

**Special Meeting of the North Blaine County Fire District in the Council
Chambers – 81 Elkhorn Road, Sun Valley, ID
September 24th, 2024, at 10:00 AM.**

[1. Call to Order.](#)

Chairman Gray called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. There were some technical difficulties getting started due to a power outage this morning.

[2. Public Comment.](#)

None.

[3. Approval of the September 24, 2024 Claims*.](#)

Commissioner Michael asked if the cost of our hose testing and new hose are standard? Chief Bauer says that our hose testing is a little late this year, but we are getting invoiced ahead of time so we stay on budget. We are also purchasing fire hose, and both costs have been budgeted for. Commissioner Michael mentions that we purchased two chainsaws for about \$3,000, and asked why they are so much expensive. Chief Bauer says that these are rescue specific chainsaws, designed specifically for their ability to cut through modern new construction roofs. This specialization makes them more expensive.

MOTION:

Commissioner Michael moved to approve the September 24th 2024 claims; seconded by Commissioner Engelmann. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: Chairman Gray, Commissioner Michael, Commissioner Engelmann

NAYS: None

[4. Review and potential approval of the Blaine County Emergency Communication Center FY 2025 Contract for Services*.](#)

Chairman Gray notes that on this contract, there are charges for the Cities and Fire Districts. He notes that the City of Ketchum is being charged \$123,301.19 and the North Blaine County Fire District is being charged \$9,964.10, is the charge not redundant since all of the District's firefighters are City of Sun Valley employees? Chief Robrahn explains that the costs were negotiated by elected officials from participating agencies, and calculations were based on call percentage. Because North Blaine County is its own entity that has its own calls, it also has its own contribution amount. This pay structure is what has been in place since dispatch has all been under one roof. Chairman Gray comments that we do pay a lot of things through our partnership with Sun Valley, and that's why he was asking.

Commissioner Michael says that looking at the figures in the contract, there is a shortfall of revenue. She does not understand how these numbers have been created. Chief Robrahn explains that Blaine County Communications has been operating in a budget deficit the past several years,

and also working towards full staffing, which is a minimum of two staff at a time. He anticipates conversations between the County Administrator, dispatch coordinators, and City Administrators to create a more sustainable long term plan. Commissioner Michael asked if they can raise fees per line, or is that based on state law? Chief Robrahn answers that it is based on state law.

MOTION:

Commissioner Michael moved to approve Blaine County Emergency Communication Center Contract for Services for Fiscal Year 2025; seconded by Commissioner Engelmann. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: Chairman Gray, Commissioner Michael, Commissioner Engelmann

NAYS: None

[5. Updates, discussion, and possible action regarding Greenhorn Housing Project*](#)

Commissioner Michael has asked Chief Bauer to write a thank you letter to the Reniers for their donation to the Greenhorn Housing Project. It would be great to have all Commissioners sign this letter. The Commissioners discuss the letter.

Chief Bauer says that we had our meeting with Blaine County P&Z regarding the berm at Greenhorn. The berm size was approved, and they actually increased the percentage of landscaping on the berm from 30% to 60%. Chief Bauer says that the plan for the landscaping is to continue moving forward with it, and they will hydroseed right before the first snow.

Chief Bauer notes that one of our septic lines was damaged during infrastructure work completed not in relation to the project. The damaged caused a backup into one of the new units. This happened on a Friday, and Jonathan Lunceford got it repaired just two days later. We are very thankful for everything he has done for the project; he has really gone above and beyond to help us with this. Chairman Gray heartily agrees, and thinks we should draft a thank you letter to him as well.

Greenhorn is looking really good; Webb repaired our irrigation lines at our original Greenhorn units, so the vegetation there is looking much better. The Greenhorn 100 units are coming along nicely as well. Jocelin will be taking Commissioners to see the renovated units after this meeting.

[6. Public Comment.](#)

None.

[10. Adjournment*](#)

MOTION

Commissioner Engelmann moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Commissioner Michael. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: Chairman Gray, Commissioner Engelmann, Commissioner Michael

NAYS: None.

Chairman Gray adjourned the meeting at 10:24 a.m.



Jed Gray, Chairman



Earl Engelmann, Secretary