



Hyalite Rural Fire District

Board Meeting Synopsis Approval Form

The written synopsis of the September 19, 2023 Hyalite Rural Fire District (HRFD) Board of Trustees Annual Board Meeting was approved by motion of the HRFD Board of Trustees on October 17, 2023.


Chair Signature

Justin Miller, Chairman

Printed Name


Secretary Signature

Ken Beideman, Secretary

Printed Name

**HYALITE RURAL FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING
SYNOPSIS**

DATE: SEPTEMBER 19, 2023

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Sourdough Fire Station, 4541 S. 3rd Rd., Bozeman, Montana

In compliance with [MCA 2017 2-3-212](#) and the Hyalite Rural Fire District Bylaws, the minutes of HRFD Board of Trustees open public meetings are comprised of an audio recording and a written synopsis. The audio recording is designated as the official record of a meeting. The written synopsis serves to assist the public in accessing portions of the audio recording and is a good faith attempt to provide the public with another method to be informed about the actions of the Board. The minutes are available to the public at www.hyalitefire.org/board-meeting-minutes/ or at the Hyalite Rural Fire District Administrative Offices, 4541 S. 3rd Rd., Bozeman, MT, during its standard business hours.

TRUSTEES IN ATTENDANCE:

Walt Zidack
Jason Jarrett
Ken Beideman

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Brian Nickolay, Fire Chief
Sheryl Wyman, Administrative Assistant

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:

Pat Wilson

0:00:05	<p>CALL TO ORDER OF HYALITE RURAL FIRE DISTRICT</p> <p>Treasurer Zidack called the meeting to order and asked for any public comment on non-agenda items. None given.</p> <p>HYALITE CONSENT AGENDA</p> <p>Trustee Zidack asks if there are any requests to pull anything from the Consent Agenda. None given.</p> <p>Motion: Trustee Zidack asks for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Trustee Jarrett so moves.</p> <p>Trustee Beideman seconded the motion.</p> <p>Vote: Jarrett-Yes; Beideman-Yes Zidack-Yes. Unanimous approval.</p> <p><i>[See August 15, 2023 Board Packet for Consent Agenda items Approved]</i></p>
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	REGULAR AGENDA
0:00:55	<p>Agenda Item 1 – Discussion of Replacement of Rae Station.</p> <p>Trustee Zidack reminds everyone this is a rolling item on the agenda. He asks for any public comment on that agenda item. None are given. Chief Nickolay provides information on the past steps taken to receive an RFP. We received one proposal from an out of state company. Chief Nickolay is looking at other fire departments and what has been successful for them.</p> <p>Discussion is held with the Trustees and the Chief. Discussion is held regarding the Big Sky and Bozeman RFPs. Discussion is held regarding the timing of the RFP request and what can be presented to the public before any bond request. Proposals need to be ready before the current bond expires.</p> <p>Trustee Zidack asks for any more discussion. None given.</p>
0:08:24	<p>Agenda Item 2 – Fire Chief's Report</p> <p>Chief Nickolay discusses the call volume of 64 calls for August. Staffing has improved from the Spring. Out of the 64 calls ran staffing was at 89%.</p> <p>The Fall academy has begun. Captain Templeton was hired in July and did an outstanding job in recruiting. We participated in Catapalooza and interacted with nearly 70 interested individuals. We had close to 30 individuals come to the information meeting and held 24 interviews. Six recruits were selected with three more added as driver/operators, EMTs.</p> <p>Captain Prato has been working to get the radios re-programmed to work with the radio system in Gallatin County. This has been in the works for several years.</p> <p>Firefighter Ness has been working with the fire prevention program and will be giving presentations in the schools during Fire Prevention Week in October.</p> <p>Fire Chief Nickolay has been appointed to the Montana State Fire Chief's Association board of directors and the Montana State Fire Chief's Wildland Fire Committee.</p> <p>A meeting was held with Pintler Billing to work out some of the billing kinks. We should be seeing more collections in the future.</p> <p>We have the new Brush B-1 in service. Command 6-5 and 6-6 are now in service as well. Command 6 has been moved to a backup command unit as well as a utility/snow plow vehicle.</p> <p>Trustee Zidack asks for any discussion on the Chief's report. Trustee Beideman asks about the call volume. Discussion is held between the chief and the trustees.</p> <p><i>[See Attachment A – Fire Chief's Report]</i></p>

