

MINUTES

THE CITY-COUNTY OF BUTTE-SILVER BOW FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

JANUARY 4, 2022 @ 5:30 P.M. – BSB COURTHOUSE ROOM 203 IT CONFERENCE ROOM

1. CALL TO ORDER

- Meeting called to order at 5:37 P.M. by John Sorich

2. Roll call via Sign-in Sheet:

• **Member Present:**

Jerry Brothers, Home Atherton VFD
George Stone, Terra Verde VFD
Dan Callahan, BSB Commissioner
Michele Shea, BSB Commissioner
John Sorich, BSB Commissioner
Chris Mjelde, BSB Career Fire Dept.
Chad Silk, BSB Career Fire Dept.

Guests Present:

Zach Osborne, BSB Fire Chief
Kelly Lee, BSB Asst. Chief, Fire Marshal
Lee Sullivan, BSB Career Fire Dept.
Riley Hash, BSB Career Fire Dept.
Dan Olsen, Public Guest
Matt Doble, Guest (no signature)
Kolby Carter, Guest (no signature)

Member Absent:

- Joel Worth, Boulevard VFD
Justine Fortune, BSB Commissioner

3. Reading and Approval of Minutes

- A motion was made by Chris Mjelde to approve Minutes of the December 7, 2021, minutes; Jerry Brothers second the motion.
 - The December 7, 2021, minutes were unanimously approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA

- Career Firemen attended meeting as guests to determine whom would like to fill the open position available replacing Career Captain Patrick Doherty.

5. SECRETARY/TRESURES REPORT

- No Chairperson to report
- January 4, 2022 (FY 2022 Report) balance in the TIFID Fund is \$284,973.00

6. OLD BUSINESS

- Nomination of a Chairperson to the Fire Advisory Committee is still tabled. John Sorich will be interim Chairperson until nomination. A Chairperson nominated must be a Commissioner, The Fire Advisory Committee BSB Commissioner members are Justine Fortune, Dan Callahan, and Michele Shea. The Fire Advisory Committee needs to nominate a chairperson. John Sorich is not officially on Fire Advisory Committee.
- Tentative Nomination of Chairperson TBD.
- Tentative election of a new BSB Career Fire Department member TBD.
- Boulevard VFD has submitted a FEMA grant with 5% match per the population he entered for his district, outcome undetermined to date.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- Jerry Brothers made motion that The VFD's will be notified on January 5, 2022 (not January 4, 2022), to submit their requests for equipment and/or upgrades due back via email or delivered to the Fire Department on or by January 27, 2022, and Chad Silk seconded the motion.
 - An email will go out to all VFD on January 5, 2022, by Diane Evankovich, with an attachment of BSB Fire Equipment & Training Fund Funding Request Policy and BSB Fire Equipment and Training Fund Request. All bids and quotes should include the shipping cost or approximate shipping cost. Requests are due via email (devankovich@bsb.mt.gov) or delivered to the BSB Fire Department on or by January 27, 2022.
 - February 1, 2022, Fire Advisory Committee will begin to review Fire Equipment & Training Fund Funding Requests.
 - A representative from the department submitting a funding request may be requested to attend the Fire Advisory Committee Meeting on March 1, 2022, @ 5:30 P.M.
- All members reviewed and discussed the purpose of a BSB Fire Department Consolidation Plan. All members agreed that the 2005 BSB Fire Department Consolidation Plan is outdated and would need to be reevaluated and have new direction from both BSB Career Fire Department and BSB Volunteer Departments.
 - Zach Osborne stated, "In the past thousands of hours spent on a plan from BSB Career Fire Department with a result from BSB Volunteer department trustees' refusal to read. I would not want another thousands of hours spent on a plan with the same result. I would need an agreement from the trustees to at least read the plan. It was never Jeff Miller's plan to delete or eliminant volunteer members. It was a smart thing to do for the taxpayers to consolidate locations that were three blocks away from each other or the Boulevards running Rocker's calls."
 - Dan Callahan stated, "I believe Jeff Miller would attend a meeting to explain the old plan and purpose if needed."
 - John Sorich asked if some of the Volunteer departments still had Trustees for their departments.
 - Jerry Brothers answered, "yes."
 - John Sorich asked if the Trustees have been voted on?
 - George Stone stated, "Volunteer Departments have to submit a notarized signed form that trustees are running again, and the Volunteer Chief must send in a letter stating we approve these Trustees for that certain year or years."
 - Chad Silk asked, "Are the Trustees were voted on from the population of the district and if there were public notice of trustee being up for election?"
 - Jerry Brothers stated "There is not a lot of interest and knowledge in the voting. We have to post in the newspaper when the election is, but in my district, we do not have very many people running for it."
 - George Stone stated "Most of the time it will be the old Trustees unless someone passes or moves. You have to live in the district to be a trustee or to run for a trustee."
 - Michele Shea stated, "It looks like there needs to be some public education. Who would like to come before the council and do a presentation?"
 - Chris Mjelde stated, "the consolidation is happening whether or not we or you want to control it or coordinate it, it is happening. We can wait or can guide it along. You guys are saying you don't know who the trustees are, volunteers not showing up, the department doesn't have any trustees etc. Sometimes we have one volunteer that shows up, sometimes we have seventeen. Some departments are covering for other departments. We have volunteers saying we don't have enough volunteers during the day. Please send a truck from a neighboring department, which is fine. I am just saying, it is happening. Consolidation is a scary word, whether we want to try and do something about it and spend thousand hours and bear the fruit down the road. Consolidation is going to happen. Do we want to coordinate it, do we want to steer it in the right

