



BEAVER LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, February 16, 2023

- LOCATION:** Prairie Creek Association Community Room, 14432 Hwy. 12 East, Rogers, Arkansas
- CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting is called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Jeff Easley, Vice Chairman
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Larry Smith, Chairman (via Zoom); Jeff Easley, Vice Chairman; Todd Weber, President; Monte Gagliardi, Vice President; Laura Tucker, Vice Treasurer; Curtis Hathcock, Secretary; David Cauldwell; Jerry Hudlow; Dana Mather
- MEMBERS ABSENT:** Pat Kelley; Gisela Mejia-Cruz, Treasurer
- GUESTS:** There were approximately 15 visitors to include Steve Long, Dave Kirgan, Kora Kirgan, Sheila Gallagher, Kelly Lewis, Doreen DonatoniKing, Gary Van Overschelde, Charlette Hudlow, Randy Aldridge, Regina Aldridge, Mark Reibenspies, Rob Holliger, Helen Holliger and Jeff DuRocher, spelling of names may be in error.
- Approval of Previous Minutes** Due to technical difficulties, a print-out of Previous Board Minutes was not available for review and approval. Deferred to next meeting.
- PUBLIC COMMENT:** Jeff Easley, Vice Chairman provided opening remarks of instructions and introduced the new Board of Directors.
- A request for a summary of information concerning public notice for meetings where the agenda may include a vote for decision on a matter of business. Questions related to communications using website and other media were addressed with Board responding that changes in procedures are being implemented to bring the sites up to date. Questions concerning recruitment of volunteer personnel and general staffing presented. Audience proposed changing online recruitment forms and tools be better automated for efficiency. Another recommendation was to consider an Open House event at the Fire Station. Board reaffirmed importance of recruitment of personnel to meet overall enhancement goals for BLFD.

OLD BUSINESS:

Act 833 funding Update - This item deferred to next monthly meeting due to absence of presenter.

Update on Application Process for obtaining IRS Code 501 (c) (3) status for Non-Profit Organization - Curtis Hathcock provided an overview stating application for recognition of status will have to be submitted in full. Some discussion was introduced to seek more information on possibility of dual recognition or having an auxiliary organization as a possible method.

Request for Quorum Court Consideration of Fee Increase - General discussion was opened on status of request to be presented at the Benton County Committee of the Whole for a change to Ordinance 2017-21 reference collection of Dues for Volunteer Fire Departments, specifically for BLFD.

Committees:

Budget Committee - David Cauldwell / Laura Tucker / Jerry Hudlow provided summary of current budget and financial position of BLFD. Laura discussed requirement to remove access to banking accounts from persons no longer on the Board or employed by BLFD.

Resolution 2023-F-0001 was read by Secretary. Motion made and seconded to approve resolution. Unanimously approved by voice vote.

Vote taken by the Board to accept budget reports as presented was unanimously approved.

Advisory Committee - Discussion of status on goals for finalizing recommendations of the committee presented with possible goal to April. After which, an information and education process will be pursued to ensure the general membership has sufficient knowledge to participate in a planned internal election to approve. Estimated timeline to conduct internal election is in July or August 2023 dependent upon collecting feedback from general membership.

Operations Report - Interim Chief Wright provided a summary of the operations report. Number of response calls initiated were approximately 50% less than that for the same period last year. Ambulance required some maintenance on electrical issues and a summary of significant event at Tanglewood Lodge Fire was provided concerning BLFD participation.

NEW BUSINESS:

Special Board Member Appointment - Fire Fighter, Ex Officio Board Member - Todd Weber provided introduction for Austin Harris as a candidate for the Firefighter Ex Officio Board Member position. Harris

introduced himself, stated desire to fill the position, and answered question from the Board.

Motion made to appoint Austin Harris as Firefighter, Ex Officio Board Member by Todd Weber, second by Dana Mather. Vote approved unanimously by the board.

New Business
(continued)

Resolution to update all bank transaction signatories for checking, savings, line of credit, safety deposit box, etc. — was read by Curtis Hathcock.

Motion made and second, to approve Resolution 2023-F-0001. Review of all active and fully in force resolution to date — Curtis Hathcock stated that he will begin a review of records received to determine status of existing resolutions on record and needs for updating.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

General public session of the meeting was closed at approximately 7:05 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion to open executive session of meeting made by Jerry Hudlow, second by Laura Tucker.

Purpose to discuss personnel staffing issues for BLFD. Business was discussed and recommendation made for decision and action to be taken during a Special Board Meeting to be scheduled.

Motion made by Todd Weber to offer Release from Employment to Interim Fire Chief Jon Wright, Friday, February 17, 2023. Seconded by Jeff Easley. Unanimously approved by voice vote.

Motion made by Jerry Hudlow to return to normal Monthly Meeting session, second by Curtis Hathcock.

MEETING
ADJOURMENT

Next regular Monthly Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at the Prairie Creek Association Community Room, 14432 E. Highway 12, Rogers, Arkansas 72756.

Motion was made and second to adjourn meeting at 9:25 P.M.

SUBMITTED BY:



Curtis Hathcock, Secretary