



# Broadwater County Trust Board Minutes February 24th, 2026

**Board Members Present:** Kim Kondelik (VC), Steve McCullough (Chair), Virgil Binkley, Doug Breker, Al Christopherson

**Board Members Absent:** None

**Commissioners:** Jesse Swenson

**Guests:** Eric Crusch and Tim McAlpine – Search and Rescue; Mark Wood and James Buck – Broadwater County Sheriff's office, Lee and George Weldon, Brad Peck – Broadwater Rod and Gun Club

**Admin. Assistant:** Aubra J. Lewis

Steve called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM.

**Public Comment:** None

## **Topic 1: Financial Report and claims**

- Al moved to accept the minutes with the corrections to Al, Joe, John, and Jesse's name. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motions passed unanimously.
- Current funds were reported as approximately \$3,760,063.13 in Premier, \$317,683.83 in county account.
- One claim for \$16.99 for secretary's printer ink was submitted.

## **Topic 2: Patrol Vehicle Laptops Grant Request (Broadwater County Sheriff's Office)**

- Sheriff Mark Wood requested grant funds to replace aging patrol vehicle laptops essential for real-time location and dispatch communication. The total expense was approximately \$50,000 due to Windows 11 upgrade requirements, and the grant request was \$24,580.70.
- Approval and funding were debated regarding relevance to recreation, as the Trust's mission is recreational development. The sheriff's office emphasized indirect ties through search and rescue during recreational activities.
- Questions raised about percentage of recreational-related patrol calls and budget match funding. Sheriff office clarified matching funds would come from their budget; \$5,000 had been secured from Rotary grants.
- Board members expressed concerns about setting precedent for funding government operational equipment and requested legal review from the county attorney to clarify trust fund usage limitations.
- Kim made a motion to table the decision until the board gets more answers. Motion was seconded. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Topic 3: Broad Rock Gun Club Sporting Clays Expansion Grant Request**

- Brad Peek presented a complete and detailed grant application requesting \$23,350.24 to expand sporting clays facilities including ADA compliance improvements and equipment additions.
- The expansion would increase capacity to accommodate a growing number of shooters post-COVID.
- Virgil made a motion to move forward with the grant request. Motion was seconded. Appreciation was given to the Rod and Gun Club for what they have done. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Topic 4: Search and Rescue New Lake Rescue Boat Grant Request**

- Eric Crush and Timothy McAlpine described the urgent need to replace a 42-year-old lake rescue boat critical for local recreational safety and regional emergency response. The new custom-built jet-drive boat is budgeted at \$176,752.00. The grant request is for \$123,726.50.
- They highlighted features including safety, capacity, shallow water maneuverability, modern navigation, and rescue capability enhancements.
- The boat's role strongly aligns with recreational safety as it supports emergency responses on waterways heavily used for recreation.
- Extensive Q&A addressed operational aspects, boat storage, transfer of navigation equipment from old boat, and future disposition of the old vessel.
- Doug made a motion to buy the Search and Rescue a boat. Motion was seconded.
  - Discussion included Eric filling out a new first page to reflect the \$40,000 rebate added to the total. The date of submission was 2/09/2026 not 2/24/2026.
  - Discussion also included when to get the boat on the list for buying. Search and Rescue will wait for Commission approval. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Topic 5: Grant Application Reporting Enhancements**

- Discussion focused on improving grant application processes by adding standardized volunteer time sheets to better account for in-kind contributions.
- Board agreed to provide suggested volunteer time tracking forms based on current state standards (approximately \$30/hour labor valuation) without making it a mandatory criterion but as a helpful tool for accountability.
- Further follow-up will be done to obtain and incorporate a suitable form in the application packages.

### **Topic 6: Tennis Court Public Access and Related Reporting**

- Board discussed challenges regarding public access to funded tennis courts, including how keys or access codes are managed by sheriff's office dispatch.

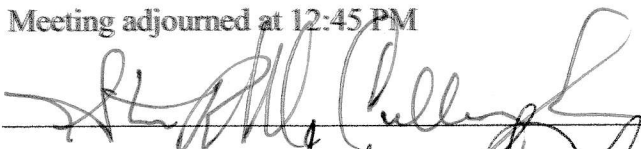
- Confirmed tennis courts are accessible to public via dispatch checkout with a sign-in procedure.
- Action assigned to verify if signage and full access updates are in place as required by grant conditions.

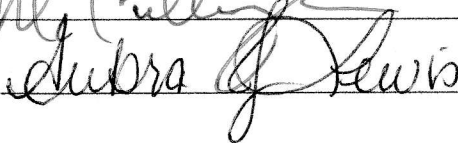
**Topic 7: Financial Management and Funds Transfer**

- Members reviewed current balances and commitments with the two grants being approved.
- Virgil made a motion to move \$200,000 from the First Premier trust account into the county account. Motion was seconded. No discussion. Motion approved unanimously to maintain liquidity for grant disbursements.

**Topic 8: Next Meeting Arrangement**

- **Scheduled for March 17, 2026**, at 11:30, acknowledging conflicts for some members on earlier dates.
- Meeting adjourned at 12:45 PM

Chair  Date 3-17-26

Administrative Assistant  Date 3-17-26