



**South Beach Regional Fire Authority, PO Box 1195, Westport, WA 98595**



**GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Thursday, April 9, 2026-5:00 PM**  
**708 S Englewood Lane, Westport, WA 98595**

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**Call Meeting to Order:**

The South Beach Regional Fire Authority Governance Board Meeting was called to order by Board Chairperson Alfred Schroeder representing Commissioner District Four at 5:00 PM. In attendance were the following Board Members: Alfred Schroeder representing Commissioner District Four, David McLellan, Vice Chairman representing Commissioner District Three, Sam Schlegel representing Commissioner District Five, Tom Bearden representing District Two. Tom Aronson representing District One was absent. Fire Chief Daryl Brown, Assistant Fire Chief David Uhler, Administrative Assistant's Diane McNett and Teresa Hart present.

**Audience:**

Dennis Benn Volunteer-SBRFA, PJ Benoit EMT FF-SBRFA, Jake Finnigan EMT FF-SBRFA, Coleena Curry PIO-SBRFA present. Jo Ann Bearden, Westport Resident, was also present.

**Flag Salute:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Agenda Modifications:**

Agenda modifications were the payroll total for 04-01-2026 through 04-30-2026: \$225,335.96 and Vouchers 2026-135 through 2026-181 totaling \$81,926.29. 13b. Generac Grant, 13c. Time Delay-Resolution. 14a. Yearly election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman. 14b. Resolution 2026-400 and 14c. Kenwood radio purchase.

**Announcements, Proclamations, Presentations:**

None.

**Public Comments:**

None.

**Consent Agenda:**

- a. **Approval of Governance Minutes Meeting March 12, 2026:** David McLellan made a motion to approve March 12, 2026, minutes as written. Motion seconded by Sam Schlegel. Motion carried.
- b. **Approval of Payroll 04-01-2026 through 04-30-2026 totaling \$225,335.96:** Tom Bearden made a motion to approve the payroll from 04-01-2026 through 04-30-2026 in the amount of \$225,335.96. Motion seconded by Sam Schlegel. Motion carried.
- c. **Approval of Voucher 2026-135 through Voucher 2026-181 totaling \$81,926.29:** David McLellan made a motion to approve Voucher 2026-135 through Voucher 2026-181 totaling \$81,926.29. Motion seconded by Sam Schlegel. Motion carried.

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**SIGNING OF VOUCHERS:** Board members signed the vouchers.

### **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:**

Commissioner District One Tom Aronson: Absent.

Commissioner District Two Tom Bearden: No report.

Commissioner District Three David McLellan: No report.

Commissioner District Four Fred Schroeder: No report.

Commissioner District Five Sam Schlegel: No report.

### **CHIEF'S REPORT:**

#### **Chief Daryl Brown:**

**Resolution Consideration:** Chief Brown stated that he would be presenting Resolution 2026-400 for the board's consideration in new business during today's agenda. With respect to the direction given to Chief Brown on March 12, 2026, session he met with our architectural design group, our bond advisory counsel and our public affairs advisory group and have arrived at a \$10M request for a new home for the South Beach Regional Fire Authority. In order to meet the deadlines for Grays Harbor and Pacific County Elections we will need to submit this on or before May 1, 2026, for the August 4, 2026, election date. Our preference would be to submit this request as early as possible to secure consideration. We respectfully request your review and consideration of Resolution 2026-400.

**Audit Update:** We believe we have provided final documents requested. We are scheduled for a Q & A meeting with the audit supervisor in preparation for our audit close out on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Generac Project:** We have received our draft contract for our project. Once accepted, I believe we may begin our project. Later under old business Chief Brown will be requesting a motion to approve Chief to enter into a contract with the Department of Commerce moving forward.

**McNeal Insurance Evaluation:** Chief Brown participated in our "Risk Management Assessment" in late March. We received zero (0) Critical findings and a handful of recommendations. Many are policy recommendations that BC Uhler and Chief Brown will be reviewing.

**March 25, 2026:** An open-to-all department meeting was held on March 25, 2026. There was updated fire station progress along with reviewing 1<sup>st</sup> quarter call data, pointing out our areas of improvement gained and areas to work on.

**Acquired Kenwood portable radios:** Chief Brown noted that he was officially notifying the board of the purchase of 20 P25 compliant radios. Based on the policy noting Chief Brown's limit of spending, a motion was requested for the board's approval of an expenditure of \$8,840.00. The call for a motion will be made under New Business C.