0:32:20	Trustees' Activities None
0:32:20	Announcements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pancake Breakfast set for September 23, 2023 • Next board meeting set for October 17, 2023
0:33:49	ADJOURNMENT



Hyalite Rural Fire District

Fire Chief's Report

September 2023

Prepared by: Fire Chief Brian Nickolay

1. The Hyalite Fire District responded to 64 incidents in August 2023. This brings our total calls to 505 for 2023.

- Call volume July 2022 - 65
- Call volume July 2021 - 41
- Call volume July 2020 - 47
- Call volume July 2019 - 53
- Call volume July 2018 - 60

2. Incident Staffing Report for July 2023 -

- Out of the 64 incidents in the month of August we were able to properly staff apparatus on 57 incidents which was 89% of the call volume for the month.
 - Fires - 3 out of 3 incidents properly staffed
 - Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat - No Fire - 1 out of 1 incident properly staffed
 - EMS, MVA and Rescue - 33 out of 37 incidents properly staffed
 - Hazardous Conditions without fire - 1 out of 3 incidents properly staffed
 - Service Calls - 4 out of 4 incidents properly staffed
 - Good Intent Calls - 10 out of 10 incidents properly staffed
 - False Alarms - 2 out of 3 incidents properly staffed

3. Our current roster is at 48 members (effective 9/12/2023).

- 1 Career Fire Chief
- 1 Career Assistant Fire Chief
- 3 Career Captains
- 2 Volunteer Captains
- 3 Volunteer Reserve Captains
- 6 Volunteer Lieutenants
- 6 Volunteer Firefighters
- 13 Volunteers Apprentice Firefighters
- 6 Volunteer Recruit Firefighters
- 3 Volunteer Recruit Driver/Operators
- 3 Volunteer Reserve Firefighters
- 1 Volunteer Reserve Driver/Operator

4. We continue to struggle with overnight command coverage with our low number of volunteer captains. Both Assistant Chief Dahlhauser and myself are working extra to provide coverage at night where we lack volunteer availability. This is causing the both of us to be on call for an extra 12 - 24 hours a week. We have been forced to pay overtime to our paid captains to provide overnight coverage if myself or Dahlhauser are unavailable. Assistant Chief Dalhauser is working hard on getting two new volunteer captains trained to help with coverage.

5. We currently have 6 resident firefighters living at the Sourdough Fire Station.

- Current Sourdough Residents -
 - Jack Pemberton, Tyler Newell, Johanna Ficcadenti, Sophie Smith, Evan Linden and Tyler Palmer.
- Sourdough resident firefighters continue to fill weekend shifts Friday 7pm – Monday 7am. With the reduced staffing of our Sourdough Resident Firefighters, we have had three non-resident firefighters (Martin Blake, Broc Altig and Ted Yewer) step up to fill weekend shifts.

6. We currently have 3 resident firefighters living at the Cottonwood Fire Station.

- Current Cottonwood Residents –
 - Zale Filce, Caitlin Fueg and Brennan Lyle.
- Cottonwood resident firefighters continue to fill weekday night shifts Monday – Thursday 7pm – 7am. We have been relying on non-resident firefighters to help fill the shifts on Cottonwood nights.
- We are considering dropping the Cottonwood resident positions to 3. This would allow for married or full time workers to fill a night shift rather than a day shift.

7. We currently have 1 resident renter at the Rae house.

- Current Rae Renters -
 - Steve Kerbel

8. Non-resident volunteer firefighters continue to cover 6 hour shifts at the Sourdough Fire Station on Monday – Friday 7am – 7pm.

- With the current number of non-resident firefighters, we are only able to cover 7 of the 10 week day shifts. Two non-resident firefighters are on shift on weekends due to work week obligations.
- We currently have 2 members out on leave.

