

MINUTES

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

FEBRUARY 1, 2022 @ 5:30 P.M. – BSB COURTHOUSE ROOM 203 IT CONFERENCE ROOM

1. CALL TO ORDER

- Meeting called to order at 5:35 P.M. by John Sorich

2. Roll call via Sign-in Sheet:

• **Member Present:**

Jerry Brothers, Home Atherton VFD
George Stone, Terra Verde VFD
Justine Fortune, BSB Commissioner
Joel Worth, Boulevard VFD
Lee Sullivan, BSB Career Fire Dept.
John Sorich, BSB Commissioner
Chris Mjelde, BSB Career Fire Dept.
Chad Silk, BSB Career Fire Dept.

Member Absent:

Dan Callahan, BSB Commissioner

Guests Present:

Zach Osborne, BSB Fire Chief
Riley Hash, BSB Career Fire Dept.
Jake Hanley, BSB Career Fire Dept.
Jerry Ellison, BSB Career Fire Dept.
John Liebel, BSB Career Fire Dept.

3. Reading and Approval of Minutes

- A motion was made by Joel Worth to amend the January 4, 2022, minutes to state Boulevard FEMA Grant is a 5% match per the population he entered for his district. A motion was made by Jerry Brothers to hold the minutes of the January 4, 2022, to confirm if the FEMA Grant is a 5% match instead of 15% (will confirm with the Budget Dept.); George Stone seconded the motion.
 - The January 4, 2022, minutes were held.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA

- None

5. SECRETARY/TRESURES REPORT

- No Chairperson to report
- February 1, 2022 (FY 2022 Report) balance in the TIFID Fund is \$284,973.00

6. OLD BUSINESS

- Michele Shea emailed her resignation from the Fire Advisory Committee to Zach Osborne, Fire Chief and J.P. Gallagher, Chief Executive.
- John Sorich stated he had emailed J.P. Gallagher, Chief Executive to state he would be interested in being a member of the Fire Advisory Committee. Fire Advisory Committee is waiting for the approval from the Council for the appointment of John Sorich. The Fire Advisory Committee needs to nominate a chairperson. John Sorich is not officially on Fire Advisory Committee but is willing to be the Chairperson once appointed to the Fire Advisory Committee.

- Jerry Brothers made a motion to table until next month, the nomination of Chairperson of the Fire Advisory Committee, George Stone second the motion. All were in favor.
 - The County Attorney will research laws of Fire Department Consolidation.
 - Zach Osborne stated, "All Fire Districts (Volunteer Departments) are protected by state. We do have one Fire Company this county which is a little different. It seems like we have come here for months and only talked about Fire Advisory for twenty minutes. The rest of the time has been on consolidation. I am all for putting in work, and Kelly is, and Diane is and whomever else is, but not if it is all for not. If it is not coming from you guys [the Volunteer Departments] and it is your idea, coming from the vote of the trustees of the volunteers, we are spinning our wheels just sitting here talking about it. If Floral Park wants to consolidate because they think they should, and it is the right thing to do then Floral Park and Home Atherton need to make a plan. If Big Butte and Centerville think they should do it, which is the right thing to do they need to have a meeting and plan. You can call me and ask me for any help. I will give you any help that I can give. I can't come to you guys and say you have to consolidate. So, until the volunteers come together make the right decision for the taxpayers of Butte Silver Bow, we need to stop talking about it during these meetings. Let's get Fire Advisory and the TIFID going. If we want to designate a certain amount of time to talk about consolidation, I am all for it, but until we are serious about it and people are on board. County Attorney stated to Zach it doesn't need to be a complete consolidation. Two departments can have an agreement to consolidate or three departments. It doesn't have to be a complete plan like Chief Miller presented in 2005."
 - Jerry Brothers made a motion to table the invite of the County Attorney and George Stone second the motion. All were in favor.
- Jerry Brothers stated, "I know the volunteers are against it. We are exactly where we were fifteen years ago. I think the best shot is what you are talking about, kind of like what Boulevard and Rucker have done. Where Boulevard goes on all of Rucker's calls. It is a fairly simple thing, where everyone stays the same as they are and just respond. But it will turn into a screaming match if we bring this up and try and do a bunch of stuff from here."
- Chad Silk stated, "Did you bring it up at the Fire Council?"
- Jerry Brothers stated, "Yes"
- Chad Silk stated, "People are still against it?"
- Jerry Brothers stated, "100%"
- Chad Silk asked, "What are the reasons?"
- Jerry Brothers stated, "They have their district and that is their district, and we are taking care of it."
- Chad Silk stated, "So the pride thing?"
- Jerry Brothers stated, "I don't know if it so much pride it is this is my part of town, and I am taking care of it."
- Chad Silk stated, "I sense that was pride, I mean if we are going to have Boulevard take over Rucker which is obviously needed and awesome. Having one department and spending that amount of money to one department."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "Is this totally financial you're going after?"
- Chad Silk stated, "No this is so much more, so much more!"
- Jerry Brothers, stated, "Because the financial problem is the least amount."