direction or sit back and continue to watch it slowly happen? Personally, I would like to coordinate it."

- John Sorich stated, "The thousands of hours have already been spent on the Consolidation Plan, the new time spent would be updating information, changes of the scope and costs."
- John Sorich stated, "First we need to figure out who the trustees are. We need to verify the trustee list from each volunteer department by certified mail. We need to have the trustee at least sign and verify they are a trustee."
- Jerry Brothers stated "He would like to float it to see what type of response we get. We have come a long way since 2005, we really have. Our relationship with the firemen has just been way better. We have a long way to go, don't get me wrong. I think we have been getting along so much better. We have gotten some new blood on both sides. A lot of the old arguments are gone, or the combatants are gone I should say."
- Zach Osborne stated, "If we are all in this for the right reasons and that is to serve our community. We have to think about what we are costing the taxpayers, with 37 pieces of apparatus, that is three times, the amount of Billings. So, are we providing a great service? Absolutely! Could it be done with maybe less on the taxpayers with an even better service, with better equipment just less of it. If the trustees do not think it is smart to even give it a thought. It just blows my mind."
- Chris Mjelde states, "We are about to lose a big funding source."
- Zach Osborne states, "the Consolidation discussion started by one of our Fire Advisory members' at a meeting from the last couple of months, when one of the members' Joel Worth (whom is not here, and I don't want to talk about him but) said he was putting in for the FEMA grant, of \$60,000.00 dollars for radios just for Boulevard. I said why are we just singling out single departments. Let's try and do something together. These were not his exact words, but he (Joel) said, "we are the department who runs the calls". These departments are saying it themselves, so I would love if he got \$60,000.00 for radios. Does Boulevard alone, need \$60,000.00 of radios? I would like it to be split up between the nine volunteer departments. We need to work more as a team. We have one budget."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "In the past, several departments have done grants for their department, and it takes a lot of work. The last one fell through it was too much for the radios."
- Zach Osborne states, "He appreciates their hard work."
- George Stone states, "In the past the grant was for Motorola, and they were twice the price of others. In the past the problem with the grants was to many different pricings on different kinds of radios."
- John Sorich states, "Trying to get back to the agenda" Jerry Brothers, I have some concern you stated you want to float it (Plan). Some of those that were resistance in the 2005 Plan are still around. I am concerned about that. I think this meeting needs to be done. I think the people that need to be looking at it are the people footing the bill, that are the taxpayers. It is the taxpayers footing the bill for funding the whole thing. If we make an intelligent comparison and say obviously, the taxpayers are not going to know every detail of quality. Again, they need to be viewing the plan. This is what it is costing us now. This is what it is going to cost in the future. What should we do?"
- Jerry Brothers states, "The resistance from floating, I mean find out, if anyone is willing to talk."
- Chad Silk states, "Is there a point where we can say if no one wants to talk to us and that the consolidation is still the best thing for the city, to make it happen? I am sick of listening to this is what happened in 2005. People are still around but it still makes since. There is very few of the minority that is holding the majority back in making the fire service of Butte Silver Bow instantly better. There are things we could do next month to make it better, and then in the next ten years. There are only a couple people that are holding us back. It is usually not how communities are run. It comes down to the trustees, is there any way, I have no idea if, the commissioners, Chief or Asst. Fire Chief may have a better idea to say, "we want to do it this way", the state law says this is the way it is. How do we get around it to make it the best thing for the community? Other than taking years to transform and inform people."
- Dan Callahan states, "Chris says the inevitable is going to happen, well the inevitable maybe the less controversial. They would not have any say at that point, they are no longer functional."
- Chad Silk states, "The trustees will still have a say. right now, the way that it is."

