

**Regular Meeting of the North Blaine County Fire District
In the Council Chambers – 81 Elkhorn Road, Sun Valley, ID
February 10, 2021 at 10:00 AM**

1. Call to Order.

Chairman Gray called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM.

Present: Chairman Gray; Commissioner Engelmann; Commissioner Michael (via telephone).

2. Public Comment.

None.

3. Presentation of the Fiscal Year 2020 Audit – Brady Workman, Workman & Company.

Brady Workman of Workman & Company presented the FY 2020 Audit. He highlighted the opinion letter which is the most important part of the audit. Workman & Company have issued an unmodified opinion, which is the highest level of opinion that can be given. He stated this is a good clean audit report. Brady thanked the commissioners for overseeing the budget and making financial decisions. He issued a reminder to have the board of commissioners, continue to approve invoices and claims. These actions protect the district.

MOTION

Commissioner Michael moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2020 Audit as presented by Brady Workman of Workman & Company, seconded by Commissioner Engelmann. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: Chairman Gray, Commissioner Engelmann, and Commissioner Michael.

NAYS: None.

Chairman Gray declared the motion approved.

4. Approval of the Claims.

MOTION

Commissioner Engelmann moved to approve the February 2021 Claims as presented, seconded by Commissioner Michael. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: Chairman Gray, Commissioner Engelmann, and Commissioner Michael.

NAYS: None.

Chairman Gray declared the motion approved.

5. Discussion and possible approval of the January 13, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes.

MOTION

Commissioner Engelmann moved to approve the January 13, 2021 regular meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Michael. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: Chairman Gray, Commissioner Engelmann, and Commissioner Michael.

NAYS: None.

Chairman Gray declared the motion approved.

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

Chief Bauer presented his monthly report. He gave an update on the new pumper/tender. Pierce manufacturing believes they may have this completed in December 2021. Chief Bauer and Chief Robrahn held a meeting with the live-in firefighters last week, to address the name change, radio procedures, training, etc. They would like to hold meetings with the live-in firefighters on a quarterly basis. Chief Bauer ordered new structure fire helmets for the live-ins and the squad leaders. An order was also placed for new wildland shirts. North Blaine County Fire District is in the process of renewing our cooperative agreements with the federal agencies, for the up-and-coming wildland fire season. Chief Bauer has met with other fire chiefs and building officials to update the Blaine County Fire Ordinance. Many thanks to Blaine County Building Official Jeff Giese, he re-worked the ordinance to be more concise. There are a few changes to the ordinance. For instance, the replacement of existing bridges. An existing bridge that has been damaged and is in need of repair can be at 16 feet, instead of 20 feet. The rest of the roadway needs to meet code, and there can be no additions to the square footage of the dwelling. Chief Bauer stated dry hydrants will no longer be allowed. Moving forward, the requirements will be either cisterns, pressurized hydrants or sprinkler systems.

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

Chief Robrahn presented his monthly report. He reported that St. Luke's is doing a great job administering vaccines. He discussed the avalanche danger not only in our community but across the west. There have been 16 fatalities in the last 2 weeks. There is a persistent weak layer, that like the pandemic, is not going away. Chief Robrahn introduced a strategic plan that will be presented at the next regular meeting. As we move forward, we want to ascertain how we can improve the level of service to the communities in which we serve, and what the future will look like in this area. We have seen unprecedented growth in the City of Sun Valley, and the District. Part of the strategic plan requires applying for a grant. He requested a verbal approval from the commissioners to move ahead with hiring a grant writer, the cost to be shared with the City of Sun Valley. The grant we would like to obtain would help to staff the Fire and EMS personnel in our fire stations. The grant opens on Monday and closes the beginning of March. This is a very competitive process, which is nationwide through FEMA. Chief Bateman of Wood River Fire & Rescue recommended a grant writer he has used in the past, the cost to the district would be \$3,500.00. Chairman Gray stated this will need to be an agenda item for our next regular meeting on March 10, 2021. He further requested that Chief Robrahn move ahead with the grant writer, and if the vote does not secure the funds at the next meeting, Chairman Gray will personally guarantee the funding. Chairman Gray gave an update on Bill 10-21, that was pulled from the

floor. It was re-submitted and is now Bill 10-41, regarding property taxes. It has not been substantially changed.

8. Discussion: Old Business.

Chairman Gray asked that we discuss at our next meeting, the possibility of re-joining the Idaho State Fire Commissioner's Association.

9. Public Comment.

Richard Canfield residing out East Fork Road commented. He would like the board's meeting packet posted with the agenda. He understands that this is something that Commissioner Michael is working on but wanted to remind the commissioners about it. He publicly thanked the people working at St. Luke's, he was impressed how organized they are. He witnessed this when he received his first Covid vaccination. He made further statements regarding the Sawtooth Avalanche group in Ketchum, and struggles he encountered as a school superintendent in Massachusetts when the tax revenue was severely limited.

10. Adjournment.

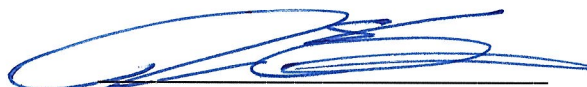
MOTION

Commissioner Engelmann moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Michael. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: Chairman Gray, Commissioner Engelmann, and Commissioner Michael.

NAYS: None.

Chairman Gray declared the meeting adjourned at 10:47 AM.



James E. Gray, Commissioner/Chairman



Earl Engelmann, Commissioner/Secretary