- Chad Silk stated, "The least amount of what?"
- Jerry Brothers stated, "That should have any consideration."
- Chad Silk stated, "I think it would be a pretty more consideration if Boulevard wants a \$600,000.00 Truck encompasses and responds to and is consolidated with Rocker. It would have a little more teeth to it don't you think? Don't you think that training together as one department that big would have more teeth to it? The supervision under one person rather than two different Chiefs?"
- Jerry Brothers stated, "They are not going to do that."
- Chad Silk stated, "What I am saying Jerry doesn't it sound like it would make sense, not that it is just financial?"
- Jerry Brothers stated, " But that is what I asked you if we are going after financial, I don't think it makes a lot of sense."
- Chad Silk stated, "I gave you two other reasons on top of financial."
- Jerry Brothers stated, " On training and that you're talking about dividing up, your talking about taking two and having one total entity and that is not going to happen."
- Chad Silk stated, " Yes, but it would function better if it happened."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "There is a million places that things could function a lot better. But this is going to be one of things like this, we are just beating our heads and it is never going to happen."
- Chad Silk stated, "I think we are all in agreement we are beating our heads, but I thought what you said last meeting was we were closer than we have ever been?"
- Jerry Brothers stated, "We are, let me put it this way, volunteers and paid are closer than they have ever been ever before. If we open this hornets nest it is going to tear us apart again. That is right from the horse's mouth."
- John Sorich stated, "According to the County Attorney she has pretty much said if you don't have buy in it is not going to work."
- Zach Osborne stated, "These are questions I am asking you I am all for it and why do you think it is like this and why do you think money is the least important, because I am not seeing that."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "How much does it cost to run a department?"
- Zach Osborne stated, "37 Vehicles."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "No, no, how much does it cost to run a volunteer fire department?"
- Zach Osborne stated, "It depends how many vehicles."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "We need to find out what we would save before we can say it is financial."
- Zach Osborne stated, "Well it is a study, Jeff Miller it in 2005 it was going to be a savings. I don't see where you think it is the least concerning when it was going to be a savings. How could it not be, we are getting rid of vehicles, property tax, and stations and upkeep."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "But what is the cost?"
- Zach Osborne stated, "It was in the study in 2005, If you want to do a new study then I mean."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "What I am thinking is and I just grabbed \$30,000.00. I am guessing that. So, we have nine departments that is under \$300,000.00 a year we are spending on 140 volunteers?"
- Zach Osborne stated, "120."

