



Hyalite Rural Fire District

Board Meeting Synopsis Approval Form

The written synopsis of the October 17, 2023 Hyalite Rural Fire District (HRFD) Board of Trustees Annual Board Meeting was approved by motion of the HRFD Board of Trustees on January 16, 2024.



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: OCTOBER 17, 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:

Justin Miller
Walt Zidack
Ken Beideman

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Brian Nickolay, Fire Chief
Chris Dahlhauser, Assistant Fire Chief
Sheryl Wyman, Administrative Assistant

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:

None

0:00:03	CALL TO ORDER OF HYALITE RURAL FIRE DISTRICT Vice Chairman Miller called the meeting to order and asked for any public comment on non-agenda items. None given. HYALITE CONSENT AGENDA Vice Chairman Miller asks if there are any requests to pull anything from the Consent Agenda. None given. Motion: Trustee Zidack makes a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Trustee Beideman seconded the motion. Vote: Zidack-Aye; Beideman-Yes; Miller-Yes. Unanimous approval. [See September 19, 2023 Board Packet for Consent Agenda items Approved]
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	REGULAR AGENDA
0:00:34	<p>Agenda Item 1 – Discussion and Decision – Election of Board Chair</p> <p>Trustee Zidack reminds the board Pete’s schedule is pretty busy and he thinks it would be better to place the responsibility of Chair to someone who can regularly attend the meetings and has the experience. He has spoken with Justin and he is willing to accept the responsibility. Vice Chair Miller asks if we just swap positions and make Pete Vice Chair.</p> <p>Trustee Zidack nominates Justin Miller to be the Hyalite Fire District Chair and Pete Geddes to be the Hyalite Rural District Vice Chair.</p> <p>Trustee Beideman seconded the motion.</p> <p>Vote: Zidack-Aye; Beideman-Yes; Miller-Yes. Unanimous approval.</p>
0:02:01	<p>Agenda Item 2 – Discussion – Rae Fire Station</p> <p>Chief Nickolay spoke with a couple of agencies who are either replacing or adding new fire stations. The conversations focused on how they handled their architectural design work. Big Sky just went through a successful RFQ/RFP process. City of Hamilton just recently finished building a station. He will follow up with them to see how they went through their design process. He is trying to gather up information to present to the board.</p> <p>Discussion is held between the board and the Chief.</p> <p>Chief Nickolay will reach out to get copies of the RFQ and RFP documents used by other stations.</p>
0:08:42	<p>Agenda Item 3 – Fire Chief’s Report</p> <p>Chief Nickolay discusses his report. The call volume of 65 calls for September. Out of the 64 calls ran staffing was at 77%. We are still working on voluntary command coverage.</p> <p>Captain Prato spent a week in Michigan attending a Task Force Tips maintenance training program. He is also working with Industrial Communications to get our radio re-programmed to join the new radio system in Gallatin County.</p> <p>Assistant Chief Dahlhauser and Chief Nickolay attended the 2023 Montana Fire Service Conference in Billings October 11th – 14th.</p> <p>Firefighter Ness has completed our fire prevention week education in our schools and montessori’s.</p> <p>Discussion is held between the chief and the trustees.</p>

	<i>[See Attachment A – Fire Chief’s Report]</i>
0:19:03	Trustees’ Activities None
0:19:10	Announcements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Nickolay informs the board he has a pending resource order to assist the State of Hawaii. If it is approved, he will be deployed from November 11 – December 3. • Next board meeting set for November 21, 2023
0:21:30	ADJOURNMENT



Hyalite Rural Fire District

Fire Chief's Report

October 2023

Prepared by: Fire Chief Brian Nickolay

1. The Hyalite Fire District responded to 65 incidents in September 2023. This brings our total calls to 560 for 2023.

- Call volume September 2022 - 57
- Call volume September 2021 - 43
- Call volume September 2020 - 62
- Call volume September 2019 - 45
- Call volume September 2018 - 48

