



BENTON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 2
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES

February 7, 2022

CALL REGULAR BOARD MEETING TO ORDER

Chairperson Orth called the meeting to order **6:00 PM** at District #2, Station 210.

THOSE PRESENT:

Barry Orth, Chairperson
Larry Howell, Commissioner
Steve Rouse, Commissioner
Dennis Bates, Asst. Fire Chief
Caren Wheeler, District Secretary

GUESTS:

Shane Yoakum, BC Podcast (via Zoom)
Jeannie Howell
Jack Derderian, PIO
Bill Reed, City Council
Scott Hawley, Captain

Absent: Ron Duncan, Fire Chief

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: *None.*

AGENDA AND MINUTES:

- Approval of the Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting dated 02-07-2022.
- Approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes dated 01-24-2022.

Commissioner Howell moved to approve the agenda, for the Regular Board Meeting, dated February 7, 2022, and moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, dated January 24, 2022. Chairperson Orth seconded, and the motions passed.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- 02-12-22, Tri County Meeting, 9:00 AM, STA 210
- **02-14-22, B2 Commissioners' Meeting, 3:30 PM, STA 210**
- **02-21-22, HOLIDAY: Presidents Day, Office Closed**
- **03-07-22, B2 Commissioners' Meeting, 6:00 PM, STA 210**

VOUCHERS:

The following Vouchers are approved for payment from Fund 6802-101:

Bill Vouchers, in the amount of \$13,163.57

Commissioner Howell moved to approve and pay Bill Vouchers in the amount of \$13,163.57
Commissioner Rouse seconded, and the motion passed.

CITY OF BENTON CITY:

- Councilperson Bill Reed
 - The city has postponed the water and sewer shutoffs. There are many still catching up on their bills and there is open relief available. The city will extend the moratorium beyond the state guideline to give people a chance to get caught up.
 - Many utility projects going on a lot of private property. If it benefits the city, the city is asking certain landowners, instead of having easements through their property, to realign water and sewer to their property edges so that they do not have to give up a chunk of their land for the right-of-way.
 - City hired three new employees that were confirmed at the last city council meeting. One in the office who was previous a part-time employee now is a permanent full-time employee, and two full time city maintenance workers to help with water and sewer systems. Both have background in equipment and operation along with current cd's
 - Currently there are sidewalk and intersection improvements going on. City engineer has been doing a phenomenal job keeping up with all projects.



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- ARPA (American rescue Plan Act) city approved projects that will use the ARPA funds at the last meeting. The water system will benefit from this funding, which will also benefit the fire district water flow the hydrants. Creating a full-loop system. City will also be obtaining generators to our lift stations along with telemetry for the sewer lift stations.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Jeannie Howell – I have been talking to firefighters about all the break-ins happening at other departments like Yakima, and wondering if we could have alarms or something so it doesn't happen here?
 - DB – we are working on upgrading our doors. One of the issues on those other station, they did not have pickguards on their door. Many were unmanned stations and therefore did not have cameras or a single camera out front. The authorities, however, obtain a lot of footage from the camera and a list of suspects. The issue was widespread across the state. There is a push for legislature to make it a felony if you steal from emergency services. We have security cameras and our stations. We are also manned 24-7 and an alarm systems in place.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Benton County GIS Drone Project – Improved mapping. Possible asking for entities to help with the cost. Need more information. See what it is and what it cost.

FINANCIALS: *None.*

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT: Dennis Bates, *Asst Fire Chief* –

- Registering next month to run the EMS levy. Working out our plan forward. We are not running the primary election because we would be footing the entire election cost. I will meet meeting with our PIO to work out the media plan to get the information out to the public that explains everything, so the community understands and that this is just a continuation with the current EMS levy services. No cost increases.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- BCFPD#2 Association Update – Rehab contacted Association to purchase the banquet permit for the upcoming appreciation dinner.
- Equipment – *None.*
- STA 210 Upgrades – *Hold.*
- PIO and Safety – Jack Derderian
 - Completed the “thank you community video” and they are loaded on social media and website
 - PIO – BC podcast doing fire-break monthly videos with John Derderian.
- Conferences – *None.*
- Appreciation Dinner – March 26, 2022

NEW BUSINESS: *None.*

PERSONNEL: *None.*

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING: *None.*

EXECUTIVE SESSION: *None.*



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ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Howell moved that the meeting be adjourned. Commissioner Rouse seconded. There being no further business, Chairperson Orth adjourned the meeting at 6:21PM.

Attested:

_____/_____/_____
CAREN I. WHEELER, DISTRICT SECRETARY

_____/_____/_____
BARRY G. ORTH, CHAIRPERSON

_____/_____/_____
LARRY D. HOWELL, COMMISSIONER

_____/_____/_____
LEWIS S. ROUSE, COMMISSIONER