

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OF THE O'FALLON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
July 20, 2021

A Regular Session of the O'Fallon Fire Protection District Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, July 20, 2021, at the Administration Building, 111 Laura K Drive, and via Zoom due to COVID-19. Director Laughlin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Notice of said meeting had been provided at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting by posting the meeting time in the case on the outside wall of the Administrative Offices. The following Directors were present: Director Bill Laughlin, Director Matt Gober, and Director Matt Simmons (via Zoom). The following staff members were present: Chief Tom Vineyard, Fire Marshal Mark Morrison, Battalion Chiefs Andy Parrish and Matt Braile, Captain Mike Alcorn, Engineers Kern Swafford and Justin Tichy, Firefighter Kyle Chadwell, and Board Admin Assistant Karen Lucido. Assistant Chiefs Vomund, and Moore were excused.

The following guest was present: Attorney Neil Bruntrager (via Zoom)

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by the Firefighter Prayer.

Director Laughlin motioned to ratify the change of Board Meeting Date from July 22 to July 20 due to a majority of members inability to attend July 22, seconded by Director Gober. Ayes: (3) Laughlin, Gober, Simmons; no Nays, all present.

A motion was made by Director Laughlin to approve minutes of the prior Regular Board Meeting of June 24, 2021, and Regular Board Work Session of July 8, 2021, seconded by Director Gober. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes:	(3)	Directors Laughlin, Simmons, and Gober
Nays:	(0)	None
Absent:	(0)	None

Motion declared and carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Director Gober stated a current checking account balance of \$2,492,303.76. There being no comments or questions, a motion was made by Director Laughlin to pay bills as presented, seconded by Director Gober. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes:	(3)	Directors Laughlin, Simmons, and Gober
Nays:	(0)	None
Absent:	(0)	None

Motion declared and carried.

Approved at 8-26-21 Board Mtg

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None

COMMUNICATIONS:

Battalion Chief Parrish stated one of his crewmembers who wished to remain anonymous, helped a young couple who were involved in a vehicle accident, by bringing them to the station and giving them funds from himself personally to assist them with transportation for that evening. Board members stated their appreciation of this crewmember, and noted that the personnel of the O'Fallon Fire District continue to go above and beyond in caring for District citizens.

Administrative Assistant Lucido read the following communications:

1. A card from Dan and Krista Cross, and their son, Tate, thanking O'Fallon Firefighters Community Outreach for awarding Tate a college scholarship.
2. A card from Todd Traylor, owner of Turtle Creek Pub & Grill, thanking District members for their generous donations and well wishes during his current health battles.
3. An email from Mark Carey expressing his gratitude to the firefighters who responded to his neighbor's house fire and their professionalism, expertise, and handling of the situation.
4. Several emails from residents of Aberdeen Villas thanking the firefighters for their service of replacing smoke detector batteries, and for going above and beyond in assisting them.
5. A letter from Kathleen Ruddy, CEO of St. Baldrick's Foundation, thanking Assistant Chief Moore and the Firefighters Community Outreach for its donation of \$6,695.64 to St. Baldrick's foundation in support of Engineer Tom Vogelgesang; in the fight against childhood cancer.

OLD BUSINESS

There was further discussion regarding the District's COVID-19 Demobilization Plan. Chief Vineyard stated he has been in talks with both Attorney Bruntrager and SSM Health Officials regarding the recent surge in the Delta variant and its impact on our region, and that Springfield, Missouri is sending their patients to St. Louis Hospitals due to overload. Monitoring of local COVID numbers continue; for the present the District's rules remain status quo. Attorney Bruntrager stated this area is seeing a surge

in COVID numbers due to the Delta variant, and while most members of the District are vaccinated, there is a possibility of carrying the virus and passing it on to children and family members, so we need to watch this closely. Director Simmons stated he is good with following legal advice and how the District is handling COVID.

There was further discussion regarding the Pension Plan. Chief Vineyard stated the Pension Committee met with Attorney O'Brien and the Actuary; reviewed pension documents and clarifications to documents were made; documents should be finalized in the next few months, when the Pension Board will need to meet to approve them.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chief Vineyard reviewed the Fire Cause & Origin Investigation policies which are tied to the District's Accreditation process; ensuring policies state what firefighters are currently doing. Battalion Chief Parrish handled most of the work on these policies. Discussion held. A motion was made by Director Laughlin to approve revised policy 310.00-Fire Cause & Origin Investigation, and new policy 310.02-Post Incident Review as submitted, seconded by Director Gober. Chief Vineyard authorized to sign policies. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: (3) Directors Laughlin, Gober, and Simmons
Nays: (0) None
Absent: (0) None
Motion declared and carried.

Captain Alcorn reviewed the revised Standards of Cover document, stating Firefighter Thomure, Captain McCutchen and members of the Accreditation team worked hard to bring this document up to date. Keeping this document current is part of the Accreditation process, and it will be continually updated. Discussion held regarding the document's content and call data. A motion was made by Director Laughlin to adopt the 2021 Community Risk Assessment: Standards of Cover dated March 31, 2021, as presented, seconded by Director Gober. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: (3) Directors Laughlin, Gober, and Simmons
Nays: (0) None
Absent: (0) None
Motion declared and carried.

Director Laughlin asked if the District's boat was deployed during the recent flooding. Captain Alcorn stated it has not been deployed often this year, however, usually is deployed about 16 times per year.

Director Laughlin announced the next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 12, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., in Administration's Board Room.


A motion was made by Director Laughlin to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Director Simmons. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: (3) Directors Laughlin, Gober, and Simmons
Nays: (0) None
Absent: (0) None
Motion declared and carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.


William Laughlin, Chairman

ATTEST:


Karen Lucido, Recording Secretary
Board Administrative Assistant

APPROVED COPY

Approved at 8-26-21 Board Mtg