



BRACKEN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
23600 FM3009, San Antonio TX 78266
(210) 651-5762

Draft Minutes –Meeting of the Bracken VFD Board of Directors
Monday, September 26th, 2022

Board Members

Charles Flink, President	- Absent	Skip Courter, Member	- Present
Kurtis Wilcox, Vice President	- Present	Bob Schoeler, Member	-Present
Colin Smith, Treasurer	- Present	Walter Brown, Member	- Present
Jim Moreland, Secretary	- Present	Gary Palmer	- Present
Buddy Boone, Member	- Absent		

Regular Board Meeting

Vice President Kurtis Wilcox called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance and Pledge to the Texas Flag were recited. In addition to the BoD members above, Chief Zipp, was also present.

Minutes Approval – As the first order of business, minutes of the Aug 2022 Meeting were presented. Skip Courter made a motion to approve, and Bob Schoeler seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Colin Smith presented the report for the period Jan 1 to Aug 31st, 2022. As of Sep 23, 2022, cash on hand is **\$ 416,156.11**. As of Aug 31, 2022, income was 76.33% of budget and expenses were 59.84% of budget through 66.7% of the year. We received \$24,465.68 in reimbursement from ESD 6 for communication equipment and software upgrades purchased from June through September. Gary Palmer moved to accept, and Bob Schoeler seconded. Passed unanimously. Report attached.

Unfinished Business and General Orders

- 1. Fire Chief Report** – Chief Zipp reported that the Communication referred to in the Treasurer’s Report included technology to dispatch the closest unit to an incident. They are having multiple meetings per month and now each week in an effort to get the CAD system up and running. The radio system (trunking system) won’t come on-line until first of the year. The county is putting up six towers for much better coverage. Fire Prevention training is coming up for the Elementary School and the Methodist and Lutheran Churches in Garden Ridge. End of the Year is coming up, so equipment testing must be done before 31 December. 1 October BVFD will have a third-party company come in to test and certify breathing apparatus equipment. BVFD is losing several firefighters to a new department in Guadalupe County. Information is that the new department is starting firefighters at \$60k per year. BVFD has placed ads on the Texas Fire Commission web site for replacements.

2. **Activity Report/ Emergency Rescue Report** – Chief Zipp reported for Asst Chief Anz that from Aug 1 to 31st, 2022, there was a total of 76 runs; 18 fire and 58 rescue. Average emergency fire response time: 06:56. Average rescue response time: 6:53. 68 calls were run out of Station 1 and eight calls were run out of Station 2. Report attached.
3. **Emergency Services District (ESD) 6 Update – No ESD 6 Commissioners attended.**
4. **Review, discuss and act as needed on obtaining better interest rates for the BVFD Money Market accounts.** Gary reported that Schertz Bank will go to 1.75% (up to 1.25%) if someone will call Schertz Bank. Colin Smith (Treasurer) will take on the responsibility for checking with our banks and getting increases periodically. **CLOSED.**
5. **Review, discuss and act as needed on Merit Pay (Open from July meeting: Chief Zipp)**
Chief Zipp reported that in his research, he found that a number of departments have differing methods for additional pay that he has still researching, including Special Knowledge or Skill Pay vs. Merit Pay. Chief is leaning toward additional categories, like driver/operators, etc. that would require a certain number of months experience plus additional qualifications. Chief Zipp would like to keep this open until a few of us can sit down and review the chart and the budget impact. **(OPEN: Chief Zipp)**

New Business

1. **Informal discussion on the possibility of the BVFD sponsoring a Boy Scout Troop.** Dustin Mullis, Training Chair for the BSA River District Troop and Pack 828 (10 -20 boys in the Pack and 15 in the Troop) reported that they have been sponsored by the Bracken United Methodist Church, but the church can no longer serve as their sponsor. The request is to have BVFD be the chartering organization but continue to meet at BUMC where they have some equipment located. The National UMC no longer wants their Congregations to be the chartering organizations. The Troop plans to continue doing their own fund-raising. Chief Zipp said Bill Anz is the Assistant Scout Master and is already trained to do all the things necessary so none of the Board Members would have to be trained. One Board Member would have to be named the Executive Officer. The degree of involvement is up to the EO and/or the Chartering Organization. A copy of the Annual Unit Charter Agreement (template) was provided and is attached to the minutes. Gary Palmer suggested we check with our insurance carrier to be sure there are no legal issues. Walter Brown made a motion to table the item until Chief Zipp can report back on the insurance coverage. Gary Palmer seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. **(OPEN: Chief Zipp/Asst Chief Anz)**

BoD Roundtable: Chief Zipp reported that the General Membership Meeting letter/notice has not gone out. He will coordinate with President Flink to see what the status of his draft is. Chief Zipp had some difficulty getting the mailing list in proper format for all residents of ESD 6.

Adjourn

The next board meeting is scheduled for October 11th (Annual Meeting) at 7:00pm. President Flink asked for a motion to adjourn. Walter Brown Bob Schoeler made the motion and Colin Smith seconded. Vice-President Wilcox adjourned the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Moreland
Secretary, BVFD BoD

Bracken Volunteer Fire Department
23600 FM 3009
San Antonio, Texas 78266

**Treasurer's Report
For September 26, 2022**

- **Budget Recap Jan 1, 2022 – August 31, 2022**

Through 66.67% of the year

Income	76.33% of budget
Expenses	59.84% of budget

- **Cash on Hand as of 09/23/22: \$ 416,156.11**

First United Bank Checking	\$ 122,933.36
First United Bank Christmas Fund	\$ 1,682.53
Schertz Bank Checking	\$ 84,082.52
Schertz Bank Payroll	\$ 100,934.77
Schertz Money Market	\$ 106,522.93

- **Other Business**

We have received \$24,465.68 in reimbursement from ESD 6 for communication equipment and software upgrades purchased from June through September.

