

## Minutes for July 16, 2020 Beckwourth Fire District

1. **Board Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM by Daniel Smith.**
2. **Roll Call: Board Members:** Daniel Smith – here, Denise Downs - here, Dwight Ceresola – here, Gay Miller – here, John Randall - here. **Board Secretary:** Patty Venable, **Fire Chief:** Bret Russell, **Safety Officer:** Brendan Pratt, **Division Chief:** Donald Bliss, **BEC members:** Floyd Meyers, Bruce Lackenbauer, BJ Mendoza (potential new volunteer), **Public:** John Reynolds, Tom Cooley, Pat Morton, Jade Pratt.
3. **The Pledge of Allegiance:** Recited by all.
4. **Approval of Minutes** for the Board Meeting held June 18, 2020. Daniel asked for clarification. Under Item #17, it reads "...LAFCO will waive \$12,000 if we moved forward on this". It should read, "LAFCO will waive up to \$12,000..." Tom Cooley agreed it should be changed. Denise Downs **motioned to approve minutes, with this one change, as transcribed, from the meeting held on June 18, 2020** and Gay Miller seconded. Daniel – yes, Denise – yes, Dwight – yes, Gay – yes, John - yes. All in favor, **motion passed without objection.**
5. **Approval of the Account Revenues, Receivables, Expenditures, and Balance Sheet** for the month of June 2020. On the agenda it was noted this would be rolled over due to the County not sending them out prior to the agenda going out. Since then, the County did send the financials, so Patty handed them out. John **motioned to approve the Account Revenues, Receivables, Expenditures, and Balance Sheet for the month of June 2020**, Gay Miller seconded. Daniel – yes, Denise yes, Dwight – yes, Gay – yes, John - yes. All in favor, **motion passed without objection.**

**Monthly Budget Updates for Board:** reviewed, no questions or concerns.

6. **Public Comment:** Bruce Lackenbauer wanted to thank the Board for all the work they do to keep BFD going.
7. **Consent Agenda:** none
8. **Chief's Report:** Daniel asked Bret if he could combine his Chief's Report and #12 on the agenda, Report on Coronavirus. Bret agreed. BFD did another **RT130 Training**, this time for the surrounding districts. The Chief wanted to give a special thank you to Ruben Villa, Floyd Meyers and Don Bliss. He said they did a phenomenal job. It was very beneficial for the participants, but also highlighted what we do here at BFD, very impressive. The Chief introduced a new recruit, **BJ Mendoza**. He is going through the process to become a volunteer with us. BJ introduced himself by saying he grew up in Portola and was with EPRFPD for about 8 years as a Captain, he left the area and was with Truckee Meadows FD and then he moved back here. The Chief went on to give a **Coronavirus** update: Plumas Co. currently has 22 active cases of the virus. It is unknown the exact number recovered, but it appears to be 11 reported at this time. If there has been exposure it is advised to isolate for 14 days. The Chief feels we should keep our training going at BFD. We take all necessary precautions, and if any member is uncomfortable, they are encouraged to speak up. Daniel asked Bret his opinion on wearing masks, and Bret said he felt only N95 masks which are properly fitted can work, but most of the masks people are wearing do not do anything to keep germs from passing to one another. Nonetheless, Bret wants to comply and will do what we are asked to do. Daniel thought it would be good to continue wearing them until we are advised to do otherwise.
9. **Secretary's Report:** none
10. **Discussion and Possible Action: Approve Final 2020/21 Budget.** After last month's discussion of the preliminary budget, it has not changed. Daniel reviewed the numbers and noted our revenue was reduced by 10% given the current economy. We need to be very careful with our budget, so we self-imposed a budget freeze. He suggested we should review these numbers every quarter, and he wants Bret and Patty to put that on their calendar. Denise made a **motion to pass the 2020/21 Budget** and John seconded. Daniel – yes, Denise – yes, Dwight – yes, Gay – yes, John – yes. All in favor, **motion passed without objection.**
11. **Discussion and Possible Action: Local Emergency Services Study Group.** This is a standing item on our agenda of the potential consolidation/reorganization of six districts that have all signed an MOU to work toward this goal. A.) Various Ad Hoc Committees have been formed, and updates will now be given. Daniel, Dwight, and Bret are on one committee and they met last week. Daniel is also assigned to a Case Study Committee. There are many departments across the country that have gone through a consolidation process, and they have written reports about their process, so we can learn from these reports and not have to reinvent the wheel. This committee has agreed to have legal counsel from both BFD and Portola attend their next meeting and discuss their experience with consolidation. They are also working on a website, so the public knows what is happening and is involved. Tom

Cooley shared that members of the public are starting to volunteer their time to help with communication, the website, etc. Tom appreciates the support and shared the importance of their involvement. Dwight added that everyone seems to be working well together. B.) A contract with the city of Portola for fire services: Denisce, Dwight and Bret toured the Portola fire stations and their equipment. Denisce feels positive of the process so far. She wants to see a crew in Portola and a crew in Beckwourth. Dwight feels the BFD members want to maintain our quality of service we have in place in Beckwourth and not lose that as we move forward. Daniel said Bret is talking with the ambulance company regarding dispatch. We need to curtail firefighters responding to medical calls that the ambulance can handle. Also, the call volume for Portola has been looked at, and the insurance costs for additional firefighters.

- 12. **Report on Coronavirus:** mentioned above in Chief's report.
- 13. **Policy and Procedure 2010 and 2010a** – rolled over.
- 14. **Division Chiefs' Report:** none
- 15. **Battalion Chiefs' Report:** Bruce is concerned about the budget, but he thinks it may cost around \$4,000 to outfit new volunteers, so he wonders how this will be addressed. Daniel said he is also concerned, and they are looking into possible grants to help.
- 16. **Safety Officer's Report:** nothing new to report.
- 17. **Directors Reports:** Dwight attended the Board of Supervisor's meeting last Tuesday. He said they reported on coronavirus cases and the use of masks. On the numbers they show high numbers across the state, but no information of the number recovered. Then they reported on many false negatives. Dwight is going to meet with a person from public health to discuss this number issue.
- 18. **Old Business: Ethics Training:** Both Daniel and John fulfilled their ethics training last week. Denisce said for harassment training we will need to do that online.
- 19. **New Business: NEXT MEETING DATE: August 20, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.**
- 20. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

I, PATTY VENABLE, SECRETARY OF THE BOARD, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING MINUTES OF SAID **BOARD MEETING** OF THE BECKWOURTH FIRE DISTRICT HELD ON **July 16, 2020** ARE CORRECT AS RECORDED.

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Patty Venable, Secretary of the Board

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' APPROVAL SIGNATURES: Minutes for July 16, 2020.

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

Denisce Downs: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dwight Ceresola: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

John Randall: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_