- Zach Osborne states, "the inevitable is one more example of Rocker has seven men, Boulevard is taking every one of Rockers calls. So, it is happening already."
- John Sorich states, "Home Atherton is taking Floral Park?"
- Jerry Brothers states, "Floral Park one time will have a bunch, and the next time none. Boulevard is in the same boat though, during the day we are hurting, that is why two city trucks run down, when we have enough members to man it. We will send the other truck back or release them, I mean."
- Michele Shea states, "Is it because people on your department have other jobs?"
- Jerry Brothers states, "Yes."
- Zach Osborne states, "It is hard for the Volunteers now, it is not like it used to be, where when you are a volunteer for Home Atherton you lived across the street, and you ran to the station and responded to the call. Now I am surprised that someone has not been killed with personal vehicles responding to calls. If you are a volunteer at Racetrack you might live in Walkerville, so you jump in your personal vehicle and you fly down to Racetrack, they have already left you, so you fly in your personal vehicle across town to the fire, and often times, they are young guys that can't wait to go play with fire hose. Then, all of a sudden, we have fifteen person trucks at the fire. I mean, it scares me to death that my wife and two little girls are going to get T-boned someday by a nineteen-year-old kid going with his truck, going to a call instead of being in a fire truck with lights and sirens."
- Michele Sheas states, "Whose liability is that? Is it Butte Silver Bow's?"
- Zach Osborne states, "It has to be BSB fire department we are one department under one budget."
- Michele Sheas states, "Has the County Attorney ever been asked this question? Or ever invited to answer any questions?"
- George Stone states, "County Attorney would need heads up on fire law so they could be prepared for a meeting."
- Chad Silk asked, "If volunteers need to be living in your district is in the bylaws?"
- Jerry Brothers stated, "It used to be but since we became one department, we cannot enforce that, we are one fire service, and you can live just about anywhere."
- Chad Silk states, "There is so many things that would make since with getting this on track. You are right, it is happening , but we are being totally reactive if someone were to T-bone someone or if someone was not trained up on handling a piece of apparatus, or if someone went into a structural fire and there is no accountability of training other than the training log that the volunteer department has that could just say that someone has thirty hours of firefighting training when in reality maybe they don't. If we could get insist gratification if we could get the majority of, the departments to train on the same thing at the same time, we would know they had proper driving training, apparatus training and structural training. I think we are grossly negligent right now and it needs to be fixed. I would like to see it fixed before we got out of here. Because this is not something that needs to be passed on to the next generation. It is crazy!"
- John Sorich stated, "My thoughts are, we need to say why we want consolidation? Because if you are going to sell it or sell it to community, why it makes sense, why are we doing it? So, we are going to need specific answers."
- George stone states, "That is one of the things with BSB Fire department was looking at consolidating several departments but looking at putting in a brand-new station for them too. So that is another carrot that we would have to look at. To see if that is still feasible or not. Some of the trustees didn't care about that either."
- Zach Osborne stated, "It (consolidation) was going to cost the county money up front cause they were going to build new stations at central locations with a cost savings in the long run. Because they would be evaluating the current apparatus and keeping the ones that we thought were worth keeping and trying to sell the ones we didn't need."
- Chris Mjelde stated, "I think it is as much a coordination problem, I think consolidation is a scary word that no one wants to hear, and it will fail, it failed in 2005 that is what we hear. It is how you frame the problems we are facing and talking about now are coordination problems more than anything, but it changes the bear, it is just how you look at it. Who goes where, who goes in their personal vehicle, who's covering which district. Which truck do we bring, how many trucks do we have, it needs coordinated."
- John Sorich stated, "What I am looking at is a high level of explanation. What you're talking about is consistency of training or safety. So, when you are selling it people want to hear the high level of details. This is what I am getting after."
- Dan Olson stated, "I just have one comment, that paper (2005 Consolidation Plan) is the solution from seventeen years ago and really you would get a better buy in if the volunteers

understood what the problem is and how would you guys solve it. At that point they would say oh, you are asking us our opinion and not shoving it down our throat, that is just my thought. If you said, we have these problems how do you think we could solve them."

