



City of Beaver Dam, Wisconsin
Police and Fire Commission Meeting Minutes
Fire Department Training Room
205 S. Lincoln Avenue
Tuesday, May 12, 2026
5:00 PM

1) Call to Order – Roll Call

The meeting of the Police and Fire Commission was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by President Thea O'Connor. Present were commission members, Bill Lafler, Mike Stephens, Therese White, and Rebecca Robbins.

a) Introduction of Public Safety Administrative Specialist, Amelia Hinn.

Chief Kreuzinger introduced Amelia Hinn. Amelia gave a brief introduction of herself and the commission members welcomed her.

b) Election of Officers

- President O'Connor asked for nominations for President. Robbins nominated Thea O'Connor for President. O'Connor asked a second time for any nominations for President; no other nominations came forward. O'Connor asked a third time for any nominations for President; no other nominations came forward. Motion by Robbins to elect O'Connor to be President, seconded by White. Motion carried by voice vote: Stephens-aye, Robbins-aye, Lafler-aye, White-aye.
- O'Connor asked for nominations for Vice President. Lafler nominated Mike Stephens for Vice President. O'Connor asked a second time for any nominations for Vice President; no other nominations came forward. O'Connor asked a third time for any nominations for Vice President; no other nominations came forward. Motion by Robbins to elect Mike Stephens to be Vice President, seconded by Lafler. Motion carried by voice vote: O'Connor-aye, Robbins-aye, Lafler-aye, White-aye.
- President O'Connor appointed Rebecca Robbins as Secretary.

2) Approval of Minutes

a) Review and take action on the approval of the April 14, 2026 meeting minutes.

Motion by Robbins to approve the April 14, meeting minutes. Seconded by White. Motion carried by acclamation.

3) Presentations & Reports

a) Mayor or City Administrator's comments

City Administrator, Larry Bielke, gave an update on city operations relative to the police and fire departments.

- The League of Municipalities training for Police and Fire Commissions is being

rescheduled for Spring 2026.

- Open negotiations for Police and Fire contracts have commenced.
- Sixteen city employees were identified as being below the minimum comparable rate; pay adjustments and back pay (to January) are being processed.
 - An RFP for a consultant to create a wage grid for non-represented employees is finalized; public release is expected around June 1st.
 - Discussion was held regarding whether to include Police and Fire represented employees in the new consultant study; the Commission opted to keep it "open" for comparison.

4) Fire Department Business

a) Update commission on the operations of the Fire Department

- Caleb Roy has completed the Recruit Academy and will be counted as minimum staff soon.
- Charlie Bau is scheduled to retire in August 2026.
- Our most recent full-time candidate failed the background process; the department is moving to the next candidate on the list.
- POC applications are being accepted until June 12 with the intention to start new candidates in August.
- Had a meeting with the County about CAD. The next steps are narrowing down the permissions, login access and accountability, set-up and training.
- The department does a 16-hour annual EMS training cycle (totaling 60 hours over 3 years) to improve retention and budget stability.
- MSA is handling property acquisition on South Center Street.
- Five Bugles and the city attorneys continue to revise the station design contract.
- Senator Baldwin has submitted a request for \$7.5 million in congressional appropriations for the station project.
- 2027 Capital requests include:
 - Equipment for the new engine, which, after grants and the Township's portions are accounted for, will be \$54,000 - \$56,000.
 - A 3/4 ton pickup with a service body.
 - Station funding including acquisition fees.
 - Increasing staffing by 2 to build up to the 6 needed with the expansion to a second station.
 - O'Connor noted that all of these requests need to be brought to the PFC for approval before they go to the city. She would also like the projected wages for both police and fire based on the new wage system.
- Secured funding via grants from United Way (\$5k for Cadet's gear), Generac (\$10k for extraction tools), United Cooperative (\$1k), and Piggly Wiggly (\$2.3k).
- The department hosted the ICS 400 training.
- A collective bargaining contract meeting will be held May 26
- Lafler thanked the Fire Department on behalf of himself and his neighbors for their response to the gas line strike stating they were very appreciative.

b) Discuss and take action on accepting the resignation of POC Firefighter/EMT Sophie

Willihnganz effective June 1, 2026.

