

BEAVER FIRE DISTRICT #1
BOARD MINUTES
Monday, August 18, 2025

Meeting Time: 7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Chairperson Jack Erwig, Co-Chairperson Paul Elieson, EMT Representative Lonne Laws, EMT Representative Leslie White, Fire Chief George Humphreys, Fire Department Representative Larry Weaver, Fire District Secretary Anona Yardley, Ambulance Director Jenifer McIlnay, Beaver County Attorney Von Christiansen, Assistant Fire Chief Craig Wright, and County Commissioner Wade Hollingshead. City Council Member Owen Spencer was excused.

Welcome and Opening: Chairperson Erwig welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes Reviewed: Board members reviewed the minutes of **June 16, 2025**, that had previously been sent to them. There being no recommended changes to the minutes, Board Member Weaver motioned to accept the minutes as presented. Board Member Elieson seconded the motion. Motion carried with a majority vote.

Fire Department Financial Review June & July, 2025

Board Members reviewed the bills for the fire department. Board Member White motioned, and Board Member Weaver seconded to approve the fire department bills and financial statements as presented. Motion carried with a majority vote.

Ambulance Service Financial Review May & June, 2025

After review, Board Member Laws motioned, and Board Member Weaver seconded to accept the ambulance department bills and financial statements as presented. Motion carried with a majority vote.

Conflict of Interest Statements: No conflicts were noted or voiced for this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Guidelines for Conflict-of-Interest Statements

Board members present filled out the required yearly conflict of interest statements. Secretary Yardley will keep them on file.

Policy and Procedures – Retention Schedule

The Fire District Credit Card Policy and Retention Schedules were reviewed. After recommendation from the board to have the service district board members responsible for reviewing and voting on the credit card receipts, Board Member Hollingshead motioned to adopt Appendix D & E with the proposed changes of some typing errors and the above-mentioned recommendation. Board Member Elieson seconded the motion. The motion carried with a majority vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Volunteer Insurance Program

The board observed a moment of silence for the fallen police officers, fire fighters, and first responders who lost their lives during an active shooter incident as they served the public in responding to emergency situations. After the meeting with Congresswoman Celest Maloy, it came to the attention of the fire district members that fire fighters are not part of the Volunteer Insurance Program. The fire district would like help with this program from Beaver County. In 2022 EMT's were offered the program. Legislation did not allow volunteer fire fighters to participate in this program. After some

research, it was affirmed that this program is just for EMT's. There are not any rural volunteer fire fighters that will lobby for this program. Small districts need to go through their county commissioners and state legislators to promote legislation to change this program. There are certain criteria to be on the insurance. The main reason for this program was retention. It has been an outstanding program for the EMT's. Service District #5 has their own insurance.

Run & Training Stipend Changes

Fire Chief Humphreys announced the fire department's intention to increase the maintenance wages to \$25 an hour and stipends to the same. Receiving stipends and paying workers compensation for their 1099 wages. They are trying to decide whether the hourly wage or stipend would be better. If the time they spend is more than what the stipend is, they would get the hourly wage. He recommended an increase in the training stipend to \$25.00. Board Member White motioned to raise the training stipend to \$25.00, or \$25.00/hr. Board Member Laws seconded the motion. Motion carried with a majority vote.

Fire Chief's Report – George Humphreys

Wildland Fires – There have been some wildland fires, but they have been put out quickly. The equipment is ready at a minute's notice. The sheriff's department has been good to let us know where the fires are. Stage 2 restrictions are still in effect. Tickets have been given on the forest for open burning. Drones have been a problem that are flying over wildland fires. If they are in the air, airborne fire retardant can't be used. The Bone Hollow fire had that problem.

RFGA Grant – Recipients of this grant have not announced. No money has been awarded yet.

Ambulance Director's Report – Jenifer McIlroy

Competitive grants for this year – There is less funding this year than last year. The grant was written for retention bonuses and a new ambulance. On a points system per guidelines, this year the grants were separated into personnel and equipment. The ambulance department was ranked # 5 on the personnel bonuses, and #15 for equipment. The grant money was given on a per capita basis. 47 agencies all received 22,000. \$14,500 was given to the Beaver Ambulance. Jenifer will be applying for another grant for the ambulance. She will be putting it in their budget for next year to purchase an ambulance. UIB has offered a loan for 6% if needed. Three bids are being secured. \$307,000 is the low bid to date. That does not include the equipment on the ambulance.

Generator in Building – A bid from L&H Electric has been secured. The generator, installation, and electric work were quoted at \$14,649. Board Member Laws motioned, and Board Member Weaver seconded to approve the purchase of the generator and installation. Motion passed with a majority vote.

EMT Training Class – This class will begin soon. The department is always in need of more EMT's.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m. The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be held on Monday, October 20, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Jack Erwig, Chairperson

Anona S. Yardley, Secretary