- Chad silk stated, "I think it is a good idea to ask but, also understand there is a Fire Director of Fire Services, if something does not go their way and it is very little because we don't call it Race Track instead of Floral Park that they are not going to do it. There still needs to be a leader. The more people we have in the discussion the possibilities are endless."
- John Sorich states, "What is the next step, someone said let us bring in the County Attorney, to see what the liabilities are?"
- Michele Shea stated, "Not so much the liabilities but the legal requirements are? What the legal rights are? What the state law says? What we want to do locally to find out that the state law does not allow it or vice versa. What are the rules of the game? If we wanted to do this with the reorganization of services whatever it is. That is what I would like to hear from the County Attorney. This would give us a good place to start."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "The biggest part of this whole thing, it is very difficult to tell a volunteer department what is going to happen, because they are so protected under the state law. Zach, I think Grady sent you the Attorney General opinion did that cover anything? Did it explain anything?"
- Zach Osborne states, "Yes, it is very difficult to understand."
- Chad Silk states, "Myself, Mjelde, Pat and the Chief, I think we have talked about the Attorney General's discussion or what, with the lawyer to get an idea of the state law, I think it was when we very first started. So, I understand it but just because there is this right, if it is not the right thing to do, we still got to do what is right for the community. I don't care who gets mad about it."
- Chris Mjelde stated, "The problem is still there, we are not talking about getting rid of volunteer members."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "No, no, we just got to be careful because they have a lot of rights that you can't infringe on."
- George stone stated, "I think what Dan Olson is saying, we need to approach it a different way, here is how this will help you and the community rather than we are going to make you do it, or we are going to try and make you do it. That immediately gets them all fired up."
- John Sorich stated, "I am not professing law at all, but I think over the years a lot of the right have disintegrated because they depend so much on Butte Silver Bow especially the budget. When it was originally done, the department was supposed to have their own budget. They have not done that in years, that I know of."
- George Stone stated, "They never had their own budget, you had to submit a budget, you didn't have a budget."
- John Sorich stated, "Well true."
- Dan Callahan stated, "Now the budget is controlled by the Fire Chief."
- Jerry brothers stated, "Before consolidation we did it all, I mean we collected taxes, well we didn't collect taxes, but we got them, and we put in for it."
- George Stone stated, "Basically some department wanted their budget back. They are collecting the mil levy's out of their district."
- Jerry brothers stated, "there is only three departments that could really survive on their own district Boulevard, Home Atherton and Race Track."
- Michele Shea stated, she thought that was really selfish and Zach agreed.
- Dan Olson stated, "Where are you getting those figures?"
- Jerry Brothers stated, "by population and taxable value."
- John Sorich stated, "Let's move away from that right now," and interrupted speakers.
- Chad Silk stated, "Let's do what Michele Shea stated earlier about getting the County Attorney to a meeting and visiting the volunteer departments."
- John Sorich stated, "Let's get with the County Attorney and find out about what the trustees' responsibilities and duties are supposed to be. I think the trustees are supposed to meet and I don't think they have met."
- Jerry brothers stated, "Trustees are basically supposed to meet three times a year, to go over the books."
- Zach Osborne stated, "Is the Chiefs of the department normally on the trustees?"
- Jerry Brothers stated, "He can be."
- Zach Osborne stated, "He only can be?"
- George stone stated, "I don't live in the district so I cannot be a trustee."
- Jerry brothers stated, "you see, BSB has gone to a couple of meetings at Fairmont they have had were their trustees' meetings and the majority outside of here where they are budgeting,

they have their own taxable deal and that, they want those trustees to be outside of the department, the chief runs the department, the fires, and everything and the trustees tell the chief what to do. Then he does it from there."

