

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OF THE O'FALLON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
August 26, 2021

A Regular Session of the O'Fallon Fire Protection District Board of Directors was held on Thursday, August 26, 2021, 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. The following staff members were present: Chief Tom Vineyard, Assistant Chief Ken Vomund, Assistant Chief Andy Parrish, Fire Marshal Mark Morrison, Battalion Chiefs Brian Moore and Matt Braile, Captains Kevin Davis, Gary McCutchen, Darren Daly, Eric Johnston, numerous employees, and Board Admin Assistant Karen Lucido.

The following guests were present: Attorney Neil Bruntrager, and Bruce Kummer CPA

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A motion was made by Director Laughlin to approve minutes of the prior Regular Board Meeting of July 20, 2021, Regular Board Work Session of August 12, 2021, Special Session of August 19, 2021, and Regular Pension Board Meeting of May 18, 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 Laughlin stated a current checking account balance of \$1,540,767.96. There being no comments or questions, a motion was made by Director Laughlin to pay bills as presented, seconded by Director Simmons. Upon roll call the vote was:

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

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None

Approved at 9-23-21 Board Mtg

COMMUNICATIONS:

Director Simmons thanked District and Shop members for the flowers and expressions of sympathy regarding the loss of his brother.

Director Gober stated his thoughts and prayers are with Director Simmons and his family.

Shop Steward Johnston offered his condolences and stated the Shop will help with anything Director Simmons or his family needs.

AUDITOR ANNUAL REPORT

Bruce Kummer, CPA, reviewed the 2020 Annual Report for the District stating the District is in very good financial shape, and commended the Board, Chief and Staff on their conservative handling of the budget. He stated he sees nothing detrimental and the District is more financially sound than in 2019. Mr. Kummer expressed his gratitude to the first responders who came to his rescue during an accident where he suffered significant burns. He stated their professionalism and knowledge went above and beyond, helping him and his family who witnessed the accident. The financial report for year ended 2020 will be placed on the District's website. A motion was made by Director Laughlin to accept the Annual Financial Report for year ending December 31, 2020 as presented by Bruce Kummer, CPA, 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.

Mr. Kummer stated he filed a draft of the report with the State, June 30, and will file the final report tomorrow. The Directors thanked Mr. Kummer for his work, and wished him well in his recovery. Chief Vineyard thanked Mr. Kummer, stating he is always professional, and is a pleasure to work with.

OLD BUSINESS

There was further discussion regarding the District's COVID-19 Demobilization Plan. Chief Vineyard stated everything remains status quo.

There was further discussion regarding the Pension Plan. Chief Vineyard stated there were no updates at this time, everything is tracking well.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chief Vineyard reviewed the revised Assistant Chief policy, stating the policy was updated to reflect the job that is actually being performed, and updated the promotional

process. Labor Management recommends approval, and the policy was posted for employee review with no comments received. Chief Vineyard questioned if the Board wanted to participate in the promotional process; they declined. Chief Vineyard reviewed new policy titled Retirement Recognition, stating Captain McCutchen and Engineer Kelly Ennis devised this policy for recognition of retirees, as the District has many men and women who have dedicated a good portion of their lives to this service. With the new pension plan, the District is anticipating quite a few retirements next year. Director Laughlin stated the policy was a class act; Director Gober stated the recognition was a great idea. A motion was made by Director Laughlin to approve revised policy #108-Assistant Chief/Training Officer, and new policy #209.01-Retiree Recognition 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.

Assistant Chief Vomund stated that the District finally received the engineer specs for reinstalling solar panels on Station #4. Schneider Electric quoted a re-installation fee in 2018, and he reached out to them to see if that fee has changed since the initial quote, and will bring it back to the Directors if it exceeds the original approved price. Attorney Bruntrager stated the District does not need to go back out to bid for reinstallation because of the previously signed contract with Schneider Electric for this work. Director Laughlin questioned if the solar panels saved the District on its electrical expenses; Chief Vineyard stated it does save quite a bit on its energy bills.

Assistant Chief Vomund stated that 9134 engine blew up due to the oil pickup tube coming loose. It is a mechanical failure, no one person's fault. The engine needs replacing; he reviewed Clarke Power Services' quote of \$50,239.41; with a possible core charge refund of \$2,500. A new vehicle would cost approximately \$800,000.00. Discussion held. A motion was made by Director Laughlin to approve Clarke Power Services' estimate to repair 9134 (2012 Pierce Fire Engine) for a total of \$50,239.41, as written; Chief Vineyard authorized to sign estimate service order, 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.

Director Laughlin made a motion to go into closed session at 7:28 p.m. under RSMo 610.021 (1) Legal Actions involving a public governmental body and confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body or its representatives and its attorneys; (2) Leasing, purchase or sale of real estate by a public governmental body, (3) Hiring or promoting of particular employees by a public governmental body, and (13) Individually identifiable Personnel Records; 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.

A motion was made at 8:16 p.m. by Director Laughlin to adjourn the Closed Session and reconvene in Open Session, 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 announced the next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 9, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., via Zoom due to COVID-19.

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 8:16 p.m.


William Laughlin, Chairman

ATTEST: 
Karen Lucido, Recording Secretary
Board Administrative Assistant