

Minutes of August 30th, 2012
Regular Fire Board Meeting
Black Canyon Fire District

- ITEM I:** *Call to Order:* The monthly Board Meeting was called to order on Thursday, August 30th, 2012 at 6:02 PM.
- ITEM II:** *Roll Call of Board Members:* Present - Chairperson Marilyn Forsythe, J. Coslett-Muirhead, P. Chartier, S. McMahon and D. Kenson. Also present: Chief Birch.
- ITEM III:** **Pledge of Allegiance:** Vicki Cothorn led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- ITEM IV:** *Minutes from the July 26th, 2012 Regular Fire Board Meeting:* <D. Kenson> Motions to discuss and/or vote to accept the Minutes from the July 26th, 2012 regular Fire Board Meeting, <P. Chartier> seconds the motion. **Motion carries unanimous 5 – 0.**
- ITEM V:** *Bookkeeping report from July 2012:* <P. Chartier> Motions to discuss and/or vote to accept the Bookkeeping Report for July 2012: <Jeri Coslett-Muirhead> seconds the motion. **Motion carries unanimously 5 – 0.**
- ITEM VI:** *Ambulance bookkeeping and Insurance Billing Report for July 2012:* < P. Chartier > Motions to accept the July 2012 Ambulance and Insurance Bookkeeping Report. < S. McMahon > seconds the motion. **Motion carries unanimous 5 – 0.**
- ITEM VII:** *Chief's Report:* <Chief> let me start with the good news; we received notice from ISO that we are now Fire Class 4 and Fire Class 7! Properties within 1000 ft. of a hydrant have a Class 4 rating.

Incidents for the month of July 2012 are 76, versus 89 in July 2011. Total transports, including from scene to helicopter in July 2012 = 37 vs. 40 in July 2011. Total transports Jan. 1, 2012 – July 31, 2012 = 242. Total transports January 1, 2011 – July 31, 2011 = 275.

Combined training hours for the month of July 2012 = 245.

The Dept. conducted its annual Reserve Firefighter hiring during July which resulted in 49 applicants being sent to Oral Boards. We currently have 6 open Reserve Firefighter positions opens; we will hire 12 new Reserves in anticipation of losing additional personnel this year to Valley fire departments.

Special thanks to the following personnel for assisting with the new hire testing process: Jake Alanis, Chad Bemmerl, Nick Carrano, Matt Duthie, Capt. Paul Eaton, Joe Flores, Cristy Gestring, Matt Hunkin, Steve Jahnke, Capt. Joshua Johnson, Ryan Johnson, Kris Mantey, Jeff Pavlik, Mark Pietramale, Garrett Schilleman, Scott Sorter, and Capt. Jason Tilson.

On August 7, 2012, I met with Canon School District Superintendent Angela Jangula and Maintenance Supervisor Christie Merrill, to discuss the possibility of jointly purchasing bulk diesel fuel to help reduce fuel costs. The school previously looked into bulk fuel purchasing but ran into problems finding a location for the storage tank on school property that had supporting utilities in close enough proximity. Ms. Jangula agreed to have the fuel companies reassess school

property. BCFD property will also be assessed to determine if we have a suitable location for a fuel storage tank.

You will note the repairs to the radios; our radios are 8 years old. We anticipate the radios will be replaced by the end of the year through a grant from Yavapai County Emergency Management but still need to maintain our current radios until then.

ITEM VIII: *Discuss and/or vote to approve a filtration system and/or water softener system for the station:* <Jeri Coslett-Muirhead> motions to discuss and/or vote on approving a filtration and/or water softener system for the station; <Diana Kenson> seconds the motion. <Chief> we still aren't ready to vote on this. I have spoken with the Architect and he advised me there was not a loop for a water softening system added when the building was constructed. The architect will speak with the engineer to determine if it would be feasible to add the necessary plumbing and while bypassing the exterior faucets.

We just had a problem with the evaporative coolers again this week due to the calcium build up. According to Roger Wagner, there is more sediment when the water tables are low, as is the situation now. The coolers were blowing hot air and upon checking, we found the holes were plugged and no water was getting to the filters. We repaired the pipes but this will continue until we are able to get a filtration system.

<Jeri Coslett-Muirhead> amends the motion to table the vote until next month; <Diana Kenson> seconds the motion.

ITEM IX: *Discuss and/or vote on approving a disability insurance that complies with House Bill 2643 – Relating to Public Safety Employees:* <S. McMahon> motions to discuss and/or vote on approving a disability insurance that complies with House Bill 2643 – Relating to Public Safety Employees; <P. Chartier> seconds the motion. <Chief> this was a bill that was slipped through at the last minute. No one was aware of it; all fire departments/districts throughout Arizona who participate in the PSPRS must comply. This law requires us to provide a supplemental benefits plan for full-time personnel who participate in PSPRS (*Public Safety Pension Retirement System - firefighters*) and are injured on the job. This new law now requires that the Fulltime Firefighter that is injured on the job will continue to receive their "normal" wage, less taxes. This will be accomplished through Worker's Compensation benefits and the proposed supplemental insurance plan. Additionally, while the employee is unable to work, because of a work related injury or illness, the District is now required to pay both the employee and employer contributions to PSPRS, although health insurance will be paid by the employee.

<Chief> I contacted our insurance agent to get quotes and have listed them accordingly. The decision is who we insure; it is mandatory we cover the full-time firefighters but we can choose to cover the administrative staff and/or the reserve staff as well. <S. McMahon> it would be nice to be able to afford to cover everyone but with the budget being what it is, I believe we should insure just what is mandatory. We are early in this fiscal year and already this is the second item that has come up that will be coming out of contingency. <Jeri Coslett-Muirhead> I agree and might suggest we consider accepting the 3 year annual installment plan to offset any potential price increases during that 3 year process. <S. McMahon> Amends motion to: "approve the disability insurance that complies with House Bill 2643 and to cover only the BCFD full-time firefighters who participate in the Public

