



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

August 22, 2024

CALL REGULAR BOARD MEETING TO ORDER

Commissioner Howell called the meeting to order **4:22 PM** at District #2, Station 210.

THOSE PRESENT:

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

GUESTS:

Darrin Pettis
Grady O'Neil
Braden Mooney
Austin Fox

ABSENT: Todd Dormaier, *Assistant Chief*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: *None.*

AGENDA AND MINUTES:

- Approval of the Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting dated 08-22-2024.
- Approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes dated 08-05-2024.
- Approval of the Special Board Meeting Minutes dated 08-15-2024.

Commissioner Howell moved to approve the agenda for the Regular Meeting dated August 22, 2024, moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting dated August 5, 2024, and moved to approve the minutes of the Special Board Meeting dated August 15, 2024. Commissioner Rouse seconded, and the motions passed.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- 08-27-2024, Ki-Be School Starts
- 09-02-2024, HOLIDAY: Labor Day, Officer Closed
- **09-09-2024, B2 Commissioners' Meeting, 4:00 PM, STA 210, Monday**
- **09-19-2024, B2 Commissioners' Meeting, 4:00 PM, STA 210, Thursday**

VOUCHERS:

The following Vouchers are approved for payment from Fund **6821-101**:

Payroll Direct Deposit, in the amount of \$ 47,789.20,

Payroll Voucher, in the amount of \$ 38,580.48,

Bill Vouchers, in the amount of \$ 26,556.60,

Grand Total of \$ 112,926.28

Commissioner Howell moved to approve and pay Payroll Direct Deposit, in the amount of \$47,789.20, Payroll Vouchers in the amount of \$38,580.48, and Bill Vouchers in the amount of \$26,556.60; for a Grand Total of \$112,926.28. Commissioner Rouse seconded, and the motions passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT: *None.*

CITY OF BENTON CITY: *None.*

CORRESPONDENCE:

- WFCAs 2024 Conference Mailer



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FINANCIALS: *Financials up through July 2024.*

FIRE CHIEF’S REPORT:

- LID Passed! We are working on a thank you for the community to be released in the very near future.
- National Night went very well. Good turnout.
- School starts on the 27th. We will be doing the “School Slow Down” the first 3 days in the AM.
- Benton City Daze is September 13, 14, 15. We are preparing for it. It will be the 3 full days. Street Dance is back in front of Patnodes. The Lawnmower races are back, and they will be at the fairgrounds.
- We are down 2 FF/PM positions. It has been posted and we have received 2 applications and several calls of interest. We will begin testing as soon as we have enough candidates. 1 candidate did a ride along.
- We held testing and have 2 new Volunteers and 1 new resident. We are still in need of 3 residents.
- We have 4 starting TCRA in September.
- Captain Pettis is much better and back to full duty.
- The Region is still pushing to get a new radio system, it will be a Motorola 800mhz system. The engineering has been done. The cost estimations are in the neighborhood of 18 to 30 million depending on the build out and what equipment the area decides to go with. Final numbers are always out as the fine points are discussed.
- The basic road map to merge BCES & SECOMM is out. In short, the “leg work” has begun and in the near future it will be happening. The funding source appears to be a bi-county sales tax. The numbers and timing have not been finalized. More to follow as it becomes available.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- BCFPD#2 Association Update – *None.*
- Equipment – *None.*
- STA 210 Upgrades – *None.*
- PIO – *None. Looking for a new PIO.*
- Safety (Captain Mike Meyer) – *None.*
- State Commissioner Conference, Spokane, WA (10/23-10/26)
 - Attendees: Orth, Howell, Rouse, Bates, Dormaier

FIRE Levy Lid Lift:

- Primary Election August 6, 2024, results:

	Vote	Vote %
Approved	983	59.07%
Rejected	681	40.93%
Total	1,664	100.0%

- Certify Primary Election (08-06-24) Fire Levy Lid Lift passed with simple majority plus 1.



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NEW BUSINESS: *None.*

PERSONNEL: Introduced Austin Fox, new resident.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING: *None.*

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- **Executive Session for Personnel Qualifications and/or Performance Review per RCW 42.30.110(1)(g)** (*Evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or review the performance of a public employee.*)

An Executive Session was called for 30 minutes to do performance review. The session opened at 4:50 PM in the Chief Office. At 5:20 PM, the session was extended fifteen (15) more minutes. The executive session closed at 5:28 PM, and the Regular Meeting reconvened.

- ACTION: No Action.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Howell moved that the meeting be adjourned. Commissioner Rouse seconded. There being no further business, Commissioner Howell adjourned the meeting at 5:29 PM.

Attested on: _____

CAREN WHEELER, DISTRICT SECRETARY

BARRY G. ORTH, CHAIRPERSON

LARRY D. HOWELL, COMMISSIONER

LEWIS S. ROUSE, COMMISSIONER