
**BIG BEAR FIRE AUTHORITY
MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING OF
February 6, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER

A Special Meeting of the Big Bear Fire Authority was called to order by Board Chair Rowe at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, February 6, 2026, at 41090 Big Bear Boulevard, Big Bear Lake, California.

Director Herrick, remoted in for the meeting, stated for the record that he could not be physically in attendance, due to providing child care for his minor grandchildren. He verified that no one over the age of 18 was in the room with him.

ROLL CALL

Present: Board Chair JoKay Rowe
Vice Chair Kendi Segovia
Director Rick Herrick (via Zoom)
Director Charles Hicks
Director Perri Melnick
Director Randall Putz
Director Bob Rowe
Director Larry Walsh
Director Al Ziegler

Absent: Director John Russo

Also Present: Luke Wagner, Fire Chief
Sherry Wentz, Interim Board Secretary
Nicholaus Norvell, Assistant Authority Counsel
Adriana Ochoa, Special Legal Counsel

PRESENTATIONS

Presentation by Citygate Associates on its Fire Services Review of the adequacy of fire services partnership, to include services delivered, operating and capital costs, cost apportionments, and governance under the Joint Powers Authority agreement. (PowerPoint presentation slides are available in the Fire Administrative Office).

Upon the conclusion of the presentation, Chair Rowe opened the floor to comments from the public.

The public offered no comments.

Board discussion ensued including an inquiry regarding the report being identified as a “preliminary” presentation, and the status of what remained to be completed.

Mr. Gary indicated all research has been completed, the report is finalized, and today's presentation was designed to present the essential facts of the report.

ACTION: On motion by Director Hicks, and second by Director Ziegler, the Board unanimously approved receiving and filing the presentation. Director Russo was absent.

Director Herrick requested clarification that today's meeting was to receive and file the Citygate presentation and that further discussion would be scheduled for the Board's next regular meeting.

Ms. Ochoa concurred that this was her understanding, having today's presentation would afford the Directors additional time to digest the information and to assist themselves in formulating options concerning the issues raised by Citygate regarding the Joint Powers Authority's agreement at the next Board meeting.

A point of order was raised by Director Herrick, as the item has been approved as a "received and file" could additional questions be raised?

Ms. Ochoa stated that as this is a single item agenda and that this item will be coming back on the next agenda, she saw no objection in allowing additional questions from the Directors at this time.

Discussion ensued regarding solicitation of proposals for services by other agencies; impacts to emergency resources by resorts; challenges in tracking use of services by residents, second owners, and visitors; the promotion and success of tourism's impacts on emergency services; and taxes and fee-based systems as revenue sources for services.

Ms. Ochoa asked if it was the pleasure of the Board to have Mr. Gary in attendance at the next meeting in connection with the continued discussion on this subject.

By consensus of those present, the Board concurred its support in having Mr. Gary available to response to questions at its next regular meeting.

Mr. Gary agreed to be in attendance.

ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Rowe adjourned the meeting at 11:24 a.m.



Sherry Wentz
Interim Board Secretary