

**Regular Meeting of the North Blaine County Fire District in the Council  
Chambers – 81 Elkhorn Road, Sun Valley, ID  
June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 10:00 AM.**

1. Call to Order.

Commissioner Gray called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

2. Public Comment.

None.

3. Approval of the June 2023 Claims\*.

Administrative Assistant Jocelin Gardner mentioned the claims from Roberts Electric and Service Master in reference to repairs being done in Greenhorn and Griffin Butte residential units due to ice dam damage this winter. The two ServiceMaster invoices from Greenhorn were both less than \$1,000 which is less than our ICRMP deductible, so we will not be reimbursed for those. We should be reimbursed for Robert's Electric, which is part of our claim for the Griffin Butte repairs. Commissioner Michael comments that our sprinkler inspections are an annual cost we pay; Chief Bauer does not do those inspections. Our ICRMP cost is going up next year, as well as our deductible, from \$1,000 to \$2,000.

**MOTION:**

Commissioner Michael moved to approve the June 2023 claims; seconded by Commissioner Engelmann. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: Chairman Gray, Commissioner Michael, Commissioner Engelmann

NAYS: None

4. Approval of the May 10, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes\*.

**MOTION:**

Commissioner Michael moved to approve the April 19, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes; seconded by Chairman Gray. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: Chairman Gray, Commissioner Michael, Commissioner Engelmann

NAYS: None

5. Report: Monthly Update – North Blaine County Fire District Chief, Rich Bauer.

We had a meeting with our live-in firefighters two weeks ago. We are implementing new standards for the live-ins, including annual performance reviews, annual engineer recertifications, and 6 shift assists per year at the Elkhorn Fire Station. We also offered them the first opportunity to move into the new housing as it becomes available, knowing that rents at the new units will be higher than current rent rates. Shift assists are when an on-call member fills in as the second or third person on shift when full time duty staff are out sick or on vacation. This helps to enhance team-work, safety, and learning. Commissioner Michael asked what their required percent of call response is, and Chief answered that it is 8%. Commissioner Michael asked if this applies to all of the live-ins, and Chief Bauer answered yes, they are all held to the same standard. He is meeting with a Wood River Fire & Rescue firefighter tomorrow that is interested in the housing. Commissioner Michael asked if we have a waitlist, and Chief

Robrahn was elected by his peers to be the Director for Region 5 of Idaho, which covers Blaine County, Buhl, Twin Falls, Jerome, and Burley. Chief Bauer would like to congratulate him on this great achievement.

#### 6. Report: Monthly Update – Sun Valley Fire Chief, Taan Robrahn.

The Commissioners congratulate Chief Robrahn on this achievement as well. There were over 200 people at the Conference last month, which is the highest attendance that we have had. It was great to have our peers from all across Idaho in attendance, as well as our local representatives from Hailey, Bellevue, and SVFD/NBCFD.

SVFD presented their budget request to the Blaine County Ambulance District, who indicated that they are not increasing any contracts this year. We presented a flat budget, but also presented an idea of what we would like to do in the next several years, which includes two new hires, ensuring that we have enough paramedics on duty to be responding to medical calls in the North Blaine County Fire District, while keeping a paramedic at Elkhorn Station to respond to a medical call in the City. All members in the Ambulance District reports that they have seen significant call increases. SVFD and NBCFD have seen a 22% increase from last year, with about an 87% increase in the last 5 years. Chairman Gray asked, if there is a call, and a NBCFD/SVFD paramedic responds to the call and is first on scene, are they overridden by the Ambulance District personnel when they arrive? Chief Robrahn responded that patient care can always be passed up to a higher or equal level of care, but not to a lower level of care. If we respond with a paramedic and they respond with EMTs, our paramedic stays with the patient. If they respond with a paramedic, we are required to transfer the patient to their care, but our staff still have the option of staying with the patient during transport.

Sarah Driggs and Tim Hanna, our two newest duty staff, are taking over managing, assessing, and maintaining the Rural Water Supply. They will be notifying and educating property owners if their water supply is not functioning properly. We do not have a way to fine owners if they do not fix the supply, but insurance companies can lower their insurance rating if they have deficiencies in their system. This gives us opportunity to speak to and work with property owners, which is especially important for people who have just moved to the Valley. Chief Bauer adds that most people want to comply with requirements, for their own safety reasons.

Commissioner Michael asked if they are doing Firewise education when they are out there, and Chief Robrahn answered yes. We are also working on some grant requests for wildfire prevention and education. Actions can include a 'chipping day' where we have a company come to break down all of the brush materials people take out of their yards.

The Commissioners congratulate Chief Robrahn again on his appointment.

#### 7. Updates, discussion, and possible action regarding Greenhorn Housing Project\*.

At the last City Council meeting, the City Council approved the mayor to sign for the next four units of the project.

Merrick is going to be pouring concrete for foundations on Friday, and we expect that Chris Jaussi, owner

than expected bank interest rates, that estimate is now \$655K. At this time, we are predicting about \$660K in revenues for FY 2024.

Commissioner Michael mentions that the current proposed budget is at \$802K, and Chief Bauer adds that we still have a good amount of funds in our reserves, and part of this budget is dedicated to repaving at Greenhorn, which we have been waiting to do. Continuing to fundraise for Greenhorn will allow us to pay down our appropriations lease sooner, reducing the cost of that line item in the future.

Commissioner Michael thanks the staff for their conservative budgeting and their knowledge of revenue projections.

9. Discussion: Old Business.

None.

10. Public Comment.

Mayor Hendricks, Mayor of Sun Valley, would like to mention three points. He says that the City did explore the idea of policemen becoming EMTs a few years. They found that most police do not want to be EMTs, and vice versa.

He followed up with Hillary Fletcher after the Ambulance District meeting. They have not been working with the State Attorney General's office, but the County is planning to hire an attorney that is aware of all of the Idaho laws. When fire districts merge, they are required to take the lower of the levy rates. In the best of cases, which we are not in, this process will take a minimum of 3-4 years.

He would like to officially say, from the City of Sun Valley, congratulations to the Board of Commissioners of the North Blaine County Fire District for getting this housing project moving and off of the ground. They City is proud to be working on this project with the District. Chairman Gray in turned thanked the Mayor. This partnership with the City has been such a great asset to the District.

11. Adjournment\*.

**MOTION**


Commissioner Michael moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Commissioner Engelmann.

A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: Chairman Gray, Commissioner Michael, Commissioner Engelmann.

NAYS: None.

Chairman Gray declared the meeting adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jed Gray, Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Earl Engelmann, Secretary