9. We continue our regular multi company fire and EMS training every Wednesday night and command training twice a month. We recently completed our review of wildland fire tactics.

We had command training on August 28th with some of our mutual aid partners organized by Captain Malone. The training included a simulated wildland fire in the Hyalite Fire District. Mutual aid partners from Fort Ellis Fire, Amsterdam Fire and Bridger Canyon Fire attended.

10. Our fall recruit firefighter academy is now underway. We welcomed six new recruit firefighters to the academy. Captains Malone and Templeton are overseeing the fall academy as instructors. Our fall recruitment effort was so successful led by Captain Templeton that we have brought on an additional three recruits as EMT/Driver/Operators. Captains Malone and Templeton will be working with these three individuals throughout the fall during the week to get them trained and ready to respond to calls.

11. Recruitment at MSU continues to be a success for our fire department. Captain Templeton oversaw the department's involvement at Catapalooza this year. We interacted with nearly 70 interested individuals. We had close to 30 individuals come to the informational meeting at the Sourdough Fire Station.

We continue to explore opportunities in recruitment within the fire district. We sent an engine and crew with Captain Templeton to a car show community event at The Garage on August 26th. The crew at the event had a lot of good interaction with the community members.

12. Captain Templeton is working with the Office of Student Engagement at MSU to explore new ways to improve our recruitment at MSU. We are looking into creating a volunteer firefighter club on campus. This would allow us to directly recruit at campus events and in the dorms. It could be an opportunity to improve recruitment at MSU for all fire departments in the county. The goal is to give MSU students a place to go to get involved with emergency services in the area.

13. Captain Prato is working diligently with Industrial Communications to get our radio reprogrammed to join the new radio system in Gallatin County. The project has been in the works for several years. We are finally getting to the point where we can begin to operate on the new radio system.

14. Firefighter Alexi Ness has been on light duty due a non fire department related injury. Ness has stepped up to help out with our fire prevention program in our district schools. Her help is greatly appreciated. Ness's work is going to get the fire department back in schools for fire prevention week.

15. Fire Chief Nickolay has recently been nominated and appointed to the Montana State Fire Chiefs Association board of directors. I will be filling a seat as a combination section director.

16. Fire Chief Nickolay has been appointed to sit on the Montana State Fire Chiefs Wildland Fire Committee.

17. Fire Chief Nickolay continues to chair the Gallatin County Fire Council communications committee. I have also been voted in as the vice chair of the Gallatin County Fire Council. Assistant Chief Dahlhauser continues to chair the training committee.

18. Our ambulance transport plan is complete and we are actively transporting patients to the hospital. Income has begun to come in from Pintler Billing for our transports

19. We have our new Brush 6-1 which is our DNRC hybrid type 5 wildland fire engine in service. We also have received our new county co-op type 4 wildland engine which will be our new Brush 6. The new Command 6-5 and Command 6-6 are now in service as well. Command 6 has been moved to a backup command unit as well as a utility/snow plow vehicle

20. We have experienced no firefighter injuries in the months of August.

21. All Hyalite Fire apparatus are currently in service.

- Water Tender 6-2 was out of service from August 25th - August 29th due to an electrical issue.

