



**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: March 11, 2025

TIME: 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	
Acting Clerk:	Debbie Bloem	X	
City Representative:	Jason Guffey	X	

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

GUESTS/VISITORS: Ramie Blakeman, Samantha Honatke, Stephen McAdams, Will Flynn, Deanna Yung, Tiffany Yung, Steve Sorlie, Michael Liebmann, Michael Hilbert, Collin Brozka, Gabriel McManus

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Chairman Elliot led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA: As presented.

MINUTES: Trustee MacLeod moved to approve the **February 11, 2025 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: Central Valley Fire District received an invitation to the Grand Opening of the **Belgrade Community Library** on Saturday, April 5th. Deputy Fire Marshal Yung received a thank you note from the **Summer Ridge Homeowners Association** for his informative and engaging talk to their group about Fire Safety and Prevention. The **Gallatin County Election Department** sent a letter stating that with only one nomination received, Ramie Blakeman will be elected by acclamation to the vacant trustee position.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT: As submitted.
Deputy Chief Hurley reported that the **hiring process** has begun to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Firefighter Ray. This process will happen quickly in order for the new hire to be ready to attend the spring Gallatin Valley Firefighter Academy, beginning May 5th.
Chief Hurley went on to review the Fire Chief report as it was submitted, including continuation of GEMT efforts, paramedic training, plans to apply for the SAFER grant and evaluations and

planning from the EMS Study. The initial **CVFD Strategic Plan draft** is being reviewed by staff and the **Preliminary FY26 Budget** process is well underway to be ready for approval at the May Board Meeting.

OPERATIONS REPORT:

As submitted.

Deputy Chief Hurley reviewed the Operations Report as submitted. He reported that after the recent **EMS volunteer recruitment**, 9 out of the 18 applicants will be attending the EMS Academy at the end of the month. A strategic plan is being formulated to put together a **seasonal wildland team** to be prepared for deployment in order to fight fires as needed and to also provide some additional revenue for the District. **A Technical Rescue Team** is being formed and after training and outfitting, will be ready to deploy this fall. The **Water Rescue Team** is also adding Swift Water Rescue to the current Ice Rescue Program. On another note, Deputy Chief Hurley addressed concerns from the Union, stating that Prevention and Operations staff will ensure that **firefighter safety** is a priority moving forward regardless of changes regarding building inspections.

FIRE PREVENTION REPORT: As submitted.

Fire Marshal Zlomie reported that a **property annexation site** has been made available to residents with properties adjacent to the District. An overall annexation policy will be forthcoming for the Board's approval. Fire Inspector Dyas passed his Fire Plans Examiner certification. Fire Marshal Zlomie completed his second course for his EFO, so he is halfway through the course and is planning a class in the fall and a final class in the spring. Chief Hurley and Fire Marshal Zlomie have teamed up to address the City of Belgrade's plan to conduct their own fire inspections. They have put together a draft **Interlocal Agreement** for services. With the return of Chief Wittwer, this will continue to be addressed. Chairman Elliot would like at least a couple trustees included in a meeting to have a clear understanding of the plan moving forward.

LOCAL 4939 REPORT:

None.

TRUSTEE REPORT:

Trustee **Rob Holt** reported on involvement with other state trustees in the **current legislative session** and confirmed that efforts have been very productive. On another note, to help address the **response to Airway Blvd from Station 1**, Fire Marshal Zlomie is looking into a transponder which could alert the main vehicle navigation systems to emergency vehicle activity to help clear the road for responders.

CITY LIAISON REPORT:

None.

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

None.

ACTION ITEMS:

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next regular meeting of the Central Valley Fire District Board of Trustees is scheduled for **April 8, 2025**.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.



Ty Elliot, Chairman



Mark MacLeod, Secretary/Treasurer

ATTEST: 

Debbie Bloem, Clerk