Million Dollar grant that covers a huge portion of the eastern side of the county.  
  
Pat Morton spoke on behalf of a friend who lives on Mohawk who was extremely impressed with the work that had been done through this grant.  
  
Ashlee Sims asked for a copy of the map that John Reynolds had been speaking about during his comment.
8. **Consent Agenda: None**
9. **Chief's Report:** Bret Russell spoke about the MSA SCBA's that BFD, LVFD, EPRFPD, and City of Portola were all purchased through a regional grant from FEMA. Right now, BFD has four people in the Quincy Fire academy program, two firefighters and two cadets. Bret let everyone know that Kenny Osburn was able to get 9473 sold through the Fenton Fire Equipment site. It was sold for \$30,000 and \$3,000 commission will be sent to Fenton Fire.  
  
There was a total of 33 calls for the month of March: 8 in Beckwourth and 25 in Portola. BFD will be hosting a refresher course for the Basic 32. Bret will be updating the training qualifications for personnel that will be participating in this year's wildland season. There is a Firewise meeting April 21<sup>st</sup> at the library in Portola. Alyson asked how the process is going for BFD on lessening the call volume and Bret explained where he has made progress.
10. **Secretary's Report: NONE**
11. **Discussion and Possible Action:** Budget Notice 2022-2023 – See Item 12 as they were discussed at the same time.
12. **Discussion and Possible Action:** Proposed Budget for 2022-2023 - Daniel explained that this document is to notify the public of BFD preparing their proposed budget and is allowing the public to make any comments or suggestions. Bret explained the current proposed budget that he, Mercadez, and Daniel have worked on together. Some items have been adjusted to reflect current financial fluctuations(Gas prices, food prices, utility prices have all risen). Alyson, Dick, and Daniel G. had questions about certain items, Bret and Daniel S. addressed questions. Mercadez will be looking into one of the items to clarify why BFD has a value of \$2,500 in it, it is our miscellaneous funds. Alyson Ceresola **motioned to approve/adopt Proposed Budget for 2022-2023 and Budget Notice for 2022-2023**, Daniel G. seconded. Daniel Smith –

yes, Gay Miller – absent, Daniel Greenwood – yes, Alyson Ceresola – yes, Dick Spencer – yes. All in favor, **motion passed without objection.**

**13. Update of:** LESSG Consolidation Project. – Daniel Smith briefly explained the consolidation’s progress to date. The committee is getting close to the end of the evaluation. The LAFCO process has requirements for a consolidation or formation of a new district which is what we have been working on. All the departments that are involved in the formation have been regularly active in the process and has worked closely with LAFCo and our consultant to ensure that it is all being done correctly. There are many non-emergent calls that the fire departments are paged out to respond to that should go only to the ambulance service., Fire departments are not legally required to respond to these non-emergency calls. All parties involved are working on a better way to address these calls. Over the next six to eight weeks the LESSG committee will continue to meet and refine the evaluation prior to bringing it to the public for review and discussion.

Ashlee Sims asked when the meetings will be opened to the public for them to sit in. Daniel S. let her know that they will open to the public as soon as the final draft of the feasibility study has been finished. That is about 3 months away. Ashlee was also concerned about the funds that are paid to LAFCO by the homeowners of Portola. She wants to know if there will be more fees. Daniel let her know that the funds for the consolidation would be completely different than the LAFCO funds. The funds will be based off the type of property that is owned, land, commercial, residential, etc. Ashlee also asked regarding the boundary lines of the prospected consolidation. Daniel let her know that LAFCO has been involved with the boundary and it is still being evaluated.

Daniel Greenwood asked if the fire insurance rates will go down or up with a consolidation. Daniel Smith let him know that at this time there is no evidence it will go up or down however if a property is not annexed into a specific area the rates for fire insurance may be more. There is still talk on this specific subject as well.

**14. Update of:** Portola City Council Liaison Monthly Report. – No report

**15. Update of:** Report on Coronavirus/Policies and Procedures. BFD’s Policies and Procedures remain the same.

**16. Update of:** Report on water use from Grizzly Ranch. 6600 gallons used for the month of March

**17. Department Reports:** None.

**18. Directors Reports:** None.

**19. Old Business:** None.

**20. New Business:** NEXT BOARD MEETING: Wednesday May 18, 2022.

**21. Adjournment of Meeting:** Daniel S. adjourned meeting @ 20:28

I, MERCADEZ FLEWELL, SECRETARY OF THE BOARD, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING MINUTES OF SAID **BOARD MEETING** OF THE BECKWOURTH FIRE DISTRICT HELD ON **April 20, 2022**, ARE CORRECT AS RECORDED.

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Mercadez Flewell, Secretary of the Board

BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ APPROVAL SIGNATURES: Minutes for April 20, 2022

Daniel Smith: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Gay Miller: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Daniel Greenwood: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Alyson Ceresola: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dick Spencer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_