

**BIG PINE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
February 17, 2026**

Loralee Mairs called a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Big Pine Fire Protection District to order at 6:30PM on February 17, 2026.

Commissioners present: Loralee Mairs, Pete Schlieker and Kerry Koontz. Brian Howard arrived at 7:01 PM.
Commissioners absent: Greg Bird

Chief Damon Carrington, Joanie Dixon, Paul Huette and Kevin Grevenkamp from the Big Pine Fire Department, Callie Peek and Matt Otten from the Big Pine Civic club, were also present.

Approval of the minutes on January 20, 2026
First: Kerry Koontz Second: Pete Schlieker All in favor.

Bills submitted for payment:

Ambulance Budget:

American Business Machines	29.05
Coppertop BBQ LLC (EMCC Meeting)	392.17
Hungry Pig In Big Pine - BP 76	0.00
Life Assist, INC	48.12
Life Assist, INC	92.81
Linde Gas & Equipment Inc.	186.49
VISA – Oak Valley Community Bank - #9652	0.00
VISA – Oak Valley Community Bank - #9611	0.00
VISA – Oak Valley Community Bank - #9660	0.00
VISA – Oak Valley Community Bank - #0866	290.00
WEX BANK – Chevron Credit Card	0.00
White Mountain Medical Training	1,000.00
TOTAL	\$2,038.64

Fire Budget:

Amazon	16.15
Amazon	81.81
Amazon	428.06
American Business Machines	29.06
AT&T Mobility	112.03
Big Pine CSD Water	135.23
Bishop Waste Disposal	37.44
Brown's Supply	14.53
Cross Connections (CalFire Grant #2)	2,899.92
Dave's Auto Parts	17.23
Dewey Pest Control	129.00
DWP – 058 590 8433 (Bldg. #3 Structure Bay) 585908433	.02
DWP – 181 600 0000 (Bldg. #1 Meeting Room) 1826000159	215.00
DWP – 281 600 0000 (Siren) 2816000xxx	46.65

DWP – 381 600 0000 (Bldg. #2 Wildland Bay) 3816000343	240.38
Eastern Sierra Propane	268.91
FailSafe Testing LLC	661.36
Frontier Communications – (760)938-2444	207.92
Frontier Communications – (706)938-2600	146.03
High Country Lumber	6.51
Hungry Pig In Big Pine - BP 76	106.04
LaserLight Engravers	158.56
LN Curtis	269.94
LN Curtis – CalFire Grant	18,274.40
Optimum	61.00
SCE	6.53
Streamline	209.30
Streamline - DocAccess	50.00
The Grasshopper	0.00
VISA – Oak Valley Community Bank - #9652	0.00
VISA – Oak Valley Community Bank - #9611	45.08
VISA – Oak Valley Community Bank - #9660	0.00
VISA – Oak Valley Community Bank - #0866	1,416.79
WEX BANK – Chevron Credit Card	160.65
TOTAL	\$26,451.53

Wildland Budget:

Hungry Pig In Big Pine- BP 76	0.00
VISA – Oak Valley Community Bank - #9652	141.45
VISA – Oak Valley Community Bank - #9611	0.00
VISA – Oak Valley Community Bank - #9660	0.00
VISA – Oak Valley Community Bank - #0866	2,500.00
WEX BANK – Chevron Credit Card	0.00
TOTAL	\$2,641.45

ACO Budget:

Troy Cauldwell Paint and Stucco	7,205.00
TOTAL	\$7,205.00

Total Expenditures: \$ 38,336.62

Income from Fire billing: \$0

Income from Amb billing: \$3,314.25

Income from Wildland: \$266,301.41

Fund Balances as of February 17, 2026

ACO \$293,692.00 Operating \$463,283.00 Amb \$141,745.00 Wildland \$894,709.00 TOTAL \$1,793,429.00

Motion to pay the bills submitted:

First: Pete Schlieker Second: Kerry Koontz All in favor

DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

Please note items were taken out of order.