- Jerry Brothers stated, "Out of almost a 5-million-dollar budget. \$300,000.00 is what we are going to try and save? We will not save that much if you were going to build new buildings and buying new equipment?"
- Chad Silk stated, "Up front cost to a long-term savings that is how it would work."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "Back then it made a whole lot more sense, because everyone's equipment was crap. Now, a lot of the equipment has been updated. I don't see where you are getting rid of an awful lot. If we get rid of equipment there goes our ISO."
- Chad Silk stated, "The reason the equipment got so bad was because there was not enough money to go around, until the grants came out, right? There was not enough money for Butte Silver Bow to buy those new engines. So, we are going to have that again. That is the reason for the plan."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "Yes"
- Chad Silk stated, "That is the reason for the plan is because consolidation would take years, so that don't happen again, and it would make it better. Consolidation would take years to do it right."
- Jerry Brothers asked, "What is a new building going to cost with the land and everything?"
- Chad Silk stated, "I couldn't even tell you Jerry."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "A million dollars?"
- Chad Silk stated, "This is stuff that everyone doesn't need to be hitting their head against the wall right now. Because until it is confirmed that we are going to go ahead and do it, that you guys want to do it, then that is the next step to figure out how much it would cost."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "You are saying the departments would be better, how are we going to draw more people, when we can't get anybody to try and join."
- Chad Silk stated, "If Floral Park can't get anybody to join and need help, Home Atherton and if Race Track were to do it to, you would be able to cover those 7 calls that happen in Floral Park's area and be able to get distributed amongst a whole other district. So, you wouldn't need extra people right here and now. Plus, the training of that group of people would be more consistent amongst those three departments than just one. If you just went to one department."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "I can tell you from the feedback I am getting they are not going to break themselves up."
- George Stone stated, "The one thing they mentioned was on the financial side, they may be willing to listen to it, if they had numbers on the financial side. Basically, other than what Jeff did in 2005, we really don't have an idea of the cost."
- Chad Silk stated, "Exactly, that amount of work to go into something that might not even happen for this committee to do that, is a lot of work, to where it could be just kicked to the curb. So that is where we were looking for the buy in first."
- George Stone stated, "They not willing to buy in unless they have some number to work with. To see whether the justification on the financial side for the county to save a lot of money. It may or may not, we don't know."
- Chad Silk stated, "So we are agreeing that financial is a big thing. Apparently, financial is a big thing!"
- George Stone stated, "It is definitely a concern."

- Jerry Brothers stated, "We are figuring we are not spending that much money. I am laying it right out there.
- John Sorich stated, "Your daily operating cost, but all together?"
- Joel Worth stated, "\$300,000.00 out of a \$5 million budget!"
- Jerry Brothers stated, "It has not gone up!"
- John Sorich stated, "Five years from now, when you are looking at a new truck."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "Alright."
- Lee Sullivan stated, "We are arguing over \$300,000.00 in a TIFID fund, that are requesting the needs of the department. That is quite a bit of money when you're breaking it down. You cannot state \$300,000.00 is not a lot of money.
- Jerry Brothers stated, "Okay, I don't want to get in a big pissing match on this stuff. Okay you got 39 of you guys, say you have 100 volunteers. Right now we are talking about \$300,000.00 and 4.5 million. I mean the odds is just like this ."
- Chad Silk stated, "Yes, but when 90% of our calls are not fires and we are running other things."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "We are a fire department, that is all we are."
- Chad Silk stated, "That is not all we are!"
- Jerry Brothers stated, "That is all we are."
- Chad Silk stated, "Exactly, \$300,000.00 is sounding pretty good. That you are only costing \$300,000.00. When, \$300,000.00 could buy a lot of other stuff. So, depending on what you are talking about, \$300,000.00 might be significant? Am I not? If we have \$300,000.00 to give a volunteer department to buy a new truck, then it is a big deal, isn't it?"
- Jerry Brothers stated, "I just really think we are looking in the wrong direction. I think there is a lot of other savings other places then going after the volunteers. I am not here to argue, please.
- Zach Osborne stated, "Do you have other examples of savings? Please share them with me."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "What are we going to save I mean, is it \$30,000.00 per department or is it \$50,000.00?"
- John Sorich stated, "I don't want to pick on anyone but, how about liability? How do you put a price tag on liability? Because of daytime hours you stated are really hard to cover."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "It is really hard to cover, and it is true isn't guys? When you guys call out, how many guys show up?"
- Chad Silk stated, "As many as we call back for, we don't stop calling until we get enough."
- Jerry Brother stated, "Alright, I will go the other way, how many guys do you call to come in?"
- Chad Silk stated, "The other day we had a call in Fairmont. I called in two. If we had a structure fire tonight, I am pretty sure my Battalion Chief will call in six."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "What I mean is how many people did you call before those two or before you got those six?" You guys have all got jobs too."
- Chad Silk stated, "Yes, kids, family!"
- Jerry Brother stated, "It is just as tough on your side as it is on ours."
- George stone stated, "that is not really fair, most career guys don't have side jobs necessarily. This is their full-time job."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "But we are volunteer."
- John Sorich asked Chad, "If he had researched any other consolidation plans?"
- Chad silk stated, "No, not really."