Motion by Lafler to accept the resignation of POC/EMT Sophie Willihnganz, effective June 1, 2026. Second by White. Motion carried by acclamation. Chief noted this resignation is being accepted with regret and that Sophie will be moving to Baltimore for her residency at The Johns Hopkins Hospital.

5) Police Department Business

a) Update commission on the operations of the Police Department

- The DOJ is transitioning to new use-of-force standards effective January 1, 2027. Department instructors will attend training on the revised hands-on techniques and training methods.
- School Resource Officer staffing was adjusted while Officer Karel was on medical leave. Temporary staffing assignments were made to maintain school coverage.
- Detective Kevin Hall was named "Investigator of the Year" by the Dodge County Drug Task Force.
- 14 candidates remain in the current hiring process; interviews are scheduled for next week to fill spots in the August Academy.
- The department will participate in a new risk-management and best-practices program through the League of Wisconsin Municipalities. The program is intended to help reduce liability, improve officer wellness, and strengthen operational decision-making.
- He met with the city administrator regarding the labor contract and some ideas have been presented.
- The only Capital Outlay request this year is a 4-bay storage shed for secure evidence vehicle storage. The structure would most likely be located at the department's range property.
- The department was awarded the grant applied for to assist with radio purchases and is currently reviewing the documentation prior to final acceptance.

b) Discuss future staffing of the Police Department

Data demonstrating a significant increase in call volume, with over 4,200 additional calls between 2022 and 2025, was shared to support the need for additional staffing. Despite the continued rise in calls, staffing levels have remained unchanged over the past four years, creating increased strain that impacts the mental health and safety of officers. Additionally, there is progress towards land annexation into the city that would impact call volume even more.

c) Discuss and take action on wage steps for Administrative Specialists by Deputy Chief Stommel and Chief Kreuziger

The Commission discussed the implementation of a "step system" for the public safety administrative specialists. O'Connor emphasized that these specialists are PFC employees, not general city clerks, and should be evaluated based on their specialized skills and public safety impact. Tabled further action until the city's wage study is complete to allow for a side-by-side comparison.

d) Discuss and take action on moving Public Safety Administrative Specialist, Amelia Hinn, from

probationary to regular status.

Motion to move Public Safety Administrative Specialist, Amelia Hinn, from probationary to regular status effective April 30, 2026 by Stephens, seconded by Robbins. Motion carried by acclimation. A letter of recommendation from her supervisor was shared.

6) Any Other Business for Placement on Future Agenda

The Commission would like a report from the full-time fire inspector at a future meeting.

7) Closed Session

- a) Discuss and take action to enter into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statute SEC. 19-85(1)(c), considering employment and performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the government body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. In particular, to review and discuss the Police Department eligibility list and the performance of a Police Department employee.

Motion by Lafler to move into closed session, seconded by White. Motion carried by voice vote: Robbins-aye, White-aye, Stephens-aye, Lafler-aye, O'Connor-aye.

The Commission entered into closed session at 6:28 pm.

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

Motion to reconvene in open session by White, seconded by Lafler.

The Commission reconvened in open session at 6:35 pm.

8) Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Stephens, seconded by Lafler. Meeting ended at 6:35 pm.

Fire Department Activities
April 2026
Training/Events/Meetings/Etc.

