

BEAR CREEK FIRE SERVICE AREA

Board Meeting Minutes

7:00 PM

July 08, 2025

13105 Seward Hwy, Mile 5

SERVICE AREA REPRESENTATIVES

<i>Seat A</i> Doyle Brueckner Board Member Expires 10/2025	<i>Seat B</i> James Sheehan Board Chair Expires 10/2025	<i>Seat C</i> Andra Woodard Board Member Expires 10/2027	<i>Seat D</i> Jeffrey Wolf Board Member Expires 10/2027	<i>Seat E</i> Jason Bickling Board Member Expires 10/2026
<i>Assembly Representative</i> James Baisden	<i>Fire Chief</i> Richard Brackin	<i>Fire Technician</i> Traci Petersen	<i>Fire Technician</i> William Mangan	

CALL TO ORDER - 7:00 PM

ROLL CALL Doyle Brueckner, James Sheehan, Andra Woodard, Jeffrey Wolf, Jason Bickling, Richard Brackin, Traci Petersen.

CHANGES / APPROVAL OF AGENDA Andra Woodard requested that the agenda be amended to include discussion of meeting time to New Business - Jason Bickling motioned to approve the agenda as amended. Doyle Brueckner second. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - 05/13/2025, 06/10/2025(No Quorum)

Jeffrey Wolf motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Jason Bickling second. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS & PRESENTATION – LIMIT 5 MINUTES

None Present

CORRESPONDENCE

- BCFSA Expenditure report to date - BCFSA Expenditure report to date was delivered, showing financial expenses and encumbrances for FY25 YTD.
James Sheehan stated that a citizen asked why there was a significant budget lapse from the prior year. There was also a claim from the same citizen that the last year's expenditure sheet was not presented to the board.
Richard Brackin responded that the budget documents showed the expenditure from the prior year. Richard Brackin addressed the lapse report question, stating that the lapse report is considered when preparing the budget for a new year to ensure fiscal responsibility. The line item with the greatest impact to the lapse report are the funding for the volunteer shift in wages that is still maturing, with the hope that more volunteers pull shifts to strengthen the non-working hour responses. The second largest item in wages is the overtime line item. There was not as much overtime used in FY25. Though the allocation is associated with a set amount related to the number of overtime-eligible employees, the lapse should reflect adequate personnel management. The second great area is in Services. There is a need to budget for maintenance/repair services that may no manifest. Large lapses in services were in vehicle maintenance, equipment maintenance, and building & grounds maintenance.
General discussion followed concerning the increase in operational costs. A comparison was given between the budget costs in 2010 and 2024 and the increases that were not considered in 2010 that are now present due to building cost, training costs, and equipment/apparatus replacement costs.
- KPB Assembly Report - There was no assembly report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- No Report

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- No Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS

- Change of Meeting Time - Andra Woodard motioned to change the meeting time from 7PM to 6PM. Jason second. Discussion followed concerning the current two-hour gap between traditional end of work day and meeting time. The motion passed by unanimously.

CHIEF REPORT

- Run Report - 83 Calls for the year so far. 9 calls more than last year.
- Training Report
 - Weekly Training
 - a) 6/12 – Victim Rescue (VEIS)
 - b) 6/19 – Landing Zone Training with LifeMed.
 - c) 6/26 – Wildland Fire Deployment Challenge.
 - d) 7/03 – Business Meeting Truck Prep for 4th.
 - Other Training
 - Phoenix Chapter Live Fire Training (VEIS) 6/28 28 people participated
 - HM A&O – August 4 -16
 - Firefighter II - Sept 8 -19
 - EMT II - Sept 29 - Oct 18
 - Fire Instructor - Oct 27 - Nov 1
 - ETT - TBA
 - Fire Officer I - TBA (Dec)
 - Extrication Training (Phoenix Chapter) Oct.
 - Training value sheet
 - An annual Training Value Sheet was presented to the board.
- New Volunteers - Anna Milligan (2 more people interested)
- Maintenance
 - a) Station – None.
 - b) Vehicles – 125 is in-auction. Did not sell.
 - c) Equipment – Aluminum Trailer is in-auction. Did not sell.
- Grant Awardment - Code Blue FY26 was awarded. Instead of \$7,000, \$14,000 was awarded.
Grant value sheet was presented to the board.
- Public Education –
 - a) 4th of July Parade and Rescue Detail.
 - b) Ride Along (The Beech's).
 - c) Boys and Girls Club.
 - d) Phoenix Chapter Cruise.

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BOARD COMMENTS TO PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Doyle Brueckner - Stated that he thinks it's a good thing that we are discussing how much money is left over each year, instead of not having enough money. He also stated that it is a positive thing to see the cost-savings efforts with training and construction costs.

Jason Bickling - Stated that the City of Seward set up the EOC for the Fourth of July. This will be continued each year. It is a great time to revisit the process and identify deficiencies. The intent is to have some table-top exercises, focused around mass-casualty events in the upcoming year.

Jeffrey Wolf - Stated that he wanted to bring attention to a social media post that was recently brought to his attention. He followed that when a local Fire Chief makes comments about Bear Creek that are non-factual, they need to be addressed. He said that he is disappointed in Lowell Point, stating that Bear Creek had provided support over the years to Lowell Point. One of the comments made concerning Bear Creek starting an ambulance service was addressed. Jeffrey Wolf stated that the board took an objective look at what was going on with Seward Volunteer Ambulance Corps. And had concerns about standard of care, survivability, succession planning, and training. The local ambulance is not operating at full EMT III scope of practice. With those concerns, objectively, Bear Creek has to start moving in that direction. As the Authority Have Jurisdiction, Bear Creek has to ensure appropriate pre-hospital care.

Andra Woodard - Thanked the Board for changing the meeting time.

James Sheehan - Stated that he was appreciative of all the efforts made in grant writing.

ADJOURNMENT 8:26 PM

The next regular meeting of the Bear Creek Fire Service Area Board of directors scheduled for Tuesday, August 12, 2025 at 6:00 pm.