- George Stone stated, "Apparently, it can be done. It is in the State code of how to do it. How it has to be done."
- John Sorich stated, "We shouldn't be spending a lot of time on something that might happen."
- Zach Osborne stated, "Even if there is a might, it is worth having a conversation. I hate seeing people get all worked up over something that is just an idea of the future. I mean me and Diane see the budget every day. Honestly Jerry I would love \$300,000.00 extra a year. And that is only if no other volunteers ask for an engine. Because then, it is even more on some years. I would love to be able to buy Boulevard an engine, but it is \$600,000.00, that I have no idea."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "I don't want to make enemies. I just state where it is and what they gave me. What are we saving?"
- Zach Osborne stated, "I get what they gave you, I just have to shake my head without thinking these guys have to think some part of it has to be a decent idea. I mean, how does Butte have three time more pieces of apparatus than Billings?"
- Jerry Brothers stated, "Hold on for a second there, is there only three departments in Billings' County?"
- Chad Silk stated, "The city of Billings has 7 stations."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "How much money in the county? That is what we are talking here. We are not talking the city. This is a consolidation right now."
- Zach Osborne stated, "What is Billings' city taxpayers bringing in compared to Butte Silver Bow's consolidated government? Still, way more than what we're bringing in!"
- Jerry Brothers stated, "They have way more people!"
- Zach Osborne stated, "Yes and less apparatus."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "We are talking about the county too."
- Zach Osborne stated, "Yes! City and County."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "How many rigs do you have in your city fire departments?"
- Chris Mjelde stated, "Somewhere around twelve, plus or minus one."
- Zach Osborne and Lee Sullivan stated, "We have twelve and a Chief's rig, is thirteen."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "Okay thirteen and that includes the pickup also and there is thirty-seven all together."
- Zach Osborne stated, "Yes thirty-seven that we insure."
- George Stone stated, "That is only liability, correct? Is my understanding?"
- Zach Osborne stated, "It sure feels like more than liability."
- Diane Evankovich stated, "If you had a loan on some, it would have to be more than just liability I am assuming."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "So new engines that are not paid for are Big Butte?"
- Zach Osborne stated, "Big Butte and Engine 4."
- John Sorich stated, "Without getting into a lot of this discussion, one of the big things that sticks with me is we got different departments that we are paying for that only go on two or three calls a year, to me that is not efficient. That is not a good use of taxpayer's money, not a good use of funding, that is what bothers me."
- Chris Mjelde stated, "It is not safe either."