- George stone stated, "The trustee tends to be more on financial side and personal."
- Jerry brothers stated, "BSB is backwards, if you talk to some of the speakers, I can't even tell you what happens in Butte. Because we are the only ones that are consolidated government, with the city and county."
- Dan Callahan stated, "When they consolidated with the city and county, they didn't do a good enough job with the fire department. That is why we are still discussing it today."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "when the consolidation happened, we were paying 1.5 mil for fire protection, and they said it would never go over 2 or 2.5 mil. And what are we now, 36 mil?"
- Zach Osborne stated, "37 mil between fire service and emergency services tax."
- John Sorich stated, "we need to have the County Attorney and what do the trustee duties are, and legal responsibilities are and who they are. I will call the clerk and recorder office."
- Zach Osborne stated, "I have the current list they just sent me a month ago."
- Chris Mjelde asked, "If we are going to give the County Attorney some questions and give her time, should we send the questions to Diane or the County Attorney, John, or Zach?"
- Michele Shea thinks the County attorney will know there is a state law and that there is superseding letter from the Attorney General stating his opinion and thinks it is a good idea to send her a list of questions she could try and answer in one meeting. I think we need to get her scheduled on the agenda to answer questions that we have sent to her whether or not she could answer them all in one meeting? Some answers are going to elicit more questions from the group I think."
- Zach states, "We have had letters from lawyers since then that have said otherwise, so they are just giving us, (pause) we don't have a clear answer."
- George stone states, "Really to ultimately solve it we probably got a go all the way to state supreme court. Hopefully it could be solved easier than that."
- John Sorich stated, "It could be voted on in a month by the board, correct?"
- George Stone and Chad Silk stated, "Yes, with in the district 2/3 vote."
- Chad silk stated, "BSB should be able to do what we want to do and not wait to have a state law to be changed."
- Zach Osborne and Chad Silk states, "That the individual district should be able to vote and have more of a say rather than the trustees of the district."
- Chad Silk stated, "I also believe with the consist threat that they will take back their budgets, there should be vote within that district, to see if they could fund the district, to see if they could fund the workers compensation, the insurance, life insurance, trucks and gas and stuff, once that goes thru. I am pretty sure the people of the district have a lot of power to say how they want their fire district to run. Regardless of the trustees, over the years I have learned."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "That would cost a lot to put on a special election?"
- Chad Silk stated, "Short term cost for long term savings."
- Michele Shea stated, "I could be put on a ballet on a normal election. They would just have to pass a resolution of intent to but put on the ballet so it could be run on the same cycle of a regular election. That could be expensive, but everything is expensive."
- John Sorich states, "Here is another plan B, I don't think it would be done for a while, I suppose it would be proper for a study plan, they hire people to studied different things, it is a yearlong process, but they only do it every ten years, and would have to be budgeted for. "
- Michele Shea stated, "it will be 2024"
- Chad silk stated, "Class one communities, we have done a lot of research on these, not just for this idea, but with other things. There are master plans within each fire department that some cities Missoula is one, doesn't even pay for it to be done anymore because they have had it done so many times, they know what to look for. They don't have the problems we have here. I think we would need a third party to come and tell us what we already know, to help with the consolidation. This is something that, definitely needs to be a priority. I think for Butte Silver Bow the functionality of the fire department."
- George Stone stated, "He thinks we already have done a study, he talked to Jeff on that, I think the guy's name was Phillips maybe, I am not sure. It was quite a while ago, and a waste of time. Like a lot of those studies things are, they end up having a lot of fire guys doing the study."
- Chad Silk stated, "If the Study guys knew what to look for and you don't get paid unless you provided what we wanted you to do. I think it is a little different now. A study on the Butte Fire Department is probably \$60,000.00-\$80,000.00 alone."

