



Blue Ridge Fire District

PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL RETIREMENT SYSTEM LOCAL BOARD

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Happy Jack, Az 86024
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www.brfdaz.org

MINUTES of Board Meeting held March 27, 2026

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Mike Bourne called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Chuck Buddle	Present	Billy Chester	Present
Mike Bourne	Present	Brandon Sewell	Present
Judy Varns	Present	Chief Paine	Present

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chairperson Mike Bourne asked for a Motion to adopt the Agenda. Captain Sewell so moved; Judy Varns seconded the Motion. All voted yes.

The Motion passed.

5. OLD BUSINESS – NONE

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Chairperson Mike Bourne asked for a Motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of May 19, 2025. Chief Buddle so moved; Captain Sewell seconded the Motion. All voted yes.
The Motion passed.
- b. Discussion followed re: the PSPRS website moving to a new software program STARS. Secretary Beth Wise explained that there's been 18 Zoom training meetings beginning in October and completing March 26th. The current PSPRS website is not available for distributions and other financial information until the launch of STARS on April 13, 2026. At that time, all financial information shall be available in STARS. The Local Board section will have meeting minutes, Roster information, updates and secure messaging directly to PSPRS staff. The set up of user name & password for the Local Board Members will be established.



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A reminder from PSPRS training is that the Oath of Office is taken for every four-year term (within 10 days) as well as required Board training (within 180 days).

There was a brief discussion as to what will be available in STARS, especially pertaining to retired employees.

- c. Chairperson Bourne reviewed the latest Actuarial and Blue Ridge Fire District's unfunded liability is \$83.00 as of June 30, 2025.

The question of the Employer contribution rates to PSPRS were reviewed by Chief Paine. Tier 1 (Chief) increased to 20.68%; Tier 2 (Chester, B. Sewell, MacNeal & Sobel) increased to 23.68%; Tier 3 Hybrid (Chambliss) decreased to 12.77% and Tier 3 DC (M. Sewell) decreased to 11.89%.

There was a lengthy discussion re: term limits of the Local Board. After research, it was determined that Chief Buddle's term expires 10/31/2026; Captain Sewell's term expires 10/31/2028; BC Chester's term expires 10/31/2026; Judy Varns' term expires 10/31/2028.

The next PSPRS Local Board meeting is scheduled **September 17, 2026 at 11:30 am**. At this meeting, Chief Buddle shall be appointed and retake the Oath of Office.

7. Chairperson Mike Bourne asked for a Motion to Adjourn. Chief Buddle so moved; Captain Sewell seconded the Motion. All voted yes.

The Motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Respectively submitted:

Beth Wise, Secretary
PSPRS Local Board of Trustees