

# BLUE RIDGE FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING HELD AT THE BLUE RIDGE FIRE STATION FRIDAY, FEBRUARY, 17<sup>TH</sup> 2017

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Meeting was called to order at 11:00 AM by Chairman Jerry Smith
2. **ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS** - Members present were Alma Seward, Monty Blosser, Shannon Scott, and Clerk Cindy Perelli. The record shows 4 members in attendance. Chairman Smith could not attend due to illness.
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**- Acting Chairman Perelli led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance.
4. **REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Acting Chairman Perelli asked for a motion to adopt the Agenda as written. A motion was made Shannon Scott and seconded by Alma Seward. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
5. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES** –
  - a. **Minutes from Board Meeting held on January 20th, 2017.** Acting Chairman Perelli asked for a motion to adopt the Minutes of the Board Meeting held January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017. A motion was then made to accept the Minutes as written by Mr. Scott and seconded by Ms. Seward. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
6. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**
  - a. A reminder that the next meeting to the Blue Ridge Fire District Board will be Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 11AM.
7. **REPORTS AND CORRESPONDANCE**
  - a. **Board Chairman’s Report** – None presented
  - b. **Fire Chief’s Report** – Chief Banning presented his monthly Report to the Board and meeting attendees. A copy of this Report can be found in the Public Book at the BRFD Station.
  - c. **Report on status of PSPRS Board** – None presented
  - d. **Committee or other reports**
    - i. **2017/2018 Chief’s Budget Committee.** Current status presented to the Board by Chief Banning. Chief stated that at present he was getting members to be on the Committee and asked Board Member Shannon Scott if he would participate on the Committee. He agreed to do so. Other members include Board Clerk Cindy Perelli, Chief Banning, Phil Payne and from Finance Sue Thompson. The first of the working Budget meetings will be scheduled later in February with future scheduled meetings as needed. The public review of the proposed Budget will be in May with Board approval of the final Budget at the June 17<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.
8. **CALL TO THE PUBLIC** – Acting Chairman Perelli read the Call To The Public notice statement and asked if anyone had signed up to speak.
  - a. Mr. Bob Nelson from CCP 3&7. “We have been talking among ourselves about the Fire District.” Mr. Nelson further commented about the Happy Jack Fire Service, their concerns about its ability to respond. “We’ve had good luck so far and have had no fires. And our Insurance companies are hollering also and are raising our rates.” Mr. Nelson also noted that when asked, the insurance companies stated that they do not recognize volunteer fire departments, and want a fully staffed and functioning fire department, with 24/7 response. Mr. Nelson noted that he was speaking just for CCP 3&7 and didn’t know what CCP4,5,&6 interests were. He stated that he would like to have this issue on the agenda for a future Board meeting to discuss further. Ms. Perelli advised Mr. Nelson that a discussion about CCP 3&7 and the Fire District is further down on the Agenda at this meeting. Ms. Perelli thanked Mr. Nelson for his comments.

9. **OLD BUSINESS –**

- a. **Discussion and possible action to review and identify sections of the Blue Ridge Fire District By-Laws that may need revision to be in compliance with A.R.S. 48-803. Item was tabled at previous Board Meetings.**

In a previous Meeting the Board suggested that a Committee be establish to review, and make corrections as need to the BRFD By-Laws. Ms. Perelli volunteered for this Committee and stated that Ms. Seward had also volunteered since she is very good at editing documents. It was noted that a Committee is established and that public meetings will be held for this purpose.

10. **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **Discussion and possible action to approve the 2015/2016 Blue Ridge Fire District Financial Statement, presented by Jim Saunders, Auditor with Sanders Company, Ltd., who will attend by phone.**

Mr. Saunders was called and after introductions, Mr. Saunders proceeded to provide the Board and members of the public his report and findings as is found in the annual Financial Statement for FY 2015/2016. No questions were asked by Board members. Mr. Saunders concluded by making the statement that the need to have this report furnished to the Fire District was a State Government Statute requirement.

Ms. Perelli asked for a motion to approve the Auditors Report. A motion was made by Mr. Scott and Seconded by Mr. Blosser. Motions passed by unanimous vote.

- b. **Discussion and possible action to approve a new contract for the employment of the Fire Chief.**

This items is tabled until the Employment Contract review can be completed by the Board.

- c. **Discussion and possible action to review and approve the BRFD Financial Report for January, 2017.**

Ms. Perelli asked for a motion to approve the Financial Report for January 2017. A motion was made by Mr. Scott and seconded by Ms. Seward. A discussion was asked for, and Mr. Scott noted that there were still some inaccuracies in the Financial Report. Some items that the Board had requested be changed at the last meeting have not been done. At this point it was decided to not approve the Financial Report. Chief Banning suggested that the item be Tabled until the next Board meeting and he will get corrected copies to the Board. A motion was asked for and made by made by Mr. Blosser and seconded by Ms. Seward to table the approval of this Report until the next meeting.

- d. **Discussion and possible action to allow the Fire Chief to apply for a grant with the 100 Club of Arizona for fire hoses.**

Ms. Perelli asked for a motion to approve this item. Mr. Scott made a motion and Mr. Blosser seconded. A discussion was asked for which centered around value of the grant, which is esteemed to be between \$11,000 and \$15,000. Ms. Perelli asked for a motion to approve. A motion was made by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mr. Blosser. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

- e. **Discussion and possible action to allow the Fire Chief to apply for a grant with the Governor's Office on Highway Safety for an ambulance and /or power stretcher.**

Ms. Perelli asked for a motion to approve this item. Ms. Seward made a motion to approve and it was seconded by Mr. Blosser. Discussion included questions as the weather that was a match that the District would have to provide. Chief Banning said there was none. Chief also commented on the future need to replace an ambulance, and if accepted, possible through this grant. Ms. Perelli asked for a motion to approve. Ms. Seward made a motion to approve and it was seconded by Mr. Blosser. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

**f. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Fire Chief to enter into discussion with the Cheylon-Butte School District to develop a possible inter-local agreement for local fuel storage.**

A motion was asked for to approve this item. Mr. Blosser made a motion to approve and Ms. Seward seconded. A discussion was asked for and Chief Banning stated that were many items to consider and it will take time to completely identify everything that needs to be done to make this happen. He will provide more information to the Board at a future Board meeting. Ms. Perelli asked for a vote on this item. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

**g. Discussion with property owners from subdivisions outside the Fire District, primarily those in CCP Units 3 & 7 that may have an interest in joining the District, either in total or by contract. Presentation by Olivia Leon, resident of 3&7.**

Olivia Leon, opened this discussion by the introduction of the flyer she was circulating in an attempt to encourage property owners in CCP 3&7 to consider petitioning the Blue Ridge Fire District to be accepted into the District. Members of the audience had many comments and questions directed at the Board and Chief Banning regarding their interest in coming into the Blue Ridge Fire District. There were several questions from the Board to audience members as well. Chief Banning commented on the ISO rating requirements and benefits to the District and homeowners, and provided some detailed information as to what they would need to do to get a discussion started (A.R.S.48-262). No action was required by the Board at this time.

**11. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT BOARD MEETING**

Committee Report: By-Laws revision  
2017/2018 Budget Committee Status Report  
Chief's Contract Renewal  
Report from Chief on financial analysis for remainder of this FY  
Corrected Financial Report for January 2017

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Perelli asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Ms. Seward and seconded by Mr. Scott. Motion was passed by unanimous vote. Meeting adjourned at 12:48.

Respectfully submitted:

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Cynthia Perelli, Clerk of the BRFD Board