

Minutes from the September 24th, 2025, Bolinas Fire Protection District 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. Dunne, Dir. Martinelli, and Dir. Pierce were present. Also present: Chief George Krakauer and Administrative Manager Isaac Taylor.

Pres. Molesworth asked for unanimous consent to approve the Agenda, with the amendment to move item 5a to the beginning of the meeting. Seeing no objections, the Agenda was approved as amended.

PUBLIC EXPRESSION

None.

CHIEF'S REPORT

MERA/Chiefs

Chief Krakauer was unable to attend the September Chiefs' meeting. He attended a short MERA meeting today, where members received an update on the Next Generation MERA system, now fully operational.

MWPA

Chief Krakauer discussed MWPA meetings in item 5c.

Prevention

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

Roads

Chief Krakauer reported that Don Murch has resumed mowing on the Big Mesa and within the BCPUD property at Mesa Rd. and Olema-Bolinas Rd.

Chief Krakauer reported that Ray Moritz' Urban Forestry Associates unfortunately turned down the recently-approved BCPUD proposal to assess roadside hazardous trees along Mesa Rd. and Olema-Bolinas Rd. Chief Krakauer reported he is working with the BCPUD to revisit their proposal language and seek alternate arborists for the proposed study.

Chief Krakauer reported that the Bolinas Wye Wetlands Restoration Project is nearing completion. Both lanes of the new bridge are open, and crews are working on final striping, along with removal of the former Bolinas-Fairfax Road connector and a vegetation management plan. The final deadline is the end of October.

Chief Krakauer reported that grindings from the removed connector road will be used to fill potholes on some road on the Mesa, with the assistance of Don Murch.

Inspections

Chief Krakauer reported that he completed a site visit of the new College of Marin Bolinas Field Station, looking at access, alarm systems, and a newly-installed Knox Box with emergency access keys.

Planning

Chief Krakauer has reviewed plans for two new proposed homes on Horseshoe Hill Road, discussing access points and water storage design.

Grants

Chief Krakauer reported that the District received funds from a California Fire Foundation grant, with which we are purchasing new firefighter Personal Protection Equipment, including 20 new wildland fire shelters.

Training

Chief Krakauer reported that training continues to be focused on wildland firefighting. However, last night the department trained on a residence scheduled for demolition. Firefighters trained with SCBAs on search patterns and firefighter rescues.

Asst. Chief Marcotte will host a four-day Driver 1B Engineering class for West Marin volunteer agencies beginning October 19th.

Volunteers

Chief Krakauer reported that volunteers are preparing for the annual raffle, and have scheduled this year's Fire Safety Day for Sunday, October 19th. Vice Pres. Torrey suggested showing samples of home hardening materials like fire-safe vents.

Apparatus

Chief Krakauer reported that Engine 283 remains in the shop with a persistent fuel delivery issue.

Chief Krakauer reported that the ad hoc Engine Replacement Committee is nearly done with design specifications for a new engine to replace Engine 283.

Disaster Council

No update.

Resource Recovery

Chief Krakauer reported that he was able to coordinate with CalTrans to allow the mobile grinder through the new wye bridge, and the site has reopened after the grind was completed.

Buildings and Grounds

No update.

General Operations/Administration

Chief Krakauer reported slightly above average call volume for September.

Chief Krakauer that firefighters assisted with air quality monitoring during the final removal of the former BoGas underground fuel tank.

Chief Krakauer reported that the BoGas contractor is also working with the District on a proposal for maintenance on our aboveground fuel tank.

Isaac Taylor reported he is working with bookkeeper Michael O'Connor on preparation for the District's annual audit.

Personnel

Chief Krakauer reported that he is working to fill some scheduling gaps due to the loss of certain part-time staff.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Discussion Item #1 – Ongoing Cellular Lease Negotiations

Isaac Taylor reported the District is expecting a new emissions report from Octagon Towers LLC within the next week, which will include both actual readings from designated points around the fire station & clinic, as well as projected emissions with the proposed addition of T-Mobile. Chief Krakauer reported the on-site readings were recently completed.

Pres. Molesworth asked about next steps following receipt of the new report. Chief Krakauer responded that the District would next enter into contract negotiations with Octagon Towers LLC, while continuing discussions with the community.

Isaac Taylor also reported the District has received proposals for a lease amendment from a third party, SmartLink LLC, who identify themselves as authorized agents of Verizon Wireless. The District's current lease was negotiated directly with Verizon in 2022. Verizon recently assigned this lease to Vertical Bridge, but no communication has been received from Verizon or Vertical Bridge. The proposals offer reduced monthly rent and escalators. The Board did not recommend any action at this time.

Discussion Item #2 – District Wildfire Preparedness and Response

Chief Krakauer reported one remaining Chipper Day event in Bolinas, available for online signup at chipperday.com/marin

Chief Krakauer also reported that MWPA will be sponsoring a free Green Waste Dropoff at the Resource Recovery Site on Tuesday, October 7th from 10am-3pm.

Chief Krakauer reported that 8 of 11 property owners have given their permission for a Marin Wildfire fuel reduction project downtown between Wharf Rd. and Altura on the Little Mesa. The first step will be a cultural resource survey, scheduled for this week, with work beginning as early as the first week of October.

Chief Krakauer attended an MWPA workshop last week in Bear Valley, attended by all 17 member agencies. He reported a good session of discussion, review and planning.

Chief Krakauer reported that the Public Works Plan (PWP) developed by MWPA is no going before the Marin County Board of Supervisors for approval. This plan will help streamline the permitting process for wildfire prevention projects in the County.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

Pres. Molesworth asked about some budgeted income not reflected in the August financial reports. Isaac Taylor responded that the income in question was recently disbursed and will be reflected in September.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Human Resources Advisory Committee – Vice Pres. Torrey reported a meeting of the HR Advisory Committee, where members discussed administrative matters related to employee schedules.

Finance Advisory Committee – No update.

Operations Working Group – No update.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Pres. Molesworth asked for unanimous consent to adjourn the meeting. Seeing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 8:02 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Isaac Taylor
Administrative Manager

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