- Lee Sullivan stated, "I have a question for you (Jerry) when you guys are taking about numbers, the numbers of volunteer are going down is what I am assuming. What happens when you do not have enough? What has to be enough to stay? What happens if you don't have enough?"
- Jerry Brothers stated, "I honest to god have never been questioned that. We are fighting tooth and nail for everyone we can to get them trained and get them out there."
- Lee Sullivan stated, "I if it doesn't happen, then you will eventually not be able to run your calls. It seems it is not a matter of if, it is a matter of when. Just a question."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "I don't have an answer for you. It is not like it was years ago. In 1980, when I joined the Race Track, there was a waiting list and you had to be on the ball to even get in a department."
- John Sorich stated, "I believe back then Race Track did 30 – 40 calls a year didn't they? If not more?"
- Jerry Brothers stated, "Back then Volunteers did medicals also."
- Chris Mjelde stated, "If we can't change it, we can't change it."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "I am just letting you know that is just what is coming from my side, you guys know my feelings on it. I would have no problem whatsoever going on Floral Park calls if Home Atherton were to be notified. As far as joining the two together, there is going to be hard feelings, there is going to be fights and the trustees are not going to go for it, from the ones I have talked to. I have talked to about 18 different trustees, and they are all 100% against it."
- Chad Silk stated, "Why?"
- Jerry Brothers stated, "They say this is our district and we are taking care of our district."
- John Sorich stated, "The trustees are saying that, Jerry?"
- Jerry Brothers stated, "Most of the trustees are firemen or retired firemen."
- John Sorich stated, "Do you think they really know the numbers?"
- Jerry Brothers stated, "Which numbers are you asking?"
- John Sorich stated, "Departmental numbers."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "One more thing you have to look at, if we get rid of more volunteers, that means we will have to hire more firemen."
- Zach Osborne and Chris Mjelde stated, "We don't want to get rid of volunteers."
- Zach Osborne stated, "Is that the misunderstanding? That is not the goal, never should be the goal and should never even be said."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "That is what everybody hears. That they are trying to get rid of the volunteers."
- Zach Osborne stated, " Why don't you squash that for us when someone says that?"
- Jerry Brothers stated, "I try. The ISO is because how they are spaced. If you don't live within five miles of it. It is going to make an impact."
- John Sorich stated, "What does everyone think of tracking the number of calls each department has and how many people show up so we can actually see for sure and for discussing at these meetings?"
- George stone stated, "We have already done that."
- John Sorich stated, "But then we quit doing it for some reason."
- Joel Worth stated, "Here is my call sheet and roster for Boulevard. We had 21 members and 125 calls per year."

- Jerry Brothers stated, "Home Atherton has 17 members and 63 calls."
- Zach Osborne stated, "How many of those calls for both of you that were out of your district? You probably don't know it right off, but we know that you do and appreciate of it."
- Joel Worth stated, "We take a lot of calls in Rocker and other areas."
- Chris Mjelde stated, "That's a prime example that consolidation is happening."
- Zach Osborne stated, "Because Rocker's numbers, they vocally say they can't respond, so they ask you guys."
- Joel Worth stated, "Me personally would go to any call no matter where it was. I am not a chief of another department. I can't say what their feelings are for consolidation."
- Zach Osborne stated, " That comes back to what Mjelde's point was, it is happening to Rocker. They are not able to respond to the calls, so they are relying on another department. If Boulevard didn't have 21 guys, I guess what happens when there is not a Boulevard but the manpower to cover the other departments that aren't able to cover it. Then action I guess would have to take place with the taxpayers within the district. So, if they know the numbers and who is responding and who is not answering the calls but yet they are paying the taxes for that volunteer department to answer the call. So, we started tracking, it may take a couple of years but, we will get some solid data on the tracking."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "Any volunteer will go to any call where they are called to go. If you have one at Buxton and you what to, send the whole city."
- Chad Silk stated, "I don't think anyone questions that."
- George Stone stated, "I know in the past Jeff was having departments give you a monthly report of the calls and what they were, we have had no direction on that."
- Zach Osborne stated, "We can get back to that, Boulevard sends me their yearly call volume. That is the only one I have received."
- George Stone stated, "I haven't done one."
- Zach Osborne stated, "So maybe that is something we can start doing."
- George Stone stated, "I know something that is reported in the past what was reported in your system is not necessarily what is happening on the volunteer side."
- Zach Osborne stated, "We go off the dispatch system CAD, so we know who was dispatched and what district that it is in."
- George Stone stated, "He knows there are some inaccuracies in the past."
- Chad Silk stated, "Like mutual aid?"
- Jerry Brothers stated, "The other night we got called out to the Rodeo grounds on Albany, there was three of us in our truck, but I still had three at the department getting ready to come in the tender and we got cancelled. Engine 2 cancelled us on the way out. So, you would not know how many men we got going on the report."
- Zach Osborne stated, "That would not be necessarily what we would be tracking, the number of men. We are tracking if you have the manpower to fill a truck and if you were responding to the call in your district or if you're responding to a district outside of your district or helping a district who hasn't responded, or you have a mutual agreement with Rocker or Basin Creek or whoever. We are not tracking your men."
- John Sorich stated, "If we are tracking who goes where, what department, how many calls uptown or downtown wherever. That would really aid in the consolidation and tell us where