- John Sorich stated, "My thought was to put it on study commission within two years, but it has to be approved on by the voters. Then the study commission would compile all the facts to be changed in the charter etc. and could bring it to the voting."
- Michele Sheas asked Chad Silk, "If there were specific things in the Charter that he would want changed?"
- Chad silk states, "Not so much the Charter, other than just the functionality of the consolidation plan itself and why it would work and changing the boundaries and things like that. I brought up before there is \$284,973.00 in the TIFID, I think \$60,000.00 for a study on the Butte Fire Department needs to be done, along with asking everyone input and informing people. I think that is also goes along with the big picture along with the study. In the city we need someone else from outside to come in with a nonbiased opinion to tell us what is needed."
- John Sorich stated, "What you're also talking about is being compared to Polson several years ago, because Polson was similar to Butte Silver Bow, and they used the plan from Polson to compare"
- Chad silk stated, "It is a direction to go so when the Chief goes to the commission, we have a plan, and this is how we want to spend our money. We can spend our Capital expenditures on this."
- Jerry brothers stated, "Dan Olson you really stress this the last time, with the consolidation, whenever they move a station, our ISO goes out five miles from the station. Your ISO is your rates for your insurance. If you live within five miles of a fire station, your rates are really low. For instance, Rocker moves to Boulevard there will be a bunch of people out there that their insurance will triple."
- Dan Olson stated, "With all the wildland fires insurance out in a certain distance they will drop you if you are not in a certain distance of a fire station. They may not drop you; they just double your rate until you drop insurance."
- Chad Silk stated, "That is something someone else needs to look at, to give us ISO numbers rather than hear say. If someone's insurance triples, what is worse their insurance tripling or no one showing up to their fire."
- Zach Osborne stated, "BSB has eleven fire stations, Missoula, Bozeman and Billings they don't have eleven fire stations, how are they paying for insurance?"
- Chad Silk stated, "I think more people would benefit more from the consolidation, rather than what people might have to pay for insurance. There is a lot of questions we don't know the answers to."
- John Sorich states, "What do you think the next step is?"
- Dan Olson stated, "Keep it rolling."
- Chad Silk stated, "County Attorney and visit the fire stations will help us in a couple different ways, this is not going to happen overnight."
- John Sorich stated, "We need to find out who exactly the fire trustees are and verify volunteer department have trustees."
- Chris Mjelde stated, "Are we doing this all at the same time or we going to open TIFID or postpone TIFID?"
- John Sorich stated, "I think we should do TIFID first."
- Chad silk stated, "Let's look at the fire stations and get their proposals. I think we would have a good idea of how to spend the TIFID money. Do you think Eileen could make the next meeting?" If she could come to the next meeting and then go over proposals that would be a fine meeting."
- John Sorich stated, "That is a lot in one meeting."
- Chad Silk stated, "We would not have to vote on anything. We could look at proposals and talk about it. Set an agenda and continue on in a certain time frame."
- Zach Osborne stated, "One of the last things Danette told me, as soon as TIFID goes away as soon as the Fire Department will not be getting that money that you are used to. Your Fire budget is in a world of hurt. Something must change, or you are in big trouble. I was like Yes thank you for the promotion. Something to look forward to. It is good we are talking about this. Everyone knows if something doesn't happen, like she just said to me, something has to change."
- Michele Shea stated, "The bottom line is the safety of the citizens, the service to the public. That is one hundred percent why we are here, that has to be the focus and the firemen."
- George Stone states, "That is the problem with the radios not everyone has one, everyone needs one and it is a safety issue. Should we see if we can get the County Attorney here for the next meeting?"
- John Sorich stated, "He would like all the questions agreed upon within the committee to ask the County Attorney. The questions at the very beginning are going to be very broad, first off can we legally do it (consolidation). is it possible."

