



# BEAVER LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Minutes



Date: **Tuesday, April 11, 2023**

Time: **6:00 p.m.**

Place: **Prairie Creek Association Community Room**

Location: **14432 Hwy. 12 East, Rogers, Arkansas 72756**

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9386633781>

1. CALL TO ORDER – Jeff Easley, Vice Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1802. All Directors (9 out of 10) were present except for Larry Smith on excused absence. The Chief and Firefighter Representative were present, also.
2. Changes to Agenda – No changes were made to the agenda.
3. Announcements
  - 3.1. Larry Smith Update – Jeff gave a quick summary on Larry’s condition. He is doing as well as can be expected and recovering.
  - 3.2. Reminder to Vote during upcoming Special Election. Jeff thanked efforts of everyone involved in developing and sending out notice to members of the upcoming Special Election. Special Election Early voting is to begin May 2, 2023 with the Official Election date being May 9, 2023. Briefly summarized all known election items. Special emphasis on the dues increase for Beaver Lake Fire Department. Additional information to be provided to the members will be discussed under new business.
4. Disposition of Previous Meeting Minutes
  - 4.1. Board of Directors March 14, 2023, Meeting Minutes – Jeff Easley summarized last months minutes sent for review by all directors appeared in good order.  
**Motion made by Curtis Hathcock to approve acceptance of Minutes for the March 14, 2023 Board of Directors meeting. Second made by Pat Kelley. Voice vote unanimously approved.**
5. Reports of Officers
  - 5.1. President’s Report – Todd Weber noted nothing new to report.
  - 5.2. Treasurer’s Report
    - 5.2.1. Monthly Finance Update – Gisela Cruz covered review of financial statements for the month of March to include year to date information. Laura Tucker provided some additional information where changes were noted, but everything is on track.
  - 5.3. Secretary’s Report

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- 5.3.1. Status on Re-application for 501 (c) (3) certification – Contact has not been established with IRS. No changes from previous update.  
Curtis Hathcock brought up the request from last month to produce a resolution for RFI concerning possible Contract to provide firefighting services for the BLFD GSA. Todd Weber and Jeff Easley stated we would not pursue this matter any further at this time.

- 5.4. Fire Chief Operations Report – Chief Qualls gave a summary of a lot of things being done during the last month. A special note was given about Request for Information (RFI) to impact Request for Qualifications (RFQ) requested by the County. Beaver Lake Fire Department was the only FD to provide requested information resulting in a lot of good will towards our FD. Report included information on premium pay for FFs. Equipment Status was discussed concerning Engine 1212 being Red X (not in service) due to brake issue. Engine 1213 was repositioned to Station 1 to cover. The ambulance is also Red X. Many gremlins not sure of how long it will be out of service. Mercy is providing a backup vehicle so EMS will not be detrimentally impacted.

### 6. Reports of Committees

- 6.1. Finance Committee Report – No Updates

- 6.2. Advisory Committee Report – Jeff Easley provided a snapshot of how the Advisory Committee was now formed almost entirely by directors on the board. And while the committee is still working on a better method to calculate the membership dues, the committee itself was no longer needed. Directors will continue the process the committee had been assigned.  
**A motion was made by Todd Weber to dissolve the committee. Second by Pat Kelley. Motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.**

- 6.3. Nomination Committee Report – Seeking to Fill Vacant Board of Directors positions. Seeking interested and qualified people to serve as director on the Beaver Lake Fire Department Board of Directors. Currently, one position is vacant. So, we are looking to build a list of potential candidates. Would like to see applications submitted by May 15, 2023 to allow board members to review with a potential vote to fill vacant positions during the June 13, 2023 Board Meeting.

### 7. Old Business.

No outstanding actionable requirements pending. No old business was presented for discussion.

### 8. New Business

#### 8.1. Firefighter Staffing Process

- 8.1.1. Presentation of FF Shift Coverage on Website. Continued discussion was presented to develop a graphic that could be put on the BLFD website to pictorially show how coverage is defined. Chief Qualls provided a description and explanation of personnel coverage. Specifics were provided demonstrating how a Firefighter on duty during a 12-hour period was a force multiplier for responding to emergency calls.

- 8.1.2. Live-in Fighter Program. Chief Qualls provided information on how the program helped reduce costs, improve efficiency, and improve morale for the fire department.

- 8.2. Update on Equipment Inventory and Status. Review of major equipment status and projected repair timelines given for Engine 1212 and the Ambulance.

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- 8.3. EMS Contract. A brief discussion reviewed that the Mercy EMS contract would be ending at the conclusion of this year. The county is working in conjunction with BLFD representatives to get a Request for Proposal sent out to potential service providers. Chief Qualls noted that BLFD was the only FD to provide information requested by the county in accordance with dictated suspense date.
- 8.4. Special Election Voter Information. Review was conducted on how and what information would be placed on the BLFD website concerning the upcoming Special Election. The information would provide potential impact information for either a "yes" vote or a "no" vote. Additionally, a "Frequently Asked Questions" section would be included to help provide information for voter to use in reaching their decision on how to vote.

### 9. Other Business

No other business was presented.

### 10. Adjournment

**Motion to adjourn was made and seconded. Approved by unanimous voice vote at 1935 local time.**

### 11. SUBMITTED BY:



### 12. Curtis Hathcock, Secretary