consolidation should really happen. It would not be a lot of money or time to do it. You would already have the information. It would have a plethora of information and it would all make sense to have the data.

- Jerry Brothers stated, "I have not sent anything in for five years. We do our yearly reporting to the State."
- Chris Mjelde stated, "For reasons other than consolidation, it just would be good to know where the call volume is at. All departments, for insurance, economic development or whatever, where these calls are happening in a geographic area."
- Joel Worth stated, "When you are paying taxes on your house, does your taxes go up or down whether the distance from a fire department?"
- Several commented, "No."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "Yes, insurance does anything over five miles."
- George Stone stated, "It is five, seven or eight depending on the insurance company, I think."
- Chris Mjelde stated, "There are multiple factors."
- Chad Silk stated, "There are multiple factors for an ISO rating: in hydrated area compared to a non-hydrated area, outside an area ten to five miles closest to a fire station, there is a lot that goes into it. The flow of the water system, the dispatchers, it is all incorporated in the ISO rating."
- John Sorich stated, "So we will start tracking the calls for the meeting?"
- George Stone stated, "You need to make a formal request for the tracking of the calls."
- John Sorich stated, "We can make a motion to request to have the Director of Fire Services to report the call volumes monthly to the Fire Advisory meetings that would be on the agenda every month since the Director is not on the committee."
- Joel Worth stated, "Do you want them monthly or quarterly?"
- Zach Osborne stated, "If I have to report to the Fire Advisory meeting it would have to be monthly."
- George Stone stated, "I am not in favor of the monthly paperwork guy, I do couple months at a time."
- John Sorich stated, "Well do we report quarterly then?"
- George Stone stated, "I think that is what we have done in the past is more of a quarterly deal."
- Zach Osborne stated, "Lee made a good suggestion, with our dispatching system and reporting system we can track the fire districts, and which calls they are responding to and not responding to. The only thing we don't know, as Lee said, is if you are going on a mutual aid."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "That still goes through dispatch."
- Lee Sullivan stated, "But usually we are not writing a report out of county in the computer. On the system we don't have some type of play in the game I am not sure if we would write it up."
- George Stone stated, "They could track out of county mutual aid then."
- John Sorich stated he is surprised that it doesn't show you how many show up to how many responds.
- Lee Sullivan stated, "It doesn't show anything like that unless you guys submit that."
- Chris Mjelde stated, "We track how many we send and who we send."
- George Stone stated, "I don't think that is a good plan. The reason I don't is that it goes right to, that provides justification to everybody going. Well, they are basing their financing on what we

get based on the number of people. You're trying to get them together that is just going to make them split apart. They will not provide that information anyway at that point."

