



City of Beaver Dam, Wisconsin
Police and Fire Commission Meeting Minutes
Fire Department Training Room
205 S. Lincoln Avenue
Tuesday, February 10, 2026
5:00 PM

1) Call to Order – Roll Call

The February 10, 2026, Police and Fire Commission meeting was called to order at 5:00pm by President Thea O'Connor. Present were Bill Lafler, Rebecca Robbins, Mike Stephens. Also, present were Police Chief John Kreuziger, Fire Chief Mike Wesle and Lana Fassbender. Therese White was excused.

2) Approval of Minutes

- a) Review and take action on the approval of the January 13 meeting minutes.

Motion by Robbins to approve the January 13 meeting minutes, second by Lafler. Motion carried by acclamation.

3) Presentations & Reports

- a) Mayor/City Administrator's comments

City Administrator — Work continues on the salary study. He encouraged the PFC members to attend the Council meeting on February 16th.

Mayor — The council is considering another data center called the Edge Data Center. This is still in the fact-gathering stage. Also, the city's HR Specialist started last week.

- b) Presentation from Lt. Smedema on the Detective division.

This was tabled for another meeting.

4) Fire Department Business

- a) Update commission on the operations of the Fire Department

- Chief recapped a few items on the activities list. Of note, the county is giving \$10,000 for water rescue funding to the county chief's association, who will then determine how to spend the funding. If BDFD wants funding, we need to request it from the association.
- Jesus Alcantara started a few months ago. Joey Chiucholo started as a full-time firefighter/EMT yesterday. He is in an accelerated paramedic program. He was hired from the POC ranks.
- A second conditional offer was sent to another full-time firefighter/paramedic. The start date would be after April 1st. A final interview for another candidate is this Friday.
- All the computers for CAD are in house, still ordering final components for the installation.
- We received \$79,133.05 from the state's Funding Assistance Program for EMS equipment and training. We purchased 37 tech-rescue coats, about \$25,000 on the

cardiac monitor replacement program and a Lucas chest compression system from this fund last year.

- We are hosting educational speaker/retired paramedic Bob Page two days this week to teach EMT topics. This will give our EMTs 12 CEUs.
- We will begin inventorying our equipment.
- A controlled training burn will be done on a house that the city owns which needs to come down, on March 28th.
- Former Chief Del Yaroch passed away. His funeral will be Feb. 20th.
- Our new ladder truck was published in Fire Apparatus magazine after an interview with both himself and Captain Wesley Jahnke. It was also featured on Seagrave's 2026 calendar. Brett Rahmberg was a big help to make these two articles happen.

b) Discussion and action on the Five Bugles Facility Study and Staffing recommendations.

The chief gave an overview of the facility study and staffing recommendations. Motion by Robbins to recommend to the City Council that the commission recommends pursuing the two-station scenario with a staffing increase of 6 full-time employees, seconded by Lafler. Motion carried by acclamation. O'Connor will create a recommendation letter to give to the council members.

c) Discuss the fire department promotional process and present the results of a recent process. No action needed.

Based on the anticipation of Lt. Joshua Coffey remaining as the full-time fire inspector, a promotional process was held to create a lieutenant eligibility list. The chief explained this promotional process. Four candidates went through this process. Kyle Neumann finished in first place and if Lt. Coffey accepts the inspector position, the chief will bring Kyle's name to the next PFC meeting for approval.

d) Distribute fire department job descriptions. No action needed.

Job descriptions were handed out.

5) Police Department Business

a) Update commission on the operations of the Police Department

- While reviewing the calendar, the chief explained what the sex offender meeting was about.
- Two major cases are going on within the department. One is the missing person case and one is a burglary of over a million dollars. The chief is fully convinced that this case was solved by the Flock camera system.
- He shared 2025 stats on K-9s Boomer and Murph. Based on these stats, he and the deputy chief gave both K-9 handlers feedback and suggestions.
- 2025 overtime was analyzed and computed onto a spreadsheet. The top reason overtime was generated was being short-staffed on shift 2, the second biggest reason was due to training and the third reason was due to being short-staffed on shift 3.
- The co-responder position is going very well and has received good feedback. They are considering other ways she can be utilized to better help both the department and the community. Mayor Marck questioned if there are plans to keep this position.

The chief explained he wants to make sure it continues to go well, and then he wants to approach the county to ask about their plans to sustain this position. The mayor wants to know how it progresses in the event the city also needs to consider funds for this position.

- The chief reported that the department does not have authority to enforce federal immigration laws and does not participate in ICE operations unless there is a judge-issued warrant or a safety concern. BDPD's role is limited to local criminal matters. Immigration status is not considered in arrests, and any ICE-related actions after an arrest are handled by the Sheriff's Office.
- He shared a thank-you card from Sophia Franklin's parents. This was a perfect example showing how our officers matter!
- His officers demonstrated The Wrap system at the jail and this convinced them to purchase their own now.
- The PD had extra patrol at a recent council meeting where there were extra community members due to the data center topic.
- FBI-Leeds, a national magazine, published a story based on the downtown fest.

b) Discuss and take action on the Police Department job descriptions.

These were distributed last month. Motion by Lafler to approve the job descriptions as written, seconded by Stephens. Motion carried by acclamation. Chief will get president O'Connor's signature on these, and he will sign and will get these to the HR Specialist.

c) Discuss and take action on the Police Chief attending the International Association of Police Chiefs Conference in Florida in October 2026.

Motion by Stephens to allow the police chief to attend the International Association of Police Chiefs Conference in Florida in October, seconded by Robbins. Motion carried by acclamation.

d) Discuss and take action on removing Patrol Officer Teschner from probationary status.

Chief shared Officer Teschner's supervisor's letter of recommendation and an email thanking the department for his actions on a particular call. Motion by Robbins to move Patrol Officer Teschner from probationary to regular status, seconded by Lafler. Motion carried by acclamation.

6) Any Other Business for Placement on Future Agenda

None

7) Closed Session

a) The Commission may meet in closed session, pursuant to Wis. Stat. Sec 19.85(1)(c), for the purpose of evaluating the performance of a police department employee.

Motion by Lafler to enter into closed session for the purpose of evaluating the performance of a police department employee, seconded by Stephens. Motion carried by voice vote, Stephens-aye, Lafler-aye, Robb-aye and O'Connor-aye. The Commission entered into closed session at 6:37pm. Discussion was had with respect for the subject matter for which closed session was noticed.

- b) Commission may reconvene in open session to act upon any/all items discussed or deliberated during closed session.

Members reconvened into open session.

Motion by Lafler to remove officers, as presented by Chief Kreuziger, from probationary status, seconded by Stephens. Motion carried by acclamation.

Motion by Robbins to approve the termination of Officer Savannah Barten, seconded by Lafler. Motion carried by acclamation.

- 8) Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Stephens, seconded by Lafler. Motion carried by acclamation. Meeting ended at 6:50 pm.