



BULLHEAD CITY FIRE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES May 20, 2025

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Board Chairman Cummings, Chairman Cummings led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Board Chairman: David C. Cummings
Board Member: Chuck Moore
Board Member: Rose Jacobs
Board Member: Ellen Brown
Board Member: John Martinolich

Staff Present: Fire Chief: Justin Flummer
Assistant Fire Chief – Logistics: Scott Neal
Assistant Fire Chief – PPD: Forrest Taylor
Fire Marshal – Barbie Barrett
Administrative Manager – Paula Acker

CORRESPONDENCE AND PRESENTATIONS

Presentation of Citizen Life Saver Award

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of March 11, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes
- B. Approval of April 22, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes (removed)
- C. Acceptance of April 2025, Financial Statements

Board member Brown made a motion to remove the April 22, 2025, Meeting Minutes, for correction, from the Consent Agenda and approve the remaining items as presented. Board member Jacobs seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Paul Lavold, Citizen of Bullhead City, addressed the Board. Mr. Lavold stated his tax bill for the Fire District is already at 36% of his tax bill and does not want the Board to increase the rate. He stated the Fire District should be able to manage with an increase in the assessed values alone. Scotty from Bullhead City, addressed the Board, he was shocked to find out that there was no fire truck at station #7. He does not think the rate should be increased.

Pam Smith, Citizen of Bullhead City, addressed the Board. Ms. Smith stated she agrees with the previous two speakers. She stated she does not believe the district needs a tax increase. She stated the bond that was passed built a useless Fire Station at Laughlin Ranch. She stated Bullhead Fire already has the highest tax authority at 36.61% and it is the Fire Boards responsibility to protect the taxpayers.

Firefighters' Community Report-PFFA Local 3647

No report given this month.

Fire Chief's Report

Fire Chief Justin Flummer provided an overview of the Fire Chief and operations memorandum that was provided in the Board packet today and attached to the official Governing Board meeting minutes. The following is a summary of the report given:

There were no grant updates.

Station 7 Solar installation is underway.

Full time medic crew and firefighter testing are being conducted this week.

Logistics Report – Assistant Chief, Scott Neal

Chief Neal gave an update on all station repairs and maintenance.

Pump testing completed on Engines.

Mechanic EVT testing is being completed.

PPD/EMS Report – Assistant Chief, Taylor

Chief Taylor gave an update on completed and upcoming EMS and Fire Training.

CRR Report – Fire Marshal, Barbie Barrett

Fire Marshal Barrett was not in attendance, no report given.

BUSINESS

A. Fiscal Year 25-26 Preliminary Budget and Scheduling a Public Hearing for Final Adoption.

Chief Flummer stated the tentative budget presented today includes capital expenditures, personnel costs and grant applications, with a primary operational goal of permanently staffing 9 firefighters at Fire Station #7. The tentative budget proposes a \$3.51 tax rate that would support hiring 9 firefighters, maintaining operational balance goal of 80% personnel, 10% operations, and 10% capital, creating long-term fiscal sustainability and avoid having to come back to the Board in a year or two and ask for another increase.

The Board discussed alternate tax rates, the current rate of \$3.20 could hire staff but would result in a \$921,504 deficit to capital savings, jeopardizing future replacement of equipment and facility maintenance. A compromised rate of \$3.42 was discussed, spreading the increase over the next few years for low-income taxpayers. In summary, this rate would have a \$204,00 shortfall to capital savings, it would fund Fire Station #7

now but likely require another tax increase within 2-3 years. This offers temporary relief for taxpayers but weakens future capital savings.
Discussion continued regarding response time reductions and improved safety with Station #7 fully staffed.

Board member Jacobs made a motion to increase the tax rate for fiscal year 2025-26 from \$3.20 to \$3.42. There was no second to the motion, the motion failed.

Board member Martinolich made a motion to increase the tax rate as presented to \$3.51 for the fiscal year 2025-26 Budget, Board member Brown seconded the motion. Chairman Cummings added that the rate of \$3.51 is well below the max of \$3.75. Chairman Cummings asked for a role call on the motion.

Board member Martinolich voted Yes on the motion.
Board member Brown voted Yes on the motion.
Board member Moore voted Yes on the motion.
Board member Jacobs voted No on the motion.
Board Chairman Cummings voted Yes on the motion.

The motion carried with a 4-1 vote, Board Member Jacobs opposed.

Board member Brown made a motion to schedule a public hearing for the FY 25-26 budget adoption at the next scheduled board meeting on June 24, 2025. Board member Jacobs seconded the motion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR FUTURE BCFD BOARD MEETINGS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.


NEXT BOARD MEETING

June 24, 2025

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:54 a.m.

Recorded by,


Paula Acker
Administrative Manager
Bullhead City Fire District

Approved by,


David C. Cummings, Chairman
Fire District Board


Charles Moore, Board Clerk
Fire District Board