



Hyalite Rural Fire District

Board Meeting Synopsis Approval Form

The written synopsis of the July 16, 2024 Hyalite Rural Fire District (HRFD) Board of Trustees Annual Board Meeting was approved by motion of the HRFD Board of Trustees on August 20, 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: JULY 16, 2024

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
Sheryl Wyman, Administrative Assistant
Mac Malone, Training Captain
Reid Templeton, Recruitment and Retention Captain

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:

Families and Friends of New Recruits

0:00:02	CALL TO ORDER OF HYALITE RURAL FIRE DISTRICT Chairman Miller called the meeting to order and asked for any public comment on non-agenda items. None given. HYALITE CONSENT AGENDA Chairman Miller asks if there are any requests to pull anything from the Consent Agenda for review. None given. Motion: Trustee Zidack moves to approve consent agenda as presented Trustee Beideman seconded the motion. Vote: Zidack-Yes; Beideman-Aye; Miller-Yes. Unanimous approval. [See June 18, 2024 Board Packet for Consent Agenda items Approved]
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	REGULAR AGENDA
0:00:42	Agenda Item 1 – Swearing in of New Recruits Chief Nickolay introduces the Spring recruit class of 2024. He has each recruit introduce themselves. Chief Nickolay gives the oath to the firefighters. He provides the background of training and work the firefighters have accomplished to date. Pinning occurs for each firefighter with family and friends.
0:12:39	Agenda Item 2 – Discussion and Decision – Replacement of Rae Fire Station Chief Nickolay states there is a meeting with ThinkOne on July 24 th to begin work on the initial drawings. They have received the previously completed Geotech report. Zoning will not be an issue.
0:14:28	Agenda Item 3 – Fire Chief’s Report Chief Nickolay discusses the Fire Chief’s report. We had 64 calls in June for a total of 359 to date. The current roster has 44 members. Command coverage is still an issue but being addressed. The facilities are full with residents. The EMS discussion with the County is ongoing. The Chief will be going to Kootenai County with a group from Gallatin County to meet with officials there and check out their ambulance transport program. Engine 6-3 has a water pump issue. Trustee Zidack asks questions in this regard. Discussion is held between the board members and Chief regarding the Kootenai County program. Discussion is held regarding the counties plan on billing. Trustee Beideman brings up the size of Kootenai County vs. Gallatin County. Trustee Beideman feels there should be board representation on the county’s committee. Trustees Geddes, Zidack and Chief Nickolay met with the Fort Ellis Chief and two board members of the Fort Ellis fire district. The talks are preliminary while Fort Ellis obtains information from the County. Trustee Zidack makes comments from the meeting. More information will be coming to analyze what the funding requirements will be needed. Discussion is held regarding our funding through tax revenue. <i>[See Attachment A – Fire Chief’s Report]</i>
0:39:16	Trustees’ Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
0:39:25	Announcements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next Board Meeting – Tuesday, August 20, 2024
0:40:06	Adjournment



Hyalite Rural Fire District

Fire Chief's Report

July 2024

Prepared by: Fire Chief Brian Nickolay

1. The Hyalite Fire District responded to a total of 64 incidents in June 2024. This brings our calls for the year to date to 359.

- Total Calls June 2023 - 51
- Total Calls June 2022 - 60
- Total Calls June 2021 - 60
- Total Calls June 2020 - 60
- Total Calls June 2019 - 47

2. Our current roster is at 44 members (effective 7/1/2024).

- 1 Career Fire Chief
- 1 Career Assistant Fire Chief
- 3 Career Captains
- 5 Volunteer Captains
- 1 Volunteer Reserve Captains
- 1 Volunteer Lieutenants
- 10 Volunteer Firefighters
- 14 Volunteers Apprentice Firefighters
- 2 Volunteer Driver/Operators
- 3 Volunteer Reserve Firefighters

3. We are continuing to work on our overnight command coverage shortages. We are at 5 of our needed 7 volunteer captains. One of our volunteer captains is on summer leave. We are hopeful to start a volunteer captain academy this fall. Myself and Assistant Chief Dahlhauser are continuing to work extra to provide coverage at night where we lack volunteer availability. We have been paying overtime to our paid captains to provide overnight coverage if myself or Dahlhauser are unavailable. Overtime pay has been kept within what we budgeted for the fiscal year.

4. We currently have 7 resident firefighters living at the Sourdough Fire Station.

- Current Sourdough Residents -
 - Sophie Smith, Riley Wilson, Tyler Palmer, Nick Blommel, Kade O'Brian, Jack Vincent, and Evan Jones
 - Sourdough resident firefighters continue to fill weekend shifts Friday 7pm –

Monday 7am. With the reduced staffing of our Sourdough Resident Lieutenants, we have had non-resident leadership (Martin Blake and Ted Yewer) step up to fill weekend shifts.

5. We currently have 4 resident firefighters living at the Cottonwood Fire Station.
 - Current Cottonwood Residents –
 - Brennan Lyle, Tyler Newell, Robert Bole, and Zakkar Tusken.
 - Cottonwood resident firefighters continue to fill weekday night shifts Monday – Thursday 7pm – 7am. Non-resident volunteers have stepped up to fill the open shifts when needed.
6. We currently have 4 resident renters at the Rae house.
 - Current Rae Renters -
 - Steve Kerbel, Zale Filce, Sam Chui and Kate Brownell
7. Non-resident volunteer firefighters continue to cover 6 hour shifts at the Sourdough Fire Station on Monday – Friday 7am – 7pm.
8. We continue our regular multi company fire and EMS training every Wednesday night and command training twice a month.
9. Our spring 2024 recruit firefighter academy is completed.
10. The fire district is continuing to be involved with an EMS discussion going on in Gallatin County.
11. I am still on the Board of Directors with Montana State Fire Chiefs Association as a combination section director.
12. I am still on the Montana State Fire Chiefs Wildland Fire Committee.
13. 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.
14. Assistant Chief Dahlhauser continues to chair the training committee with the Gallatin County Fire Council.
15. I am still a Gallatin County Deputy Fire Warden as well as a Gallatin County Deputy Emergency Managements Officer.
16. 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
17. We had no firefighter injuries in the Month of June.

18. All apparatus are in service.