Hyalite Fire Department

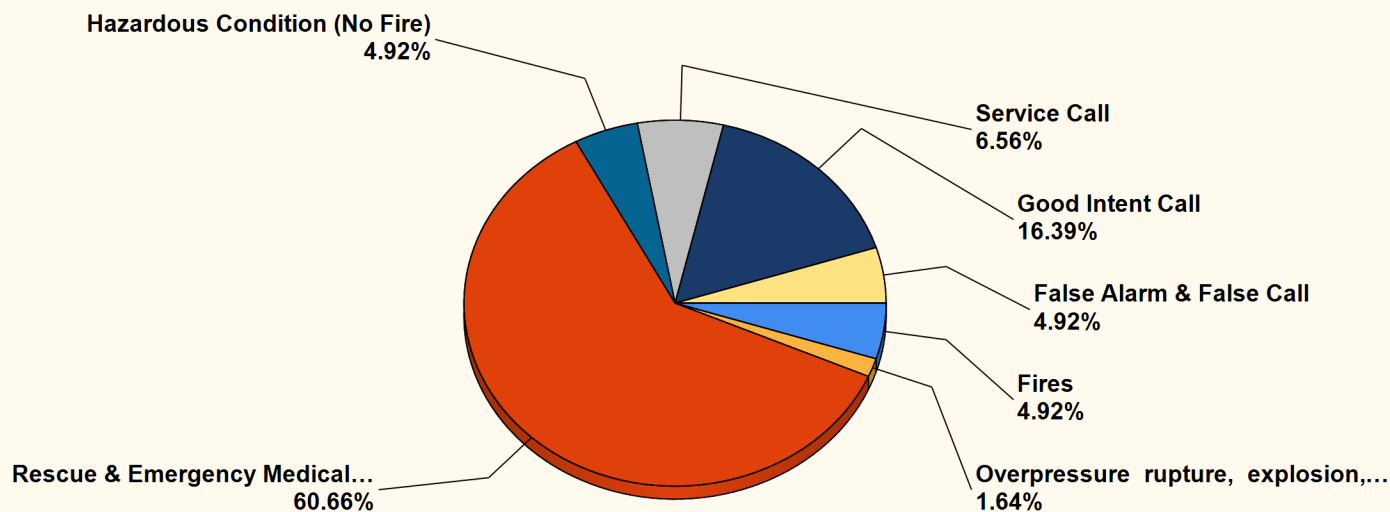
Bozeman, MT

This report was generated on 9/14/2023 10:15:36 AM



Breakdown by Major Incident Types for Date Range

Zone(s): All Zones | Start Date: 08/01/2023 | End Date: 08/31/2023



MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	3	4.92%
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheating - no fire	1	1.64%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	37	60.66%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	3	4.92%
Service Call	4	6.56%
Good Intent Call	10	16.39%
False Alarm & False Call	3	4.92%
TOTAL	61	100%

Only REVIEWED and/or LOCKED IMPORTED incidents are included. Summary results for a major incident type are not displayed if the count is zero.

Detailed Breakdown by Incident Type

INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
111 - Building fire	1	1.64%
142 - Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire	1	1.64%
143 - Grass fire	1	1.64%
210 - Overpressure rupture from steam, other	1	1.64%
311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew	1	1.64%
321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	27	44.26%
322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	3	4.92%
324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	4	6.56%
341 - Search for person on land	1	1.64%
352 - Extrication of victim(s) from vehicle	1	1.64%
412 - Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	1	1.64%
444 - Power line down	2	3.28%
500 - Service Call, other	4	6.56%
611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	10	16.39%
700 - False alarm or false call, other	2	3.28%
733 - Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	1	1.64%
TOTAL INCIDENTS:	61	100%

Only REVIEWED and/or LOCKED IMPORTED incidents are included. Summary results for a major incident type are not displayed if the count is zero.

Hyalite Fire Department

Bozeman, MT

This report was generated on 9/14/2023 10:17:40 AM



Patient Transport and Refusal Counts per Incident Type for Date Range (NEMSIS 3 Incidents Only)

Incident Status(s): All Incident Statuses | Start Incident Type: 100 | End Incident Type: 911 | Start Date: 08/01/2023 | End Date: 08/31/2023

INCIDENT TYPE	INCIDENT COUNT	PATIENT COUNT	PATIENT TRANSPORTS	PATIENT REFUSALS
321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury				
Total:	17	17	15	1
322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries				
Total:	3	4	0	1
324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.				
Total:	1	3	0	3
341 - Search for person on land				
Total:	1	1	1	0
352 - Extrication of victim(s) from vehicle				
Total:	1	2	2	0
500 - Service Call, other				
Total:	2	2	1	0
Totals for All Incidents Types:	25	29	19	5

INCIDENT COUNT = Total # of calls that include Patients, PATIENT COUNT = Total # of Patients for that grouping, PATIENT TRANSPORTS = Total # of Patients for that group who were transported by that department, PATIENT REFUSALS = Total # of Patients who refused care (whether or not they were transported).

