

Minutes from the May 27th, 2026, Bolinas Fire Protection District Special Board Meeting at the Bolinas Fire Station.

Pres. Molesworth called the meeting of the Bolinas Fire Protection District to order at 7:00 P.M. Vice Pres. Torrey, Dir. Pierce, and Dir. Dunne were present. Also present: Chief George Krakauer and Administrative Manager Isaac Taylor. Dir. Martinelli was absent.

Pres. Molesworth asked for unanimous consent to approve the Agenda. Seeing no objections, the Agenda was approved.

PUBLIC EXPRESSION

The Board received public comment from one resident regarding traffic concerns on Overlook Road and Elm Road.

CHIEF'S REPORT

MERA/Chiefs

Chief Krakauer reported that MERA approved a draft budget for FY26-27.

MWPA

No update.

Prevention

Chief Krakauer discussed District wildfire preparedness and response in item 5c.

Roads

Chief Krakauer reported that the Little Mesa Private Roads Division is working with the County to find a path to repair road damages from a landslide this past winter. This may require a local ballot measure in order to access public financing through the County, following a complete engineering study.

Inspections

Chief Krakauer reported the department is continuing to work on local business inspections.

Chief Krakauer also reported continuing to work with Marin County Fire on inspections for several remodeling projects in town, evaluating for proper access and water supply systems.

Planning

No update.

Grants

Chief Krakauer reported that the District has submitted a proposal for a Cal Fire matching grant to support the purchase of new high-band portable emergency radios.

Training

Chief Krakauer reported that training has been focused on rope skills, and will soon shift to wildland firefighting skills.

Chief Krakauer reported that firefighter Italo Vaccaro passed his engine driver test, and will next complete his written exam and certification with the DMV.

Chief Krakauer reported that firefighters Walter Blair Tom and Italo Vaccaro have both submitted applications to the Firefighter I training academy. Chief Krakauer has submitted letters of recommendation for both firefighters, and a decision is expected by mid-June. The academy will run from mid-August to early December. Chief Krakauer added that both firefighters are expected to continue working part-time when not in classes.

Volunteers

Chief Krakauer reported a very successful Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast, where the volunteers fed over 300 guests, a record number.

Chief Krakauer reported one new potential volunteer firefighter, Nina Venezia.

Apparatus

Chief Krakauer reported receiving and approving the sample paint cards for the new Engine 285. The engine build process will continue for the next two years.

Chief Krakauer reported that annual service has been completed on Utility pickups 231 & 232. Wildland Engine 265 will go in next for its annual service.

Disaster Council

No update.

Resource Recovery

Chief Krakauer reported that Greg Shelly has stepped down from his position as equipment operator at the Resource Recovery Site. BCPUD is developing a job listing, and Chief Krakauer plans to assist with the interview process sometime in June. BCPUD staff will assist with operations in the interim.

Chief Krakauer also reported meeting again with member agencies to discuss future operations and finances. BCPUD, Stinson Fire, and Bolinas Fire are contributing \$2,500 per year, and recently agreed to raise rates from \$20 to \$30 per yard, still lower than similar sites in our area. All member agencies are committed to keeping the site sustainable, to help ensure green waste is retained in the local community, avoiding carbon emissions and preventing dumping or accumulating of hazardous fuels.

Buildings and Grounds

Chief Krakauer reported that the station roof was inspected. While its overall condition is adequate for now, the District will begin planning for an eventual roof replacement within the next few years.

General Operations/Administration

Chief Krakauer reported that the FY2026-27 Draft Budget is nearly complete, and should be up for approval at next month's regular meeting.

Chief Krakauer reported that Marin County Fire Department's Medic 97 ambulance has found resources allowing it to become active full-time earlier than anticipated. The ambulance will be operational 24/7 until Labor Day.

Isaac Taylor reported that the 2026 Cal Fire Volunteer Fire Capacity grant for firefighter PPE will be closed out this week.

Personnel

Chief Krakauer was happy to announce that firefighter Sydney Knudsen has accepted a full-time job offer with the department starting June 1, and firefighter Walter Tom is expected to start a full-time position July 1.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Action Item #1 – Approve Resolution 221-2026, A Regularly Scheduled Election to be Held in this Jurisdiction; Requesting the Board of Supervisors to Consolidate with any Other Election Conducted on Said Date, and Requesting Election Services by the Marin County Elections Department

MSC Torrey/Dunne (unan.) to approve Resolution 221-2026.

Isaac Taylor introduced the Resolution, calling an election in Bolinas Fire Protection District for two full-term Director positions, to be held with the county-wide election on November 3rd.

Action Item #2 – Approve Publicly Available Payroll Schedule for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

MSC Pierce/Torrey (unan.) to approve Publicly Available Payroll Schedule for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

Isaac Taylor reported that the publicly available payroll schedule is an annual requirement for our participation in CalPERS retirement system.

Discussion Item #1 – District Wildfire Preparedness and Response

Chief Krakauer reported that wildfire season is beginning, with some early significant fires observed in Southern California, and a recent small vegetation fire here in West Marin. Bolinas Fire is shifting our training focus to wildland firefighting.

Chipper Days are available, both from Bolinas Fire and through Marin Wildfire (chipperday.com/marin).

Chief Krakauer reported two major wildfire prevention projects supported by Marin Wildfire in Bolinas are nearing completion. A roadside hazardous tree project near the intersection of Mesa Road and Olema-Bolinas Road is expected to conclude this Friday. Preliminary totals are 31 tree removals and 8 trims. All trees have been identified by arborists as hazardous due to poor condition and/or proximity to a key evacuation route. Additional trees within ten feet of PG&E infrastructure are being assessed separately for removal or pruning by PG&E vegetation management teams.

The second project is ongoing on the hillside behind homes and business on the north side of Wharf Road. This fuel reduction work is creating defensible space for many downtown properties.

Chief Krakauer reported an upcoming meeting with Marin Wildfire and PG&E, regarding a potential Cal Fire grant to supplement wildfire prevention work in West Marin.

Chief Krakauer reported Isaac Taylor is developing a summer wildfire and emergency preparedness postcard.

Chief Krakauer also reported that annual defensible space evaluations are expected to begin around August in Bolinas.

Isaac Taylor reported that the District has applied for additional Marin Wildfire funding to support extra Chipper Days later in the fall.

CONSENT CALENDAR

MSC Dunne/Pierce (unan.) to approve the Consent Calendar.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Human Resources Advisory Committee – Vice Pres. Torrey reported on a meeting of the Human Resources Advisory Committee, which focused on personnel development and staffing plans. Dir. Pierce thanked Chief Krakauer for his time commitment to the department, and looked forward to a positive outcome of his staff development plans. Vice Pres. Torrey also shared that the committee reviewed the draft budget.

Finance Advisory Committee – Pres. Molesworth reported on a meeting of the Finance Advisory Committee. She commended Isaac Taylor for his work on the draft budget.

Operations Working Group – No update.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Pres. Molesworth thanked the volunteers for an excellent Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast.

ADJOURNMENT

Pres. Molesworth asked for unanimous consent to adjourn the meeting. Seeing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 7:36 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Isaac Taylor
Administrative Manager

Note: Minutes of all Board meetings are available for review on the District's website.