- Zach Osborne stated, "The Chiefs are not going to provide?"
- George Stone stated, "I don't think so. It is more incentive for them not to. My thinking on it."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "When I am in the truck I try and tell how many are in the truck. You know 'Home Atherton pumper responding with three or four.'"
- Chris Mjelde stated, "You do, do that. At least we know what's coming."
- Lee Sullivan stated, "At least the call volume tracking should help everyone."
- George Stone stated, "On our report, we try and track on our written report, we were not ever reporting that to Jeff, we put it on our written internal report how many career and volunteer firefighters, departments and apparatus are there."
- Chris Mjelde stated, "For insurance reasons, you don't have to record whose there? I just think that would be information we would want for insurance purposes if someone was to get hurt for example. If they were on this call or not."
- George Stone stated, "Isn't this part of incident command they have accountability on them?"
- Chad Silk stated, "It says in the SOPs for the volunteers, that the Chiefs of the volunteer departments will keep track of the volunteer members and will supply to the incident commander who is on scene."
- George Stone stated, "Right, it is not necessarily in the past been written down in our report. A lot of times for us it is just our tender responding anyway, there would only be one or two people they would be in charge of that."
- Lee Sullivan stated, "You don't think they would be willing to track their guys?"
- George Stone stated, "I think they will or do. I don't know if everyone is documenting it and writing it down. I don't know."
- Zach Osborne stated, "I know we don't, but I can ask the Chiefs to be doing it and sending me the reports."
- George Stone stated, "I don't know what kind of response you will be getting out of that; I am not really certain? All Jeff asked for is the number of calls and where the call was to."
- Zach Osborne stated, "I didn't take this Chief's job because I am power hungry. If I am the Chief of the whole county and I ask." (Cut off by George)
- George Stone stated, "You're not you are the Director of Fire Services that is different."
- Zach Osborne stated, "Yes, your TIFID request sorry, not that I am doing that but if you ask me for stuff." (Cut off by George)
- George Stone stated, "That is what the Director of Fire Services is, is the financial side, by the charter, that is what the charter specifies is that what the director of fire services was for. The Chief and then, later on, that was a separate person initially. Then quite a few years back they combined them where the chief and the paid department was also the Director of Fire Services. Initially it was a separate person, actually that person was up in the courthouse in the Director of Finance office."
- John Sorich stated, "Getting back to building an accurate data base, it has to be accurate, and I believe the manpower has to be part of it. If you got five firemen that show up and you are paying \$10,000.00 a year and only 5 firemen showing up, it changes those numbers dramatically. Does it make sense to have those five firemen for \$10,000.00-\$20,000.00 a year?"

Probably not. Another five firemen over here. Does it make sense to consolidate these two and have 10 in one building? You have to have accurate information.”

- Jerry Brothers stated, “Doesn’t Walkerville and Centerville run together now, are they combined? If one gets notified the other one gets automatically get notified?”
- Chris Mjelde stated, “It is a mutual agreement.”
- Joel Worth stated, “I know in our department, I am not the chief, and I don’t know what he does with them but he has a booklet that is a standard sheet. Which fire call, the number of fire call it was, the address of what it was, who were the responding, how many guys for Boulevard, how many guys for the paid department, how many others responded. We fill those out after every fire call.”
- Zach Osborne stated, “Which is great for data and great for reporting to cover if someone gets hurt, just like they said.”
- Joel Worth stated, “I thought those were turned in anyway.”
- Jerry Brothers stated, “They go to the State. Everybody does them.”
- Chad Silk stated, “Is there any way you can just copy and paste that and give it to the Chief?”
- Jerry Brothers stated, “We just got the internet, so.”
- Joel Worth stated, “Each fire call we do that sheet for the State and then we have a notebook we do the same thing in the notebook for our own personal records. Because when I go through to do the grant, I have years of those to go through and count each fire call, what it was, what class it was, we have records of all that stuff.”
- George stone stated, “You don’t have to report who showed up do you?”
- Joel Worth stated, “Yes on the state one yes, it states which trucks we took, who else was on there and what trucks they took. So, like we put engine 4 for the city and if your guys came whatever you brought and number and how many guys you had. It is all listed.”
- Chris Mjelde stated, “I just think on the liability if someone was to get hurt and if there was a vehicle wreck or something, there should be tracked who is going to these events.”
- Joel Worth stated, “I know Grady does a good job at taking care of everything that needs to be taking care of.”
- Chad Silk stated, “Grady does do a good job, I was there 15 years ago, and he was doing it.”
- John Sorich stated, “Race Track does it to, right there by the phone.”
- Jerry Brothers stated, “We do that too. Grady goes above and beyond.”
- Jerry Brothers stated, “Another thing came up under old business last month. We were talking about liability, who’s covered, when they are covered. To everyone I have talked to, none of the volunteers have been in wrecks. As far as how we are covered under workers comp and under the city’s insurance. We are covered from the time our pager goes off until we are back into the barn for a half an hour. The reason for the half an hour, that is normally when firemen have heart attacks is after the fire. If we are doing something illegal, we are not covered anyway. Such as running a stop light, running a stop sign, going seventy miles an hour.
- Zach Osborne stated, “What happens when your pager goes off and you are taking your personal vehicle covered.”
- Jerry Brothers stated, “Yes, from the time the pager goes off we are covered to the scene to where we are going.”
- Chris Mjelde asked, “Where did you get the information?”