**March Call Statistics:** Distributed was a pie chart which detailed the incident calls for the month of March 2026. 113 incidents, 83 EMS calls, 7 Fire calls, and 23 other non-specified calls.

### **ASSISTANT CHIEF'S REPORT:**

- On April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026, SBRFA hosted approximately 50 South Beach area children and their families for our Holiday Egg Search and Rescue event. We held the event here at the Administration station from noon until 2pm.

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- Our next event will be Hot Wheels racing at our Training Center at 805 SR 105, Westport, WA 98595 on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026, from noon to 1:30pm. We invite all our community members to come and race with us.
- We are in the final stretch of the Washington State Patrol Regional Direct Delivery Grays Harbor Fire Academy. We will be conducting our Live Fire testing on April 25<sup>th</sup> and Firefighters 1 Practical Skills testing on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Graduation will be held on May 16, 2026.
- We will be partnering with several agencies across Grays Harbor to conduct our Wildland Firefighter 2 Field Day on May 9<sup>th</sup>. We expect that day to be training for certification over 50 candidates who will become Wildland Type 2 Firefighters.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS: BOARD FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER REPORT:** The Board for Volunteer Firefighter met at 4:30pm with no new or old business.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

None.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- a. **Approval of Commissioner Timecards:** David McLellan made a motion to approve the commissioner timecards as presented for payment. Motion seconded by Tom Bearden. Motion carried.
- b. **Generac Generator Grant-Department of Commerce-Chief Brown needs authorization to sign on SBRFA's behalf:** Tom Bearden made a motion to approve Chief Brown's request to be the designated signor for the Generac Generator Grant received from the Department of Commerce. Motion seconded by Sam Schlegel. Motion carried.
- c. **Time delay-Resolution 2026-200 and 2026-300 at Grays Harbor County:** Teresa Hart, Administrative Assistant, noted that the County had misplaced the Resolution request we had signed and approved at the March meeting. The Resolutions have been completed now and all funds have been correctly transferred to the appropriate accounts.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. **Yearly election of Chairman and Vice Chairman:** The election has been postponed due to the absence of Tom Aronson, Commissioner District One.
- b. **Resolution 2026-400 Bond Measure for New Station-August Election:** BC Uhler stated "we recognize the gravity and magnitude of this ask from our community and it is certainly not a request that we take lightly. This is our best-informed estimate and is advising our funding request. We are asking voters for a \$10M bond on August 4, 2026, primary election to fund the renovations. The 25-year bond would cost \$0.37 per \$1,000 of assessed property values, approximately \$10.79 per month for a \$350,000 home. A bond ensures second homeowners, who are not full-time residents, share the cost fairly and help maintain the fire authority's risk rating, which affects homeowner insurance premiums. Thank you for your consideration."

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Tom Bearden stated that this is a reasonable course of action that needs to be done at this time, this is our best time. Tom Bearden made a motion to move forward with a \$10M Bond to be presented to the voters on August 4, 2026, primary election to fund a new fire department building at 708 S Englewood Lane, Westport, WA 98595. Chairman Schroeder called for the vote with the vote finalized with the following yes to proceed: Sam Schlegel, Tom Bearden, Fred Schroeder voted yes, David McLellan abstained and Tom Aronson was not present to vote. Motion passed. AC Uhler stated: "Thank you Commissioners our work starts now!"

- c. **Kenwood radio purchase:** Previously Chief Brown had discussed the Kenwood radio purchase within his Chief's report. The actual cost exceeded Chief Brown's \$5,000 limit without prior approval by the board, so a motion is needed to finalize the cost of the radios. David McLellan made a motion to approve the expenditure of \$8,840 for 20 P25 portable radios. Motion seconded by Tom Bearden. Motion carried.

**NEXT MEETING:**

**May 14, 2026-4:30pm Board for Volunteer Firefighters Board**

**May 14, 2026-5:00pm South Beach Governance Board Meeting**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION-15 MINUTES FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING PERSONNEL. ACTION MAY OR MAY NOT BE TAKEN:** Tom Bearden made a motion to adjourn the meeting to an executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel, action may or may not be taken. Motion seconded by Sam Schlegel. Motion carried. The time was 5:25pm.

**BACK IN SESSION-TIME 5:40pm:** Chairman Schroeder called the meeting back to order at 5:40pm. No action was taken.

**ADJOURN:** Tom Bearden made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:41pm. Motion seconded by David McLellan. Motion carried.