



**CENTRAL VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

215 Wings Way
Belgrade, MT 59714
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MEETING PLACE: Central Valley Fire District, Station 1
215 Wings Way, Belgrade, MT

DATE: January 14, 2025

TIME: Immediately following the IFC Board of Appeals Meeting
beginning at 5:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:		<u>(Present)</u>	<u>(Absent)</u>
Trustees:	Ty Elliot, Chair	X	
	Darren Wilkins, Vice Chair	X	
	Mark MacLeod, Sec/Treas.	X	
	Ron Murray		X
	Rob Holt	X	
Fire Chief:	Jay Wittwer	X	
Operations Chief:	Jeff Hurley	X	
Fire Marshal:	Jake Zlomie		X
Deputy Fire Marshal:	Brandon Yung	X	
Acting Clerk:	Debbie Bloem	X	
City Representative:	Jim Simon	X	

NOTICE: ALL MEETINGS OF THE CENTRAL VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT BOARD
OF TRUSTEES ARE RECORDED

GUESTS/VISITORS: Mo Holt, Samantha Honatke, Brinn Fiorentino, Stephen McAdams, Miranda Roy, Jeff Ball, Anthony Stratman

Meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m.

AGENDA: As presented.

MINUTES: Trustee MacLeod moved to approve the **December 10, 2024 minutes** as submitted. Trustee Wilkins seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Trustee Wilkins moved to approve **the financial reports**. Trustee MacLeod seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: **Maureen Holt** of Reese Creek commended the department on its response to an EMS call that was difficult to access. She expressed concern about the Pulse Point communication link for AED access. She explained that the 911 dispatch operator did inform her of the location of the AED at Station 4, however the Pulse Point app is not working as expected.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT: As submitted.
Fire Chief Jay Wittwer reported that there are currently no staffing needs and that the **Gallatin Valley Firefighter Academy** will begin May 5th, with assistance from CVFD staff.
Rich Whitaker and Jackson Whitaker have both been hired as **Fleet Manager and Fleet Mechanic**, beginning employment on the 26th.
GEMT funding discussions continue on the State level.
The District will apply again for the **SAFER Grant** this year and look into the AFG Grant.
The **Strategic Planning** process with CPSE will officially begin the week of February 3rd through the 6th with a community meeting on Monday the 3rd and CVFD internal meetings over the three days of the 4th through the 6th.

OPERATIONS REPORT:

As submitted.

DC Jeff Hurley reported on call volume and progress on work on the training facility and work on refurbishing the training burn room.

DC Hurley expressed his thanks to those who volunteered for the Southern California deployment as well as member support for backfill.

Fire Chief Wittwer explained that there will be reimbursement to the department for the wages and other expenses related to the Southern California deployment as well as a generous flat reimbursement for the apparatus that CVFD sent. This funding information has been shared through the media as well.

FIRE PREVENTION REPORT: As submitted.

Deputy Fire Marshal Yung reported on IROL, the third-party vendor providing inspection, testing and maintenance tracking for fire suppression systems in the District.

He also reported on the Station 6 air supply rebuild for the Fleet Team. The water tank at Station 4 is almost ready for filling and will have the ability to fill tenders in just a few minutes.

At the Training Facility, not only is the burn cell being rebuilt, but a second burn cell is being built on the second floor.

LOCAL 4939 REPORT:

None.

TRUSTEE REPORT:

Trustee Rob Holt reported that he has been meeting with a group of fire trustees in the state every two weeks to discuss bills affecting the fire service in this legislative session. He plans to attend the upcoming MFTA meet and greet with legislators.

Chairman Elliot would like to review CVFD's future involvement in local events and whether or not it is possible to continue to do so on a volunteer basis. This will be discussed in a future meeting.

CITY LIAISON REPORT:

Council Member Jim Simon reported that the City is planning to purchase land for the new water tank location.

Trustee Holt moved to accept **the reports** as submitted. Trustee Wilkins seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Interlocal Agreements for Services with the City of Belgrade

Fire Chief Wittwer reported that there is a need to review the processes for some services provided for the City of Belgrade, such as fire investigation and inspection services. Chief Wittwer plans to meet with City Manager Cardwell to discuss an interlocal agreement covering these services. In the future there may be other organizations in the County that need to formally arrange investigation services as well.

Traffic Control for Emergency Response from Station 1; Chief Wittwer and Trustee Holt.

Chief Wittwer reported that the department is continuing to move forward with the plan for a reader board. The senior engineer for the airport continues to work on this. Nothing has been finalized regarding what funding will be provided from the airport but they are definitely committed to being involved. Trustee Holt continues to speak with people on the state level regarding funding from the state.

ACTION ITEMS:

Consideration and Approval of Fees for Emergency Response.

Financial Manager Samantha Honatke suggested that no decision be made on this until some new information from Pintler Billing is reviewed. She handed out a fee schedule with some examples of fees. Discussion followed regarding the possibility of submitting fees to property owners for structure fire response as well as fees related to MVA's. Fees for structure fire response have not been defined. It may be necessary for on scene members to gather some information if these fees are implemented. Chairman Elliot would like to see if the accident information exchange report would be available from law enforcement for MVA's and he requested information regarding Pintler Billing's collection rate for this type of fee.

Consideration and Approval of Resolution 242507 Calling for a Trustee Election

Trustee MacLeod moved to **adopt Resolution 242507, calling for a Trustee Election.** Trustee Holt seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Consideration and Approval to Open the Collective Bargaining Agreement with IAFF Local 4939 for Contract Negotiations.

Chief Wittwer reported that the current agreement will sunset this June so negotiations need to begin on a new agreement.

Trustee Wilkins moved to approve **opening the Collective Bargaining Agreement with IAFF Local 4939.** Trustee MacLeod seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next regular meeting of the Central Valley Fire District Board of Trustees is scheduled for **March 11, 2025.**

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at **6:35 p.m.**


Ty Elliot, Chairman


Mark MacLeod, Secretary/Treasurer

ATTEST: 
Debbie Bloem, Clerk