- Jerry Brothers stated, "Basically though the Fire Council and I didn't go any further because that sounds pretty sensible to me. If you are stealing in a fire and fall down the stairs you will not be covered.(laughing). Volunteers have been pretty trouble free as far as that goes. "
- Chris Mjelde asked, "Is the Fire council getting this information from an insurance company, just asking?"
- Jerry Brothers stated, "It sounded pretty sensible to me. That is as far as I went. That is from the old Chiefs' holding the discussions."
- John Sorich stated, "I am surprised personal vehicles are insured."
- Jerry Brothers stated, "I am sure that is going to be a fine line, but we are responding to a fire. It is the same as you guys getting called back or out for work. You need to be sensible; I try and enforce this all I can. Training is a lot better; all my guys yearly go through the State driving school. I recommend to all volunteers and paid fireman that you do that every year, because if you ever get in an accident that is the first place they will look. What training do you have?"

7. NEW BUSINESS

- George Stone made a motion to request the Director of Fire Services to provide data updates on the fire volume calls on a quarterly basis to the Fire Advisory Committee, Chad Silk seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- Introduction of Lee Sullivan, BSB Career Fire Dept.
- Introduction to Justine Fortune, BSB Commissioner
- John Sorich stated, "We had our first date of department tours. We did tour the Race Track and Boulevard Departments and we really didn't go to station #2. We determined we didn't have a great turnout of the committee who should have been there. So, we have postponed the tours until further notice, until we get a chairman and a full membership."
- Zach Osborne stated, "Still a good idea for the Commissioners to see it and resume the tours."

TIFID

- Verified all Departments submitted their requests to the Fire Chief by 1/27/22.
- Handed out copies of the TIFID requests to all in attendance.
 - Diane will need to email the additional 2 requests from Butte Fire Department that didn't get copied and the second page of the requests from Big Butte and Terra Verde to help explain requests. (Done on 2/2/22)
 - Jerry Brothers stated, "Some of the quotes many have a different pricing if/when approved."
 - John Sorich stated, "Should we take requests home to review? The next meeting will be solely reviewing TIFID requests only."
 - Volunteer Chiefs will not be invited to March 1, 2022, meeting.
 - Zach Osborne asked, John Sorich what is the next step to get you on the committee? Do you have to go through the Council with your request?"
 - John Sorich stated, "The next step will be the Chief Executive will appoint me to the Fire Advisory Committee. The appointment will have to be put on the agenda .
 - Justine Fortune stated, "We could have it done by next meeting."

8. Jerry Brothers made a motion to adjourn, George Stone seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 P.M. The Next Fire Advisory Committee meeting date is March 1, 2022, IT Conference Room 203.