

**WEST BENTON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY
TUESDAY APRIL 4TH, 2023
WBRFA HEAD QUARTERS STATION 310**

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman D. Moon called to order the April 4th, 2023, regular meeting for the West Benton Regional Fire Authority at 6:00pm. and he then led the participants in the Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL

Present: Vice Chair D. Moon, Commissioner Richard Clizbe and S. Williams. Commissioner were present. Chairman R. Cobble attended the meeting via Zoom due to an illness and Commissioner L. Galbraith notified the board previously she would not be present. The board provided L. Galbraith with an excused absence.

Others in attendance: Fire Chief Charles Damron, Deputy Fire Chief Erubiel Clara, and Administrator Gayle Carrasco. Kevin Wesley from TWG Consultants was also present via Zoom.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Vice Chairman D. Moon made a request for public comments. No public comments.

AMENDED AGENDA

Vice Chairman D. Moon requested a motion to approve the amended board agenda. Commissioner S. Williams made a motion to approve the amended agenda for April 4th, 2023; Commissioner R. Clizbe seconded the motion. Passed unanimously. The motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Multiple items were tabled on the agenda for the executive session portion of the board meeting and have been listed below in the sequence of occurrence.

- Vice Chairman D. Moon confirmed the need for an executive session with Fire Chief Damron. Chief Damron requested an executive session at 6:01 p.m. for 20 minutes per 42.30.140(4)(a) Collective Bargaining Agreement to discuss labor negotiations with legal counsel present. The executive session ended at 6:21 p.m. Salutations were provided to Mr. Wesley and the board resumed the regular board meeting at 6:22 p.m. No action taken.
- Vice Chairman D. Moon confirmed with Fire Chief Damron the need for an executive session per 42.30.110(1)(g) to discuss qualifications of an applicant. Chief Damron requested an executive session at 6:23 p.m. for 5 minutes to reconvene at 6:28 p.m. The executive session ended at 6:28 and resumed the regular board meeting p.m. No action taken.
- Vice Chairman D. Moon confirmed the need for an executive session with Fire Chief Damron. Chief Damron requested an executive session at 6:28p.m. for 10 minutes per RCW's 42.30.110(1)(g) to review an employee's performance and reconvene at 6:38 p.m. The executive session ended at 6:38 p.m. and resumed the regular board meeting. No action taken.

CONSENT AGENDA

Vice Chairman D. Moon requested for comments or questions from the board on the consent agenda. Vice Chairman D. Moon requested a motion to approve the board consent agenda as presented. Commissioner S. Williams made a motion to approve the consent agenda for April 4th, 2023, with the minutes for 3/21/23 as submitted. Commissioner R. Clizbe seconded the motion. Passed unanimously. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Vice Chairman D. Moon opened the floor for old business. None reported.

NEW BUSINESS

CORRESPONDENCES:

- **Governing Board:**

Commissioners: Commissioner Williams inquired about meeting dates remaining in the 2023 calendar year for the Tri County Commissioner Association meetings. Commissioner Clizbe stated he will be providing the dates to the Board Secretary. Commissioner Williams then asked the closing date for the TCCA Scholarship. Commissioner Clizbe stated this may have and he then provided the board with the dates of the remaining meeting dates. Vice Chairman Moon requested all other members for correspondences. None provided. End of Report.

- **Staff Reports: Fire Chief Damron**

Chief's Report: Chief Damron briefed the board on the purchase of rehab trailer as budgeted for \$50,000. Chief Damron has discussed with Fire Chief Watt of BCFD#6 their enclosed trailer. Chief Damron and Deputy Chief Clara inspected the trailer, and this had been offered to the West Benton Fire Rescue free of charge. Chief Damron explained that he also was offered their BAS containment unit with 4 DOT cylinders for \$3,000. Vice Chair Moon asked about the tonnage capability in the department fleet, a command vehicle with being a possible ½ ton. Chief Damron stated the department possesses a ¾ ton diesel with capabilities to pull the equipment. Deputy Chief Clara then displayed photos of the equipment on the conference room media TV for the board. Chief Damron described the demo work needed to construct a fill station. In the event the trailer was not suited for the department's needs, the department would not use budget funding. BAS containment will be used as it is in better condition than the current BAS containment. Chief Damron provided measurements of the trailer being 16' in length with a door. The equipment also houses propane generators and pressure washer. Chief Damron provided an estimate for the complete conversion in the range of 10k. Chief Damron stated by expending less funding for the purchase of the Rehab trailer this would enable him to research swift water equipment needed with discussion amongst the committee consisting of the swift water techs. Commissioner Clizbe mentioned the use of the ambulance in the fleet. Chief Damron explained this currently it is used to haul the raft for swift water rescue, and historically is being worked on more than time used for its purpose. The raft also has issues with swift water rescue in the local river currents. The department had incidents of not being able to rescue due to the equipment the department currently has. Another option that the Chief mentions is that he would consider the purchase of Jet Ski's beneficial to assist the swift water rescue team.

Chief Damron informed the board that the two residents are beginning their EMT courses with CBC. The course schedule has changed to full days on Tuesdays and Thursday with no course on Saturday's. Chief Clara details the residents schedule for the board. End of Report.

- **Staff Reports: Deputy Fire Chief Clara**

Chief's Report: Deputy Chief Clara stated he will be covering his staff report at the next meeting and has nothing to report at this time. End of Report.

- **Staff Reports: Administrator Carrasco**

Administrator's Report: G. Carrasco informed the board of her experience with backpay being problematic, specifically when reporting the salary to DRS resulting in time consuming calculating and reporting to the DRS. End of Report.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Vice Chairman D. Moon asked the board for items for the good of order. No Items Provided. Next board meeting April 18th, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT

- With no further business, Vice Chairman D. Moon adjourned the meeting at 6:55p.m.

DAVID MOON, VICE CHAIRMAN

The West Benton Regional Fire Authority's minutes are intended to be a reasonable summary of the RFA's governing board deliberations and actions. The Minutes are not a verbatim record of everything said at the meeting. The minutes include all actions taken by the West Benton Regional Fire Authority Board.

GAYLE CARRASCO
BOARD SECRETARY