



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

October 6, 2025

CALL THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING TO ORDER

Chairperson Orth called the meeting to order at **4:03 PM** at District 2, Station 210.

THOSE PRESENT:

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

GUESTS:

Jeannie Howell
M. Meyer
N. Strasser
E. King
B. Reed

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 10-06-2025.
- Approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes dated 09-18-2025.
- Approval of the District Planning Meeting Workshop Minutes dated 09-24-2025.

Commissioner Howell moved to approve the agenda for the Regular Meeting dated October 6, 2025, moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting dated September 18, 2025, and moved to approve the minutes of the Workshop Meeting dated September 24, 2025. Commissioner Rouse seconded, and the motion passed.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- **10-09-2025, B2 Budget Workshop, 9:00 AM, STA 210**
- 10-13-2025, Holiday: Columbus Day, Office Closed
- **10-23-2025, B2 Fire COMM Meeting, 4:00 PM, STA 210, Thursday**
- **11-10-2025, B2 Fire COMM Meeting, 4:00 PM, STA 210, Monday**
- 11-11-2025, Holiday: Veteran's Day, Office Closed

VOUCHERS:

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

[Bill Vouchers](#), in the amount of \$40,792.64

Commissioner Rouse moved to approve and pay Bill Vouchers in the amount of \$40,792.64. Commissioner Howell seconded, and the motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT: *None.*

CITY OF BENTON CITY: Bill Reed updated Commissioners and Chief on current City Business.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Letter from City of Richland Fire & Emergency Services

FINANCIALS: *None.*



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FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:

- HAPPY Birthday Commissioner Howell!!!!
- While I was gone BC Daze per what I was told went off without any major hitches. Normal operations were maintained without any major issues and everything got handled as I knew it would. Thank you to the folks left in charge, the admins, the officers and everyone else for doing the awesome job they always do! We have the best darn Fire Family on the planet!
- I was on vacation for the last regular Commissioners meeting, but I made it to and feel the Strategic Planning Meeting went well. I plan to take a small break in December around the Holidays; I will keep you posted.
- Currently working the budget in prep for the meeting this Thursday.
- B1241. Deposit was made to get us on the building schedule. I met with Captain Reed and AC Dormaier on the replacement boat, and we made a punch list or items for the boat. I am working directly with the owner of SJX to determine what from that list can be added to the production boat (if it will be made available to us) at what cost to determine if we will take the production boat or wait 20 months for a full custom boat. We are trying to balance service delivery, program integrity and getting the absolute best replacement boat in doing so.
- Staffing: The FF/EMT day position is posted, FF/Medic is or will be reposted this week. EM Hire is posted. We will have the testing set up shortly for that. TCRA & Internal academy are underway. We have 10 recruits in TCRA. We should come out Flush in our resident program from what we hired as to the ones we are losing. There will be lag as they complete training. We are setting up now for the next round of Volunteer and Volunteer resident hiring. Hope to bring on more to have a list of candidates for the residency program and more Volunteers. Officers are contacting current members that are below standard to attempt to get them to reengage or if they are not able to assist them with separation.
- Chief Dormaier, Lt McGhan, E1254 are all back from Mobe Assignment. All went well.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Asst Chief Dormaier/PIO – *None*.
- Training (Cpt. Kale Guerin) – *None*.
- Safety (Cpt. Mike Meyer) – 2 volunteer injuries and 2 career personnel injuries. Volunteer are reported to BVFF while career personnel one reported to LNI while the other was handled personally.
- BCFPD#2 Association – *None*.
- Conferences:
 - WFCA State Conference, October 22, 2025, (Tulalip, WA)
 - *Attending: Orth, Howell*



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- Leadership Conference, March 4-6, 2026, (Portland, OR)
 - *Attending: Dormaier, Orth*

NEW BUSINESS:

- District 5-Year Year Plan (2025)

2026 BUDGET:

- Workshop Date: October 9, 2025, at 9:00 AM
- Public Hearing Date: November 17, 2025.

BVFF: *None.*

PERSONNEL: *Introduced new Volunteers: Elizaya King*

AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING: *None.*

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 4:29 PM.

Attested on: _____

CAREN WHEELER, DISTRICT SECRETARY

BARRY G. ORTH, CHAIRPERSON

LARRY D. HOWELL, COMMISSIONER

LEWIS S. ROUSE, COMMISSIONER