



BENTON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 2  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**MINUTES**

July 18, 2024

---

CALL REGULAR BOARD MEETING TO ORDER

**Chairperson Orth** called the meeting to order **4:09 PM** at District #2, Station 210.

THOSE PRESENT:

Barry Orth, *Chairperson*  
Steve Rouse, *Commissioner*  
Larry Howell, *Commissioner*  
Dennis Bates, *Fire Chief*,  
Caren Wheeler, *District Secretary*

GUESTS:

Bill Reed, *Captain*  
Kale Guerin

ABSENT: Todd Dormaier, *Assistant Chief*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: *None.*

AGENDA AND MINUTES:

- Approval of the Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting dated 07-18-2024.
- Approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes dated 07-08-2024.

**Commissioner Howell moved to approve the agenda for the Regular Meeting dated July 18, 2024, and moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting dated July 8, 2024. Commissioner Rouse seconded, and the motions passed.**

IMPORTANT DATES:

- **08-05-2024, B2 Commissioners' Meeting, 4:00 PM, STA 210, Monday**
- **08-22-2024, B2 Commissioners' Meeting, 4:00 PM, STA 210, Thursday**
- 09-02-2024, HOLIDAY: Labor Day, Officer Closed

VOUCHERS:

The following Vouchers are approved for payment from Fund **6821-101**:

Payroll Direct Deposit, in the amount of \$ 48,692.68,  
Payroll Voucher, in the amount of \$ 49,488.50,  
Bill Vouchers, in the amount of \$ 23,145.42,

*Grand Total of \$ 121,326.60*

**Commissioner Howell moved to approve and pay Payroll Direct Deposit, in the amount of \$48,692.68, Payroll Vouchers in the amount of \$49,488.50, and Bill Vouchers in the amount of \$23,145.42; for a Grand Total of \$121,326.60. Commissioner Rouse seconded, and the motions passed.**

PUBLIC COMMENT: *None.*

CITY OF BENTON CITY: *Bill Reed – no new information.*

CORRESPONDENCE: *None.*

FINANCIALS: Financials up through June 2024.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:

- Apologies for my absence from the last board meeting (7/8/24).
- The ballots should be out. The FF Association purchased yard signs and posted them throughout the district ahead of ballots coming out. The district info mailers should have also



## BENTON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 2 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 18, 2024

come out with the ballots. It is on our site and social media. Aug 6 is election day. Resolutions for both outcomes are ready.

- We are down 2 FF/PM positions. The positions have been posted. Also, we are working/talking with our union members on the testing process and probation as was outlined in the contract.
- We are in the process of hiring a new volunteer and with any luck 3 residents. Testing will be coming shortly. They have applications turned in and have completed their ride-along(s).
- Safety has asked me to let you know that the findings from the L&I inspection are being addressed. The physical work to the facility has been completed and sent in. We had a couple of minor injuries. 1 L&I and 1 BVFF. Both folks are doing good, being taken care of and the paperwork is in process. Be on the lookout for a BVFF pension board meeting soon to keep the process going.
- The city has obtained a grant from the Dept. of Commerce for climate change planning. I have been asked to sit on the advisory committee. More to follow.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- BCFPD#2 Association Update – *Yard signs are out.*
- Equipment – *None.*
- STA 210 Upgrades – *None.*
- PIO – *None.*
- Safety (Captain Mike Meyer) – *None.*
- State Commissioner Conference, Spokane, WA (10/23-10/26)
  - Attendees: Orth, Howell, Rouse

### Annual Report 2023:

- Review – Annual Report 2023

***Commissioner Howell moved to approve the 2023 Annual Report. Commissioner Rouse seconded, and the motion passed.***

### FIRE Levy Lid Lift:

- Media postcards have been mailed July 17, 2024.
- Deadline to submit resolution: **August 6, 2024** – General Election (*November 5, 2024*)
- EXPLANATORY STATEMENT – 2024 Levy - If enacted, this proposition would authorize the District to increase its regular property tax levy to \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 assessed valuation in 2024 for 2025 collection; and authorize setting a limit factor of 8% above the prior year not exceeding \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 assessed valuation for each of the five succeeding years for fire protection. The 2029 maximum allowable levy for 2030 collection shall serve as the base for subsequent levy limitations provided in RCW 84.55. This would enable the District to continue maintaining and adequately funding District fire operations.
- Adopt RESOLUTION 2024-03 - Replacement Fire Levy Lid for 2024 General Election

***Commissioner Howell moved to adopt RESOLUTION 2024-03 - Replacement Fire Levy Lid providing for the submission of renewal of Fire Levy Lid for the 2024 General Election. Commissioner Rouse seconded, and the motion passed.***



# BENTON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 2 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 18, 2024

- Consider the appointment to the PRO and CON committees relating to the Ballot measure. Per the requirements for a Pro and Con committee relating to the ballot measure.
  - Pro Committee appoints: Steve Zets, Shane Swiger and Bob Greenlees
  - Con Committee appoints: *None received.*
- Deadline to submit rescinding resolution is August 15, 2024 – we will need to hold a special meeting to rescind resolution if we pass the primary election BEFORE August 15th.

## August 2024 Primary Election

May 3	Resolution Deadline—August Primary
May 6-10	Candidate Filing Week
May 14	Lot Drawing
May 21	Candidate Statements/Photos Due
June 19	Military/Overseas ballots are mailed
July 17	Ballots mailed
July 29	Mail in/Online registration deadline
August 6	In-Person registration deadline
August 6	Election Day
August 20	Certification of August Primary Results

## November 2024 General Election

August 6	Resolution Deadline—November General
September 18	Military/Overseas ballots are mailed
October 16	Ballots mailed
October 28	Mail in/Online registration deadline
November 5	In-Person registration deadline
November 5	Election Day
November 26	Certification of November General Results

NEW BUSINESS: *None.*

PERSONNEL: *None.*

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING: *None.*

EXECUTIVE SESSION: *Move to next meeting 08/05/2024.*

- **Executive Session for Personnel Qualifications and/or Performance Review per RCW 42.30.110(1)(g)** (*Evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or review the performance of a public employee.*)



**BENTON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 2**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**MINUTES**

July 18, 2024

---

**ADJOURNMENT:**

***Commissioner Howell moved that the meeting be adjourned. Commissioner Rouse seconded. There being no further business, Chairperson Orth adjourned the meeting at 4:33 PM.***

Attested on: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
CAREN WHEELER, DISTRICT SECRETARY

\_\_\_\_\_  
BARRY G. ORTH, CHAIRPERSON

\_\_\_\_\_  
LARRY D. HOWELL, COMMISSIONER

\_\_\_\_\_  
LEWIS S. ROUSE, COMMISSIONER