



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

July 21, 2026

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairperson Orth called the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of Benton County Fire District #2 meeting to order at 4:01 PM at 1304 Dale Avenue, Benton City, Washington.

THOSE PRESENT

Chairperson Orth, Commissioner Howell, Commissioner Rouse, Chief Bates, District Admin Wheeler.

Staff Members' Present: Captain Guerin, Captain Meyer, Captain Hawley

Guests: Jeannie Howell, City of Benton City Mayor Len Burton

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA – None

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

Financial Review – *Review of revenue and expenditures reports/vouchers presented for approval.*

CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed within the Consent Agenda have been distributed to each member of the Board for reading and study. These matters are considered to be routine and will be considered or enacted by one motion of the Board with no separate discussion. However, if any member of the Board desires separate discussion on a specific item, that item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Agenda by request.

- Agenda: **Approve agenda dated July 21, 2026.**
- Minutes: **Approve minutes of the Regular Board Meeting dated July 7, 2026.**
- Payroll Vouchers (*Fund 6821*)
 - Approve **Direct Deposit in the amount of \$ 94,194.08**
 - Approve **Payroll Vouchers in the amount of \$ 80,468.13**
- Claim Vouchers (*Fund 6821*)
 - Approve **2026 Bill vouchers in the amount of \$ 63,983.76**

Commissioner Howell moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner Rouse seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **08-04-2026, B2 Fire COMM Meeting, 4:00 PM, STA 210, Tuesday**
- **08-18-2026, B2 Fire COMM Meeting, 4:00 PM, STA 210, Tuesday**

CONFERENCES

- October 4-8, 2026, **Fire Admin Conference** (Suquamish, WA)
 - *Attending: Wheeler*
- October 21-24, 2026, **WFCA State Conference** (Spokane, WA)
 - *Attending: Orth, Howell, Rouse, Bates*

CORRESPONDENCE – None.

FINANCIALS (*Financial Officer*) – None.

RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS – None.



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

July 21, 2026

REPORTS

- Fire Chief Bates
 - Chief Bates reported that he has returned from vacation.
 - Repairs to the HVAC system at Station 210 are nearing completion and are expected to be finished today. The District has contacted its insurance carrier to determine whether any portion of the repair costs may be covered. A semi-annual maintenance plan is being developed to help prevent future issues and extend the life of the system.
 - Multiple mobilization (Mobe) fires continue across the state. Engine strike teams have been deployed to support wildfire response efforts in several locations.
 - Call volume remains high. The District has responded to approximately 800 calls for service year-to-date, including approximately 160 fire-related incidents.
 - The District's dozer remains in service; however, the disc attachment is currently out of service.
- Asst Chief Dormaier/PIO – *None*.
- Training Cpt. Kale Guerin – Training update.
- Safety Cpt. Mike Meyer, HSO – Nothing to report.
- B2 Association – *None*.

CITY OF BENTON CITY – *Mayor Len Burton provided an update on current city business and ongoing activities.*

NEW BUSINESS – *None.*

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – *None.*

BVFF – *None.*

PERSONNEL – *None.*

AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING – *There were no agenda items to add to the next meeting.*

EXECUTIVE SESSION – *None.*

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Howell moved that the meeting be adjourned. Commissioner Rouse seconded. There being no further business, Chairperson Orth adjourned the meeting at 4:15 PM.

Attested on August 4, 2026.

/s/ Caren Wheeler

CAREN WHEELER, DISTRICT SECRETARY

/s/ Barry Orth

BARRY G. ORTH, CHAIRPERSON

/s/ Larry Howell

LARRY D. HOWELL, COMMISSIONER

/s/ Steve Rouse

LEWIS S. ROUSE, COMMISSIONER