- **Loan Resolution**
Final approval is needed to be made regarding the County Loan for the HME engine.
A motion was made to approve the Bridge loan not to exceed \$150,000.00
Motion for approval:
First: Kerry Koontz Second: Pete Schlieker All in favor.
- **Fund Transfer**
A motion was made to approve the transfer of \$210,000.00 from the Fire fund into the Wildland fund.
Motion for approval:
First: Kerry Koontz Second: Pete Schlieker All in favor.
- **SCBA Filling Machine**
A service technician came to check our current machine and found parts that needed to be replaced but because of the age of the machine the parts are no longer available. Chief Damon Carrington found a used one available for purchase for \$25,000.00. It has been fully refurbished and is in new condition. Upon delivery the electrician will be contacted. The company delivering the new one will take the old, at no cost. A motion was made to purchase the SCBA filling machine not to exceed \$35,000.00 which will include electrical cost to complete project.
Motion for approval:
First: Pete Schlieker Second: Kerry Koontz All in favor.
- **Amend Final Cost of HME Engine**
The final cost for the HME engine needs to be amended from \$581,481.50 to \$581,781.50.
A motion was made to approve the increase in cost of \$300.00 for the HME engine for a final cost of \$581,781.50.
Motion for approval:
First: Kerry Koontz Second: Pete Schlieker All in favor.
- **Appointment of Board Chairmen**
A motion was made to appoint Lorelee Mairs Board Chairmen.
Motion for approval:
First: Kerry Koontz Second: Brian Howard All in favor.
- **Battalion Chief Job Description**
For clarification of this position, past and future references made stating Battalion Chief will now be referred to as Deputy Fire Chief.
After reviewing the job description, board member Brian Howard expressed concerns regarding the on-call schedule as well as the absence of a termination policy. Discussion was had with Chief Damon Carrington who clarified the on-call schedule. A termination policy was discussed and will be added to job description. Final review will be at the March meeting.
A motion was made to amend the job description for Deputy Fire Chief to include a termination policy.
Motion for approval:
First: Brian Howard Second: Pete Schlieker All in favor

REPORTS

Update from the Chief

- At the last Big Pine Civic Club meeting the Firefighters with the Big Pine Fire Department were voted Citizens of the year. A plaque as well as challenge coins were presented. Several members of the Fire Department were able to attend the meeting to accept this honor.
- We received the last Wildland reimbursement payment for this past fire season. All wildland funds have been received.
- The radio replacement batteries were ordered. All the radios have been switched out except for the one on engine #6 because that engine will be replaced with the new HME engine.
- All trucks are repaired and running.

- HME engine is in production. It is separated into two jobs, one being the box and the other the chassis and both are being worked on. We are hoping it will be done by May 7, 2026, and if that is the case the inspection of the engine will be on May 11,2026.
- There are no new updates on the new BME engine.
- Troy Cauldwell has completed the painting of the Fire House.
- Side x side was sent to the welder who installed a storage rack mounted on the top.
- The garage door on bay 1 is not closing all the way, Chief Damon Carrington contacted the repairmen.
- Truck 2318 had work done to install helmet holders as well as fog lights.
- Wildland training will start the 1st week of March and through April. On March 14th a training will be held at the Bernasconi camp.
- Currently two firefighters are taking the EMT class.
- Inyo County wants to re-bid for Emergency ambulance services. Bid is set to be held in either March or April.
- With the approaching storm, plenty of sandbags have been filled and are available at the Big Pine Fire Department.

Update from the Assistant Chief

- None.

Update from the Secretary Joanie Dixon

- Our true-up from GSRMA insurance for policy period 24-25 will have a contribution adjustment of \$5,624.00

Update from Commissioner Chairman Lorelee Mairs

- Greg Bird has expressed an interest in stepping down. Lorelee Mairs has been actively seeking interested individuals to fill his position.

PUBLIC

- None

Run Report

	MONTHLY TOTALS	
	Fire Calls	4
	Medical	13
	Fire & Medical	0
	Service Calls	0
	Training	4
	Misc.	0
	Good	0
	False	0
	Hazard	0
	Weather	0
	Explosion	0
	YEARLY TOTAL	53

There being no further business, a motion was made that the meeting be adjourned.

First: Brian Howard Seconded: Kerry Koontz All in favor.

Adjournment – Lorelee Mairs adjourned the meeting at 7:24PM

Submitted – Nicole West, Secretary