

**BONITA SPRINGS FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
Minutes – January 12, 2026
Regular Board Meeting**

Fire Commissioners Present:

Jeffery Maturo - Chairman
Steve Lohan – Vice Chairman
Tommy Hugo – Secretary/Treasurer
James Murphy - Commissioner
Jeff Kerr – Commissioner

Administrative Staff Present:

Greg DeWitt – Chief
Jason Brod – Assistant Chief
Andrew Schmidt – Deputy Chief
Kelli Wilson – Deputy Chief
Beverly Gervasi – Finance Director
Anna-Marie Waller – Admin Coordinator

Chairman Maturo called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Chaplain Chitwood began the meeting with a moment of silence to remember the fallen firefighters and their families. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Lohan motioned to approve the December 1, 2025, Executive Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.**

Commissioner Hugo motioned to approve the December 1, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Kerr seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.**

APPROVAL OF FINANCIALS

Commissioner Hugo motioned to approve the December 2025 Financials, including purchase orders (P.O.'s) exceeding \$10,000.00. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.**

PRESENTATIONS

Chief DeWitt recognized Firefighter David Lees for his 5 Years of Service to the District. Firefighter Lees was not in attendance.

DISPOSALS

Commissioner Lohan motioned to approve the December 2025 disposals. Commissioner Hugo seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.**

UNION BUSINESS

Roy Brown, President of Local 3444, stated that he, Eric Del Pozo, and Jordan Sauerwald will be attending the Legislative Conference the last week of January. State firefighters will flood the Capitol to discuss pending legislation that affects them. He expects to accomplish a lot of work. A highlight of the week is the softball game between the Democratic and Republican legislators.

The theme for the 4th of July parade and the logo are complete. There is a new t-shirt design, and the website has been updated. The website is bonitaspringsparade.com. Tyler Bess is in charge of the parade this year.

COMMISSIONERS' BUSINESS

Commissioner Maturo wanted to ensure all Commissioners were receiving sufficient communication. He also told them that he has a meeting set up with the developer of the project across the street to discuss them paying for a traffic light at Snell Drive.

Commissioner Lohan commented that he thinks someone from the board should attend the FASD meetings. He believes at least one board member should attend. He will be unable to participate in the Legislative Forum. Commissioner Kerr asked about FASD and stated that he had received his ethics training online from the FASD website. Commissioners Lohan and Murphy both commented that the June conference includes a live Ethics class taught by the District's attorney.

Commissioner Maturo asked about getting new boots for the firefighters. He thinks the Haix boots would be good. Chief DeWitt informed Commissioner Maturo that the boots are negotiated in the Union Contract, which has already been agreed upon by the District and the Union.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Murphy inquired about the progress of the Hickory Boulevard property. Chief DeWitt answered that the purchase agreement has been signed and that we are just waiting for liability insurance. Commissioner Maturo wanted to know the status of the bay floor at Station 23 and the chickee hut at Station 27. It was confirmed that both were complete.

NEW BUSINESS

None

CHIEFS' REPORTS

Chief Greg DeWitt

Chief DeWitt gave the Chief's Report:

- We have received about \$345,000.00 from FEMA for reimbursement from Hurricanes Helene and Milton. There is about \$71,000.00 still to come to the District.
- Business After Hours is at the Shangri-La Springs on January 29, 2026.
- Because we switched to Cigna with level funding for the employee health insurance, we earned a \$96,000.00 credit.
- Engine 27 and the high water vehicles are in production and are expected toward the end of February or the beginning of March.
- There are a few bills we are watching in the upcoming Legislative Session, which goes through March 13. Governor DeSantis has already said there will be a Special Session as well.
- Firefighter hiring is open until January 20, 2026. We need to replace 4 firefighters.
- We are looking to hire three more firefighters in February who were not budgeted. In October, we will need to hire 9 more.

- Thank you to everyone who worked on Toys for Tots, the staff, volunteers, and Bonita Assistance Office. We helped over 900 children in the area with over 5,000 toys, 600 books, 1,400 stocking stuffers, and 80 bikes.
- The call volume this past year decreased by 6%, probably because there are still some empty condominium buildings on the beach.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Laura Carr, Bonita Springs City Council Member, stated she was confused by the flow of the meeting discussions.

Commissioner Lohan motioned to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Hugo seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.** Meeting adjourned at 5:39 pm.

APPROVED