2. Incident Staffing Report for September 2023 -

- Out of the 65 incidents in the month of September we were able to properly staff apparatus on 50 incidents which was 77% of the call volume for the month.
 - Fires - 2 out of 3 incidents properly staffed
 - Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat - No Fire - 0 out of 0 incident properly staffed
 - EMS, MVA and Rescue - 29 out of 35 incidents properly staffed
 - Hazardous Conditions without fire - 2 out of 4 incidents properly staffed
 - Service Calls - 4 out of 4 incidents properly staffed
 - Good Intent Calls - 12 out of 16 incidents properly staffed
 - False Alarms - 1 out of 3 incidents properly staffed

3. Our current roster is at 44 members (effective 10/12/2023).

- 1 Career Fire Chief
- 1 Career Assistant Fire Chief
- 3 Career Captains
- 2 Volunteer Captains
- 3 Volunteer Reserve Captains
- 6 Volunteer Lieutenants
- 5 Volunteer Firefighters
- 11 Volunteers Apprentice Firefighters
- 6 Volunteer Recruit Firefighters
- 2 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 4 resident firefighters living at the Sourdough Fire Station.

- Current Sourdough Residents -
 - Jack Pemberton, Tyler Newell, Johanna Ficcadenti and Sophie Smith
 - We lost two Sourdough Resident Firefighters in the last month. Tyler Palmer left the fire department due to needing surgery with a long recovery time. He has returned home to Iowa. Evan Linden has left the department due to personal reasons and time commitment.
- 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 Fuego 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.
- Non-resident firefighters are filling the open position on Cottonwood shift nights. This allows firefighters who are married or work 40 hours a week to fill an overnight 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. Firefighters have been reviewing tactics on 2nd story enter, isolate, search and rescue.

10. We still have six recruit firefighters in the academy. Captains Malone and Templeton are overseeing the fall academy as instructors. The recruits recently completed their first round of testing for Firefighter 1 with the Montana State Fire Services Training School.

We also still have two Driver/Operator-EMTs working through their recruit academies. We did lose one recruit D/O-EMT due to time commitment.

11. We are continuing to move forward with the creation of the MSU Volunteer Firefighters Club. Captain Templeton is overseeing the project going forward. Our hope is the club will create a presence on MSU's campus for interested volunteers to get involved. It will also give us the opportunity to recruit at more campus events.

12. Captain Prato recently spent a week in Michigan attending a Task Force Tips maintenance training program. The training provided Captain Prato with excellent skill in maintaining our fire apparatus and equipment. He was also able to learn new skills that will allow us to do more maintenance procedures in house and see some cost savings.

13. Captain Prato is still 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. Assistant Chief Dahlhauser and I attended the 2023 Montana Fire Service Conference in Billings on October 11th - 14th. The Conference provides great training as well as networking opportunities.

15. Firefighter Alexi Ness has completed our fire prevention week education in our schools and montessori's. The education programs were great for all students and much appreciated by our schools. We will be working with Alexi to improve and continue these programs into the future.

16. We assisted the City of Bozeman with a residential structure fire on September 10th. We provided one command and one engine as auto aid.

17. We responded to a wildland fire in our fire district on September 16th. We responded with two commands, two wildland engines, two structure engines and one water tender. The fire was stopped at 5 acres and did not significantly damage any property.

18. We assisted the Central Valley Fire District with an agricultural structure fire on September 19th. We provided one command and one water tender as auto aid.

19. I am still on the Board of Directors with Montana State Fire Chiefs Association as a combination section director.

20. I am still on the Montana State Fire Chiefs Wildland Fire Committee.

21. I continue to sit on the board of the Gallatin County Fire Council as Vice President. I also continue to chair the Gallatin County Fire Council communications committee.