- Chad silk stated, "I would like description of the trustee, everything under the umbrella of the trustee responsibilities, election, term limits or any of that."
- Johns Sorich stated, "Duties and responsibilities of the trustees."
- Chad Silk stated, "The state law, just so we have a clear idea of what we will be dealing with, so we can disseminate proper information to other people. I don't even know if we are right, it is all hearsay for many years."
- George stone stated, "I had looked at it a long time ago, the state law is very specific as to how you dissolve a fire district, trustee all that sort of stuff."
- Chad silk stated, "As far as the members of the district wanted to vote on something, do we have an accurate number, is that even a possibility."
- Dan Olson stated, "There is also a distinction between Fire department and Fire Company, like Little Basin Creek."
- John Sorich stated, "I guess what I would ask the County Attorney "Can consolidation be due able and what would be the process?" That would give her a little bit of if it is due able and what would it take? And your asking is what is the trustee roles and responsibilities in Butte Silver Bow?"
- Chad Silk stated, "That would be good for all of us."
- John Sorich stated, "Any other questions suggested?"
- Zach Osborne stated, "Would she be interested in seeing what the County Attorney, Attorney General said years ago as well as the lawyers since then?"
- John Sorich stated, "Let me talk to Eileen to see what she needs to look at."
- Dan Olson stated, "You may have her check Deer Lodge County they are consolidated; I don't know how they are as far as fire departments and volunteers?"
- John Sorich stated, "I will get Eileen and mention we had met tonight and see if she wants me to forward these questions on to her to see if she will be able to attend our next meeting February 1st."
- George stone stated, "Do we want to move the station requests back a month?"
- Jerry brothers stated, "We could still receive them in and go over the next month and if needed have the Chiefs come in to explain."
- Dan Olson stated, "Sometimes the Chiefs do need to come to a meeting to explain why they had requested item/s."
- Jerry brothers stated, "I am going to push the Chiefs to put in for more radios and pagers, this is a safety concern."
- Zach Osborne stated, "We don't need to spend every penny of the TIFID, we could save for years."
- George Stone stated, "We should emphasize needs rather than wants. In the past some of requests were wants more than needs."
- Zach Osborne stated, "This is the last amount of money so it should be something we need."
- Chad Silk stated, "There will still be the wish list coming in."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "It will be really interesting "Firefighter I" starts next month, and a lot of departments will be saying they have a lot of new guys, it will be interesting to see what new guys they have. Most of the department required volunteer members to go through Firefighter I within the first year."
- George Stone stated, "Or they are on probation until they finish Firefighter I."
- John Sorich stated, "For a recap of this meeting, Diane will email the volunteer departments a packet of the policy and request form, to be returned to Diane by January 27, 2022. I will talk to Eileen, and we are going to tour three stations next Monday, set time of 6 p.m. Chad or Diane will set up the departments and notify all of them. The tours will help explain to the Fire Advisory Committee what type of fire apparatus we have and inventory that may apply to department requests of a show and tell per say."
- Chad Silk stated, "We will email them see what we can do."
- John Sorich stated, "I will talk to the County Attorney and request her to come to a meeting and give her these questions. I will also talk to Justine Fortune to see if he will be participating in the committee. If he cannot attend, he will have to write a letter to JP."
- John Sorich stated to Zach, "Do you have all the trustee names? Will you send out a letter to the committee stating who are the trustees for each volunteer fire department."
- Diane Evankovich stated, "Some of the rosters have trustees on them, some have honorary members also."
- Michele Shea stated, "Cinda Seys should have a roster for the life insurance coverage."
- Diane Evankovich stated, "I am keeping track of the life insurance."
- Michele Shea stated, "Hopefully they are not putting honorary members on life insurance coverage."

- Diane Evankovich stated, "Yes they are still on roster and life insurance."
- John Sorich stated, "It is pretty cheap."
- Diane Evankovich stated, "Not when they pass away."
- John Sorich stated, "That is true."
- Diane Evankovich stated, "It is like \$150.00 per quarter per each volunteer for worker compensation and \$16.00 per month per each volunteer for life insurance."
- Michele Shea asked, "If the life insurance is based on their age?"
- Diane Evankovich stated, "I report new members to VFIS Insurance, and we pay Glatfelter Insurance. VFIS Insurance knows name and birthdate and BSB requires a background check."
- Zach Osborne stated, "There is some old members on that list."

8. Jerry Brothers made a motion to adjourn, George Stone seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:31 P.M. The Next Fire Advisory Committee meeting date February 1, 2022, IT Conference Room 203.

UPDATE:

- The BSB Volunteer Department tour dates will tentatively be as follows:

1/10/22-- 6:00 P.M. -- RACE TRACK

7:00 P.M. -- BOULEVA

8:00 P.M. -- STATION #2

1/17/22 - -HOLIDAY

1/24/22 -- 6:00 P.M. -- TERRA VERDE

7:00 P.M. -- HOME ATHERTON

8:00 P.M. -- FLORAL PARK

1/31/22 -- 6:00 P.M. -- LITTLE BASIN CREEK

7:00 P.M. -- ROCKER

2/7/22 -- 6:00 P.M. -- BIG BUTTE

7:00 P.M. -- CENTERVILLE

8:00 P.M. -- STATION #1