

**NOTICE OF MEETING  
BRACKEN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Notice is hereby given that on the 24th day of August 2009 the Board of Directors of the Bracken Volunteer Fire Department will hold a Meeting at 7:00 PM at the Central Fire Station located at 23600 FM 3009, San Antonio, Texas.

The subjects to be discussed are listed on the agenda, which is a part of this notice. If, during the course of the meeting covered by this notice, the Board of Directors should determine that a closed meeting or session of the Board is required, then such closed meeting or session as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act will be held by the Board at the date, hour and place given in the notice or as soon after the commencement of the meeting covered by this notice as the Board may conveniently meet in such closed meeting concerning any and all purposes permitted by the Act.

Should any final action, final decision, or final vote be required in the opinion of the Board with regard to any matter considered in such closed meeting, then the final action, decision or vote shall be in open session.

*Peggy Campbell*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

**AGENDA**

Regular Board Meeting - Call to Order by Board Vice-President (Mark Schroeder)

1. Approve minutes of the July 27, 2009 Board Meeting
2. Report of the Treasurer (Marsha Kern)

Unfinished Business and General Orders

1. Fire Chief Report (Donald Zipp)
2. Fire Marshal Report (Bill Anz)
3. Emergency Rescue Report (Craig Ackerman)
4. ESD Update (Bob Fleming)
5. Firefighters' Festival Status (Firefighter Roger Sassman)

New Business

1. Health Insurance Renewal Report (Cindy Fleming)
2. Fire Station Window Replacement Estimates (Donald Zipp)

Adjourn

Next Meeting is September 28, 2009 at 7:00 PM.

**Minutes - Board Meeting of the Bracken VFD  
Monday, August 24, 2009**

**Board Members Present**

Mark Schroeder, President	Bob Schoeler, Member
Buddy Boone, Vice President	Fred Moos, Member
Peggy Campbell, Secretary	Tom Potter, Member
Tim Fey, Member	
E. J. Fiedler, Member	

**Board Members Absent**

Marsha Kern, Treasurer

**Regular Board and Member Meeting**

The meeting was called to order by President Mark Schroeder at 7:00 p.m.

As the first order of business, Mark asked if there were any questions or corrections to the minutes of the July 27, 2009, board meeting. There were none, and the minutes were approved as written.

**Treasurer's Report** - In Marsha Kern's absence, Mark asked if there were any questions regarding the distributed Treasurer's Report. He stated that Marilyn Winters, our bookkeeper, would answer any and all questions. The report provided a budget recap (as of 8/24/09) reporting that through 67% of the year, expenses were at 55.2% of budget and income was at 70.8% of budget. The Treasurer's Report with full details is attached (Attachment A). Fred made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Tom seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

**Unfinished Business and General Orders**

**Fire Chief Report** - Chief Zipp reported that the department participated in the Garden Ridge National Night Out. Also, the department continued to work closely with the new Garden Ridge Elementary School construction team.

Chief Zipp met with 7 Hills homeowners at an emergency meeting on July 31<sup>st</sup> regarding their water system. Currently, their water system is certified for house use only. Because of the structure fire that occurred, they will now have an 8" main from the storage tank to a valve where the fire department can get water.

Chief Zipp strongly recommended that the department be allowed to put more personnel on days. He recommended that we budget for another person in 2010. He stated that lately it had been hard to keep up and we were lucky that no one had been hurt.

**Fire Marshal Report** - Fire Marshal Bill Anz reported that there were 41 total calls for July 2009, with 18 being fire calls. A list of the fire and rescue calls is available through the Secretary.

**Emergency Rescue Report** - Sammy Sikes reported for Craig Ackerman that there were 23 rescue related calls for July 2009.

**Emergency Services District (ESD) Update** - Bob Fleming reported that he and Chief Zipp were working with the New Braunfels Fire Chief regarding New Braunfels providing the primary response for the area that we took in on State Highway 46. The NB Chief said he would sign the letter and return it. However, Bob stated that we do not have a reciprocal agreement yet.

Bob reported that ESD 6 will set the tax rate for 2009 at their next meeting.

Bob stated that ESD 6 had sent a letter to Schertz giving their approval of the proposed Schertz EMS Subscription Service. Schertz said they also needed approval from City of Garden Ridge and Comal County Judge.

Mark asked Bob to inform the BVFD Board of any meetings that ESD 6 requests Chief Zipp to attend.

**Firefighters' Festival** – Roger reported that September 12<sup>th</sup> is the Firefighter's Festival and it is almost here. He stated we still need auction items; if anyone has items, they need to get the information to Roger as soon as possible. Sammy has the music ready. The playground man will be confirmed this week. Roger reviewed assignments and all seemed ready to go.

Mark discussed that we had discussed in the past a need to “partner” with someone for our fundraiser. He stated that he would explore the possibility of having our pancakes at the Comal County Fair, which runs for five days.

### New Business

**Health Insurance Renewal Report** – Cindy Fleming reported that the time for renewing the department's health insurance is October. Currently, we are using BlueCross BlueShield and if we stay with them, there would be an increase of \$2,200 more per year (\$35 per person per year). She reported that she had also received quotes from Aetna, United Health Care, and Humana. However, she stated that it is difficult to get apple-to-apple quotes until underwriting tasks were done. Based on the department's previous unsatisfactory experience with Humana and not knowing the real costs from the other insurers, Cindy and Chief Zipp recommended staying with BlueCross BlueShield. Tom made a motion to continue the BlueCross BlueShield health insurance coverage. EJ seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

**Fire Station Window Replacement Estimates** – Chief Zipp reported that he had received a couple of quotes from some vendors. However, he had missed some scheduled appointments with other vendors due to fire calls. He stated he needs to get more quotes. Also, he stated that he is recommending replacing windows versus just adding screens.

### Adjourn

Buddy Boone made a motion for the meeting to be adjourned, which was seconded by Fred Moos. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Campbell

Peggy Campbell  
Secretary

Attachment A: Treasurer's Report