

BHT NA VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES

Barrington Heights, Hidden Creek Estates, Tanner Woods Subdivisions

March 19, 2025

Meeting Link and Details at WestLinnOregon.gov/BHT

Agenda Topics, Discussion and Decisions

Call to Order: BHT-Vice President, Grace Cargni, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Roll Call of Attendees: Secretary, Rebel Steirer recorded the following Attendees:

BHTNA Residents	Guests
Tamara Gilbert Anne Miller Jan Jester Joe Steirer Ken	Jacob Fuhrer Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue, Burke Whitmire, Lieutenant at Willamette TVFR Station

Agenda: TVFD & BHT Neighborhood fire safety meeting

The meeting focused on emergency planning and fire safety with guest speaker Jacob from Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue.

Fire department's structure:

- TVFR covers 390 square miles and serves 11 cities across four counties.
- 73% of their calls are medical emergencies, the rest are various with a smaller percent for fires.
- Their water rescue team is local for incidents on the Willamette River.
- They coordinate fire response efforts through the Oregon State Fire Marshal's office.
- They dispatched of 370 firefighters and 105 apparatus to California during the recent fire incident.

Emergency Preparedness and Alert Systems

- Residents prepare for a future emergency by assembling a go bag with essential items such as non-perishable food, water, medications, and pet supplies.
- Residents be aware and sign up for all possible emergency alert systems. Emergency Alert System (EAS), Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA), and Community Emergency Notifications, which can be customized to individual needs. West Linn Connect Mobile App.

West Linn Fire Highlights Importance of Alarms

- Smoke & Carbon Monoxide detectors demonstrate over and over that they save lives.
- Test detectors monthly, keep back up batteries installed in case of a fire during power outage.
- September West Linn home fire started with an exterior landscaping wire, quickly made it to the house and attic in short time. Homeowners were sleeping but made it out of the home because of the smoke detectors. 3 alarm fire, property suffered significant damage.

Fire Hazards and Neighborhood Responsibility

- Neighbors be aware of how to make your home and our neighborhood defensible against fires.
- Dispose of dead branches and yard debris. Don't throw them into our green spaces or leave near homes.
- Fire Department can do a neighborhood walk through to give advice and materials to homeowners to make their properties more defensible against fires.
- Creating a defensible space around your home is KEY in preventing fires from affecting properties.
- Flying embers are responsible for about 90% of homes lost to wildfires.

Fire Districts and Wildfire Preparedness

- Fire districts in Oregon are formed by state statutes and are determined by the people living in the area.
- Fire districts are not a county function, but rather special districts governed by an elected board of directors. Coordination between the fire department and the city of Westland, particularly regarding wildfire response and emergency preparedness campaigns. Jacob also offered to provide brochures and digital versions of wildfire preparedness tips and evacuation levels to the attendees.

Minutes Approved By:

Signature	Title	Date
<i>Robert Jester</i>	Robert Jester, BHT NA President	4/25/25
<i>Grace Cargni</i>	Grace Cargni, BHT NA Vice President	4/25/25
<i>Rebel Steirer</i>	Rebel Steirer, BHT NA Secretary	4/25/25
<i>Pia Snyder</i>	Pia Snyder, BHT NA Treasurer	4/25/25