

Minutes from the November 19th, 2025, Bolinas Fire Protection District Board Meeting at the Bolinas Fire Station.

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

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

PUBLIC EXPRESSION

None.

CHIEF'S REPORT

MERA/Chiefs

No update.

MWPA

See Prevention.

Prevention

Chief Krakauer reported continuing work with MWPA staff and downtown property owners to complete a fuel reduction project. Last month, the Tamalpais Fire Crew completed defensible space work up to 50 feet on both sides of Altura Avenue on the Little Mesa. With the project under budget, the District is planning additional fuel reduction work across from the Little Mesa on the north side of Wharf Road and east of Olema-Bolinas Road.

Chief Krakauer reported attending another biweekly Coastal Zone meeting, where he discussed the status of the Wharf-Altura fuel reduction project and provided updates on a hazard tree mitigation report being prepared by BCPUD, in coordination with the District, PG&E and Marin County DPW. Work on the latter project is expected to begin in spring 2026.

Roads

Chief Krakauer reported that Don Murch continues to fill potholes, with additional material recently received from a road project on Panoramic Highway. BCPUD is helping distribute additional material to interested residents.

Inspections

Chief Krakauer reported that staff continue to complete downtown business inspections.

Chief Krakauer reported he will meet with Marin County Fire staff for a final walkthrough inspection of a project on Horseshoe Hill Road.

Planning

No update.

Grants

Chief Krakauer reported that the District is continuing to purchase firefighter turnouts and PPE, partially funded by recent grant awards.

Training

Chief Krakauer reported that training has focused on CPR recertification. He also reported Firefighters Kruk, Tom, and Norton have completed Asst. Chief Marcotte's Driver-Operator 1B class.

Volunteers

Chief Krakauer reported that the drawing for the 2025 annual Volunteer Raffle will be in early December.

Chief Krakauer also reported the annual Holiday Dinner has been scheduled for Sunday, December 14th at the fire station, and invitations will be sent soon.

Apparatus

Chief Krakauer reported that Engine 285 is in the shop for its annual service, new batteries, and a diagnosis and repair for a potential throttle sensor issue.

Chief Krakauer reported that the ad hoc Engine Replacement Committee is discussing the final specifications for a new fire engine, to replace Engine 283. A video call has been planned with the manufacturer to sort out final details.

Disaster Council

Chief Krakauer reported one new Area Coordinator, Don Murch, in the Gospel Flats area.

Resource Recovery

Chief Krakauer reported continued meetings with BCPUD staff to discuss RRP site operations and continuity plans.

Buildings and Grounds

Chief Krakauer reported a meeting with Isaac Taylor and Phillip Suna of Haven Energy regarding a program for potential installation of an electric battery-backup. Upon initial evaluation, it appears this program may not fit the District's needs for electric backup, given the storage capacity and our use of an existing diesel-powered backup generator.

General Operations/Administration

Chief Krakauer reported meeting with Isaac Taylor and Craig Hill of NHA Financial Advisors to discuss their proposal for a District financial planning study. We may revisit their proposal in early 2026 as part of annual budgeting.

Chief Krakauer reported receiving a revised RF-EME report from Octagon Towers LLC and T-Mobile representatives. Octagon and T-Mobile are seeking a letter of agreement in order to begin their permitting process for the proposed cellular tower expansion. Chief Krakauer reported this item will be added to the December regular meeting for discussion and potential formation of an ad hoc committee to study the new lease proposal with addition of T-Mobile.

Chief Krakauer reported that the 2025 Toxic Away Day scheduled for October was cancelled due to weather, and will be rescheduled.

Isaac Taylor reported that he is working with Nigro & Nigro, PC on the final phase of the 2024-25 annual audit.

Personnel

Chief Krakauer reported that recruitment for a new Firefighter-Engineer Duty Officer position is continuing, and he will be seeking a meeting in December with the Human Resources Advisory Committee.

Chief Krakauer reported that Firefighter Cass Kostelnik will be returning to part-time shift work after a short break.

Vice Pres. Torrey asked about the annual increase in District health insurance premiums, which Isaac Taylor reported have risen approximately 12-14%.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Action Item #1 – Merit Hearing and Approval of Ordinance No. 19-2025 “An Ordinance of the Bolinas Fire Protection District Adopting and Modifying the 2025 California Fire Code with Amendments Supported by Local Findings, Prescribing Regulations Governing Conditions Hazardous to Life and Property from Fire or Explosion; Providing for the Issuance of Permits for Hazardous Uses or Operations; and Defining the Powers and Duties of the Bolinas Fire Protection District and its Officers.”

MSC Dunne/Martinelli (unan.) to approve Ordinance No. 19-2025.

AYE: Torrey, Dunne, Martinelli, Pierce

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Molesworth

Chief Krakauer explained that, after October’s first reading, this is the final approval for the District’s triannual adoption of an updated fire code ordinance. The only substantial change to this year’s code is removal of certain items now contained in a stand-alone Wildland Urban Interface Code. Once adopted, these codes will be submitted to Marin County Fire Department, who will present them to the Marin County Board of Supervisors for final approval. The updated codes will go into effect January 2026. Dir. Martinelli noted that there may be minor modifications to the County code, which could be adopted by amendment locally, if necessary.

Action Item #2 – Merit Hearing and Approval of Ordinance No. 20-2025 “An Ordinance of the Bolinas Fire Protection District Adopting the 2025 Edition of the California Wildland Urban Interface Code, Regulating and Governing the Mitigation of Hazard to Life and Property from the Intrusion of Fire From Wildland Exposures, from Adjacent Structures and Prevention of Structure Fires From Spreading to Wildland Fuels in the Bolinas Fire Protection District; and Further Providing for the Issuance of Permits and Collection of Fees.”

MSC Dunne/Martinelli (unan.) to approve Ordinance No. 20-2025.

AYE: Torrey, Dunne, Martinelli, Pierce

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Molesworth

Vice Pres. Torrey introduced this item as the final adoption of the aforementioned Wildland Urban Interface ordinance, containing provisions previously contained within the state fire code.

Action Item #3 – Amend Previously Adopted Resolution 218-2025

MSC Pierce/Martinelli (unan.) to Amend Resolution 218-2025.

Isaac Taylor and Chief Krakauer explained that this is a small amendment to a Resolution 218-2025, adopted at last month's regular board meeting. This resolution establishes wage and hour policies for full-time District employees to ensure compliance with Fair Labor Standards Act and California Department of Industrial Relations regulations. After internal discussion and further consultation with District counsel, it is recommended to adopt changes which specify that paid leave will count toward the overtime threshold, thereby guaranteeing employees with an overtime component in their regular schedules do not lose earnings when using paid leave. Directors asked several questions to clarify the policy. The change is one additional sentence in section 4 of Resolution 218-2025.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Human Resources Advisory Committee – No update.

Finance Advisory Committee – No update.

Operations Working Group – No update.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Vice Pres. Torrey and Dir. Pierce commended the department for efforts to support road maintenance along evacuation routes.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Pres. Molesworth asked for unanimous consent to adjourn the meeting. Seeing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Isaac Taylor
Administrative Manager

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