Respectfully Submitted, Colin Smith
Treasurer

August 2022

76 total runs, 18 fire calls and 58 rescue calls.

TOTAL Average emergent fire response was 7:39 minutes and average emergent rescue response was 6:53 minutes.

Station 1 average emergent fire response time 7:39

Station 1 average emergent rescue response time 6:52

Station 2 average emergent fire response time

Station 2 average emergent rescue response time 7:04

68 calls were run out of Station 1.

8 calls were run out of Station 2.

THE ANNUAL UNIT CHARTER AGREEMENT BETWEEN:

_____ and the _____ Council, BSA

Pack No. _____ Troop No. _____ Crew No. _____ Ship No. _____

(Please identify those units chartered by the Chartered Organization.)

The purpose of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) program is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values and principles taught in the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

The Chartered Organization, as a duly constituted organization that serves youth, desires to use the program(s) of the BSA to further its mission respecting the youth it supports. The Local Council provides the support and service necessary to help the Chartered Organization succeed in its use of Scouting.

The Local Council agrees to:

- Provide primary general liability insurance to cover the Charter Organization, its board, officers, Charter Organization Representative (COR), employees, and adult volunteers for authorized Scouting activities. Indemnify the Charter Organization in accordance with the resolutions and policies of the National Executive Board of the Boy Scouts of America.

"The general liability policy issued to the Boy Scouts of America provides primary liability insurance coverage for all chartered organizations for liability arising out of their sponsorship of a traditional Scouting unit. Evanston Insurance Company provides the first \$1 million per occurrence coverage. Additional policies, all providing primary coverage to the chartered organization, have been purchased so that more than \$10 million in primary coverage is provided. There is no coverage for those who commit intentional or criminal acts. Liability insurance is purchased to provide financial protection in the event of accidents or injury that is neither expected nor intended."

- Respect the aims and objectives of the Charter Organization and assist the Charter Organization by making available Scouting resources.
- Assure that adults selected as unit leaders are willing to accept Scouting's values and meet any other requirements of membership, having the appropriate number of leaders for the unit and review and sign each application.
- The local council will conduct criminal background checks on adult leaders.
- Make available to the Charter Organization and members program training, program resources, and other Scouting support services.
- Make available training and support for the Charter Organization and for the Charter Organization Representative, the primary link between the Charter Organization, the local council, and the BSA; track and require all unit leaders to complete BSA Youth Protection Training. YPT training is located on the My.Scouting website. *(no leader is registered w/o YPT)*
- Provide camping opportunities, administrative support, and professional staff to assist the unit in developing a successful Scouting program.
- Provide unit money earning opportunities for the unit to support their annual program.
- Support the unit with recruitment strategies, resources and materials to grow the BSA movement.

The Charter Organization agrees to:

- Use Scouting to further the Charter Organization's aims and values for youth.
- Charter organizations must utilize the Scouting program to accomplish specific objectives related to one or more of the following: youth character development, faith-based youth ministry, career skill development, community service, patriotism and military and veteran recognition
- Conduct the Scouting program consistent with BSA rules, regulations, and policies. Located on the My.Scouting website and online at: www.scouting.org/about/membership-standards/.
- Charter Organization representatives are also auto-matic voting members of the council and district selected by their respective Charter Organization" *BSA Rules & Regs, Article IV*
- Encourage adult leaders to receive additional applicable training made available by the council.
- Be a good steward of unit resources and adhere to BSA Fiscal Policies. ie. Unit Money Earning projects
- Actively participate in the local councils annual giving campaign and product sales to ensure quality Scouting throughout the community. (ex. Friends of Scouting campaign, popcorn, camp card, etc.)
- Encourage the unit to maintain accurate and timely registration records of all its youth and adult members. Utilizing BSA's online registration tools like membership leads, online applications, and online recharter. *(no leader is registered w/o YPT)*
- Units must not use the Scouting program to pursue any objectives related to political or social advocacy, including partisan politics, support or opposition to government action, or controversial legal, political, or social issues or causes.
- Maintain and support the unit committee(s) made up of at least three persons for each unit.
- Ensure appropriate facilities for the unit for its regular meetings to facilitate the aims and methods of the BSA.
- Coordinate with the local council to provide annual recruitment opportunities to grow the BSA movement as well as publicize BSA through inhouse publications.

Charter Organization	Title	Date
Charter Organization Representative	Title	Date
Unit Committee Chair	Title	Date
Local BSA Council	Title	Date

Resources

1. Chartered organizations must use the Scouting program to accomplish their objectives in a manner consistent with the Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, guidelines, policies, and other publications available on the BSA national website located at www.scouting.org/about/membership-standards/.
 - The Charter and Bylaws of the Boy Scouts of America
 - The Mission of the Boy Scouts of America
 - The Rules and Regulations of the Boy Scouts of America
 - The Scout Oath and the Scout Law, including Duty to God
 - BSA youth protection policies and guidelines, including mandatory reporting
 - *The Guide to Safe Scouting*
 - The Sweet Sixteen of BSA Safety
 - Scouter Code of Conduct
 - Incident Reporting <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/incident-report/>

2. Chartered organizations must not use their charter organization affiliation or the Scouting brand as a means to imply Scouting's endorsement of the objectives of their organization except with respect to youth development consistent with the goals and objectives of the Scouting program. Scouting units should utilize the BSA Brand Center for all branding guidelines, images, and logos. The BSA Brand Center can be located at www.scoutingwire.org

3. Charter organizations must not use the Scouting program to obtain financial support or assistance except as authorized for the chartered unit.

Scout Mission:

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

Scout Oath:

On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

Scout Law:

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.