



Bouse Volunteer Fire District
P.O. Box 155
Bouse, Az. 85325

Board of Directors
Doug Williams (928) 916-4416
John Nault (928) 851-5234
David Bull (928) 851-2222

MINUTES OF THE BOUSE VOLUNTEER FIRE DISTRICT BOARD
JANUARY 25, 2017
SPECIAL MEETING

(These minutes have not been reviewed or approved by the board as of the date posted)

Meeting called to Order at 1707 Hours (5:07 pm) by Doug Williams

ROLL CALL: Members Present: Doug William, John Nault & David Bull

DISCUSSION AND ACTION CALENDAR: All items are listed for Discussion/Approval/Disapproval:

A. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON D/A SAFER STAFFING GRANT PROPOSAL

Chief Novak presented his proposal for a 2 part Safer Grant application with the following major points:

Part 1. Staffing (Firefighter Stipend Program) -

- Staffing 4 positions (2 on the engine, 2 on the ambulance) will meet the SAFER requirement of 2in/2 out for structure fires.
- The BVFD stipend program will consist of 20 volunteer certified firefighters at EMR, EMT basic or Paramedic level.
- The stipend program will pay each volunteer \$100.00 to be at the station for a 24 hour period.
- A volunteer falls under the Dept of Labor rule of 20%, which means a volunteer cannot make beyond 20% of a career firefighter. Since the BVFD does not have career firefighters, we will be utilizing the pay rate for a career fighter from Quartzsite.
- Base Quartzsite firefighter: \$35,485.00 (20% = \$7097.00)
- Rounding up equals to \$71.00 @ \$100 per shift , equals 71 shifts per year that a single firefighter may work.
- We will provide coverage 24 hours a day, 365 days per year with 3 personnel. The Chief will make the 4th person on a crew. This will require \$109,000.00 per year. Each member will be required to volunteer an additional 48 hours per month beyond their stipend time, in order for the fire district to maintain its volunteer status.
- It is proposed that after Safer grant expires in 4 years, the ambulance program pays for continued staffing.
- Per a 3 year transport history from the BVFD, it is estimated there will be 100 ambulance transports. This will result in n estimated net income of \$111,504.00
- We are requesting \$109,000.00 per year for each of the 4 years of the SAFER Grant Program

Part 2 - Paid Chief Position via a SAFER Career Staffing Grant

- Proposed that the Chief position be bumped up from Volunteer/Stipend, to full time/Salaried, at a rate of \$48,000.00.
- Breakdown for SAFER Grant Career Staffing has the following match:
 - Year 1 & 2 - 25% fire District Match
 - Year 3 - 75% match
 - Years 4 and Beyond - 100% Fire District Funded.

- The Fire District currently budgets \$36,000.00 per year for payroll. The matching for the Chief's salary would come from this line item. The resulting savings to the Fire District over the 3 Year period will be \$48,000.00.
- The fire Chief would work a flexible schedule of 84 hours per week. Furthermore, the Chief would be running calls as needed, in addition to administrative duties.

Extensive discussion followed with questions from board and public answered by Chief Novak with supporting comments provided by Chief Joseph DeWolfe, fire chief for district in Santa Cruz County and combination volunteer session chief for AFTA who has successfully applied this same program to his Fire District some 15 years ago, and Nathan (IMD) who provides the BVFD medical direction. These discussions covered acquiring and access to ambulances, how the system works with C.O.N.'s, and potential issues at conclusion of grant period, retention of trained staff etc. It was also recommending during these discussions that the BVFD consider formally applying for suitable C.O.N.'s (Certificate on Necessity) to provide additional potential for funding to maintain after the 4 year cycle of the grant. *(for full coverage refer to the meeting recording).*

John Nault made a motion to move forward with application for SAFER grants as proposed and to further direct Chief Novak to also move forward with possible C.O.N.'s. as presented. David Bull seconded the motion.

Vote Aye 3 Nay 0 Motion Passed

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: NONE

ADJOURN: Doug Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting. John Nault seconded the motion. Vote Aye 3 Nay 0 Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 1842 Hours (6:42 pm).

Minutes taken by audio recording and transcribed by Clerk David Bull
These minutes are a synopsis of the recording of the meeting, not a word for word transcription.

MINUTES APPROVED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BVFD BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

DATE March 14, 2017

SIGNED: _____

