



BLUE RIDGE FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES OF A BOARD WORK SESSION HELD AT THE BLUE RIDGE FIRE STATION SATURDAY FEBRUARY 22, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER –Chairman Shannon Scott called the meeting to order at 10:50 AM.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Chairman Scott waved the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS –Board Members present: Larry Lambert, Judy Varns, Shannon Scott, Cindy Perelli and Jack Beale. Chief Paine was also present.
4. DISCLOSURE STATEMENT: – Chairman Scott reminded everyone of the Disclosure Statement per A.R.S 38-431 0.
5. THE PURPOSE OF THIS WORK SESSION IS TO INITIATE DISCUSSIONS ON CREATION OF THE 2020/2021 FY BUDGET.

To begin the Session Chief presented a document containing a list of historical Levy Limit values and a current Levy Limit with percentage breakdown of 0%, 4% and 8% increases. There was a discussion regarding planning for future economic down turns and to insure financial stability of the District.

Capital Replacement schedule was discussed. Chief Paine provided information on a new engine that he is looking at (Wildland Interface Engine), and a joint purchasing agreement with Pine-Strawberry. There was discussion on financing vs out right purchase. This will be discussed further as the Budget development proceeds.

Employee physicals: are on schedule and will be changed to staggered physicals every other year.

Information on new legislation on Workman’s Compensation was given to the Board by Chief Paine. It’s estimated that this may cause a 270% increase to this expense. The consensus is that this will be a Budget concern.

Payroll increases were discussed. Consensus was that Cola increases should be done at the minimum. Other increases may be made based on individual evaluations. Several promotions are in the works.

FF Brandon Sewell gave the Board a prioritized wish list of Benefits desired by employees. The Board requested cost amounts be associated with each of items on the list. This will be discussed further.

Chief Paine discussed a radio project and a grant was proposed to address a current problem with communications in “dead” zones.

Chief Paine went down the list of Financial Accounts discussing incases and decreases for the coming Budget period.

These included but are not limited to:

- SCBA expense. Should we continue to make monthly payments or pay this off and put funds equal to the payment in reserve each month?
- PSPRS: may see increase in employer costs – this year or next year? Plan to pay down unfunded liability.
- Ambulance Income: Chief submitted for rate increase that will affect this number.
- Building up Reserve balance was discussed. Board should decide on how much we should keep in Reserve.
- Contingency will remain the same.

Chairman Scott requested that Chief provide an updated capital replacement schedule to Board Members.

A future meeting will be scheduled to continue the Budget discussion.

6. ADJOURNMENT

There was no further discussions and Chairman Scott adjourned the Board Work Session at 12:07PM.

Respectfully submitted: February 22, 2020

Cynthia Perelli
Clerk of the BRFD Board

Minutes Approved: April 18, 2020

Cynthia Perelli
Clerk of the BRFD Board