- 1 Training – Hazmat training with Union Pacific
- 1 Retirement Party – Firefighter/Inspector Tony Thomas
- 1 MPTC Fire & EMS Advisory Meeting - Chief
- 2 CPR Class at BDHS
- 2 Senior Staff meeting
- 4 POC Recruit training – Basic fire skills
- 4 Cadet Open house and Pancake breakfast fund raiser
- 6 Fire Station Planning Meeting – Chief & Deputy Chief
- 6-10 Recruit Academy
- 6 POC Training – SCBA training
- 8 Community Comment – Chief
- 13 Mark Born Listening Session – Chief
- 13-17 Recruit Academy – Caleb Roy
- 13 POC Training – Search and rescue, ground ladders and ventilation
- 15 Fire truck to Cubby Bear Daycare for pub ed event
- 14 PFC Meeting – Chief
- 15 BDACF Luncheon – Chief
- 16 ERT briefing
- 16 Employee recognition luncheon
- 20 ERT training – Lt. Zemlicka-Retzlaff and Fire/Medic Buschke
- 20 Station tours for Washington School 2nd graders (3 groups)
- 21 Department Head Meeting – Chief
- 21 Ben Deyoung Birthday Celebration – Shift 2
- 21 Union Contract Meeting - Chief
- 21 CPR class at Mittera
- 22-25 Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC) in Indianapolis – Engine Committee
- 22 Dive team training – Open water training
- 27 Quarterly EMS training
- 28 Tech rescue training – High angle rescue training
- 29 Officer/Acting Officer training - Fire Investigations & Legal Considerations
- 29 CPR Instructor Meeting
- 30 Fire safety training for a resident



BEAVER DAM FIRE DEPARTMENT

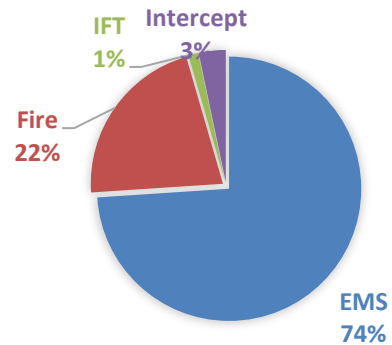
April 2026 Operations Report

Beaver Dam Police & Fire Commission,

Please review the following report for the activities of the Beaver Dam Fire Department for the month of April 2026.

CALLS FOR SERVICE

	Month	Year to Date
EMS	247	928
Fire Calls	72	285
Intercepts	11	40
Inter-Facility Transports	4	8
Total	334	1261



INSPECTIONS

	Month	Year to Date
Inspections	160	474
Failed Inspections	49	169
Violations	117	441

TRAINING & ACTIVITY HOURS

	Month	Year to Date
Training	739.5	2,597.5
Activities	171.5	420.50

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- April 1st Vehicle Fire
- April 8th Gas Leak
- April 10th Motor Vehicle Accident w/Injuries
- April 11th Motor Vehicle Accident w/Injuries
- April 11th Gas Leak
- April 12th Motor Vehicle Accident w/Injuries
- April 13th Carbon Monoxide Incident
- April 14th Motor Vehicle Accident w/Injuries
- April 14th Downed Wires from Weather
- April 16th Brush Fire
- April 30th Structure Fire

April 2026						
◀ March						May ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Beaverfest Meeting-Kreuziger	2	3	4
5	6	7 Kiwanis Meeting-Kreuziger	8	9 Waukesha Technical College Vehicle Pursuits-Kreuziger	10 Labor Attorney meeting-Kreuziger	11
12	13 Sex Offender Meeting-Kreuziger	14 Beaver Dam Foundation Banquet-Kreuziger	15 Chamber Innovation award For CPA-Kreuziger, Johnson	16 Employee Recognition-Kreuziger	17 Drug Task Force Board Meeting-Kreuziger	18
19	20 Wash Elementary PD tours-Bublitz	21 Wi League of Municipalities Meeting-Kreuziger	22 BD Citizen's Acad. Alumni Meeting (Bublitz)	23 Schneider/Boomer Bublitz/Murph K9 sniff Watertown	24 Schneider K9 demo Jefferson elementary Mrs. Roedl.	25 Special Olympics Torch Run-Laning, Kreuziger, Bublitz/Murph Girl Scout PD Tour (J. Johnson, Bublitz/Murph)
26	27 City Administrator Meeting-Kreuziger	28 Union Contract Meeting-Kreuziger, City Administrator	29	30		