22. Assistant Chief Dahlhauser continues to chair the training committee with the Gallatin County Fire Council.

23. I am still a Gallatin County Deputy Fire Warden as well as a Gallatin County Deputy Emergency Managements Officer.

24. 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

25. We have experienced no firefighter injuries in the month of September.

26. All Hyalite Fire apparatus are currently in service.

- Engine 6-2 was out of service from September 29th to October 10th due plumbing and value issues.

Hyalite Fire Department

Bozeman, MT

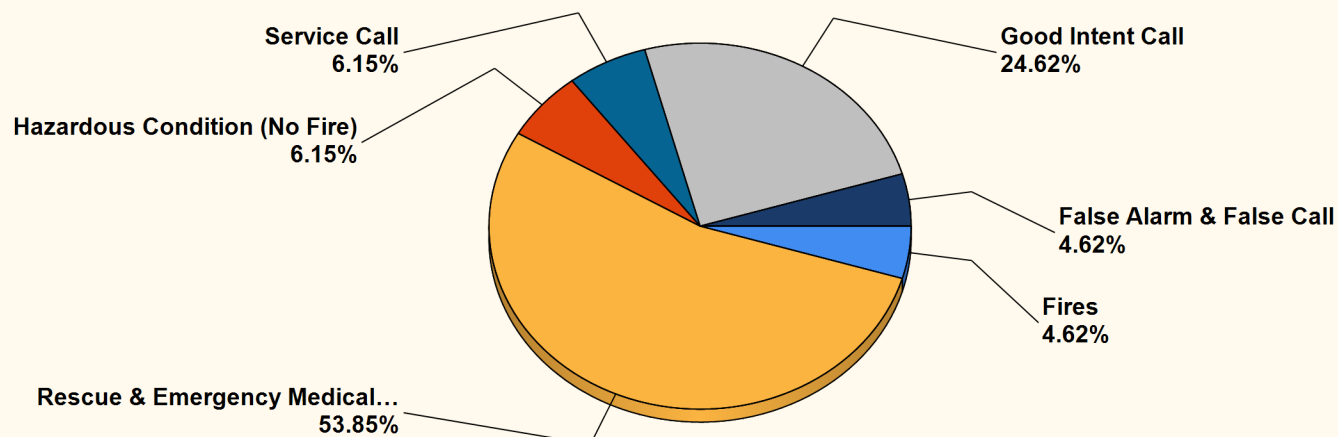
This report was generated on 10/12/2023 10:18:32 AM

Attachment



Breakdown by Major Incident Types for Date Range

Zone(s): All Zones | Start Date: 09/01/2023 | End Date: 09/30/2023



MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	3	4.62%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	35	53.85%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	4	6.15%
Service Call	4	6.15%
Good Intent Call	16	24.62%
False Alarm & False Call	3	4.62%
TOTAL	65	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

Attachment A

INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
111 - Building fire	1	1.54%
131 - Passenger vehicle fire	1	1.54%
140 - Natural vegetation fire, other	1	1.54%
320 - Emergency medical service, other	1	1.54%
321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	26	40%
322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	1	1.54%
324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	7	10.77%
412 - Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	3	4.62%
445 - Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	1	1.54%
500 - Service Call, other	4	6.15%
600 - Good intent call, other	2	3.08%
611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	12	18.46%
671 - HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat	2	3.08%
700 - False alarm or false call, other	1	1.54%
743 - Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	1	1.54%
745 - Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional	1	1.54%
TOTAL INCIDENTS:	65	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.

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: 09/01/2023 | End Date: 09/30/2023

INCIDENT TYPE	INCIDENT COUNT	PATIENT COUNT	PATIENT TRANSPORTS	PATIENT REFUSALS
320 - Emergency medical service, other				
Total:	1	1	0	1
321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury				
Total:	14	14	10	2
322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries				
Total:	1	1	1	0
324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.				
Total:	3	4	0	3
Totals for All Incidents Types:	19	20	11	6