

St. Tammany Fire Protection District No. 1

Board of Commissioners

Regular Meeting Minutes August 18, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

The prayer and pledge of allegiance were done.

ROLL CALL: Acting Chairman Brackett and Commissioners Rich, Gay and Hoying were present.
Chairman Crowley was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Gay made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2020 meeting. Commissioner Rich seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS – (none)

NEW BUSINESS

1. Chief's Report

a) Significant Monthly Events

- Kevin Chiri- Slidell Independent- (absent) – Chief Kaufmann stated that Mr. Chiri inquired about doing a presentation to consider paying him to advertise the minutes, agenda, etc.
- COVID-19 Update- Chief Kaufmann stated we currently have 1 case which is from a social gathering. He further stated that we are doing precautionary quarantining.
- “Your Fire Department” Facebook Series- Chief Kaufmann stated that this will be a monthly series, on Facebook, to continue to educate the public.
- July 23- Humana Renewal Meeting/ Telemedicine/ Digital Medicine- (Resolution below) Chief Kaufmann stated that we partnered with Ochsner Go365 and achieved the membership/ achievement level benchmark for the 8% renewal rate reduction. After negotiating further, we received a -3% renewal rate (\$67,488.60 premium decrease).

Chief Kaufmann stated that he has agreed, in an effort to continue to mitigate premium increase exposure, to move forward with the Telemedicine and Digital Medicine agreements that were presented. He further stated that he would like to self-insure the visit costs to the employee, based on premium reduction.

- Aug. 3- Red Beans & Rice Drive Thru- United Way (East & West) raised approx. \$16,000 to distribute to suicide/mental health and early childhood reading development.
- Aug. 6 and 11- Interview Architect Firms- (Resolution 2018-032) – Chief Kaufmann stated that after reviewing the qualifications of the twelve architect submittals, it was narrowed down to five to interview. A selection has been made, Sizeler Architects, and a meeting will be held Friday to negotiate an architectural fee for Central Station.

Pursuant to R.S. 42:23, personal recording devices are welcome in every meeting for Fire District No. 1; however, they must remain and be maintained in the possession of the individual that brings the device to remove any liability from Fire District No. 1 of any unintentional or accidental mishaps with the device during any such meeting

Chief Kaufmann stated that Resolution 2018-032 is in place which approved going forward with the selection of an architectural firm.

- Aug. 13- FRS Board Meeting (Teleconference) – Cancelled (not rescheduled yet)
- Audits- final approval by State LLA delayed due to COVID-19

Commissioner Hoying made a motion to approve the Chief's report. Commissioner Gay seconded the motion.

- 2) **PMI Report –**
 - a.) **Human Resource**
 - 1) 2020-022: BOC Resolution (Approve Surplus of Equipment)

Commissioner Rich made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-022, Relating to the Approval to Surplus Equipment for District No. 1. Commissioner Gay seconded the motion.

The floor was opened for public comment. There was no public comment.

The motion carried unanimously.

- 2) 2020-023: Approve District Sponsored Employee Benefits Renewal: Major Medical, Dental, Life Vision & Disability)

Commissioner Rich made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-023, Relating to the Renewal of District Sponsored Group Employee Benefits for District No.1. Commissioner Gay seconded the motion.

Chief Kaufmann stated that there was a 3% dental renewal increase; however, an unlimited maximum benefit has been added.

The floor was opened for public comment. There was no public comment.

The motion carried unanimously.

- 3) 2020-024: BOC Resolution (Approve Pro Rata Reduction of Employee Contributions to Employee Benefits).

Commissioner Hoying made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-024, Relating to District and Employee Contributions for District Sponsored Group Employee Benefits for District No. 1. Commissioner Rich seconded the motion.

The floor was opened for public comment. There was no public comment.

Commissioner Hoying stated that when the membership contributes to overall cost savings, this is the opportunity to thank them for their efforts.

The motion carried unanimously.

- 4) 2020-025: BOC Resolution (Approve Retiree Contribution)

Commissioner Rich made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-025, Relating to Continuance of the Retiree Contribution for District Sponsored Retiree Benefits for District No. 1. Commissioner Hoying seconded the motion.

The floor was opened for public comment. There was no public comment.

The motion carried unanimously.

- 5) 2020-026: BOC Resolution (Approve Employee Deductible Offset)

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Commissioner Rich made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-026, Relating to Continuance of the Deductible Expense for Employee Benefits. Commissioner Gay seconded the motion.

The floor was opened for public comment. There was no public comment.

The motion carried unanimously.

- 6) 2020-027: BOC Resolution (Approve Digital Medicine Program Services Agreement)

Commissioner Gay made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-027, Relating to the Approval of the Digital Medicine Program Services Agreement for District No. 1. Commissioner Rich seconded the motion.

The floor was opened for public comment. There was no public comment.

The motion carried unanimously.

- 7) 2020-028: BOC Resolution (Approve Employer Telemedicine Use Agreement)

Commissioner Hoying made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-028, Relating to the Approval of the Employer Telemedicine Equipment Use Agreement for District No. 1. Commissioner Rich seconded the motion.

The floor was opened for public comment. There was no public comment.

The motion carried unanimously.

b.) **Payroll** – none

c.) **FRS (Firefighters Retirement System)**- Mr. Waniewski stated that this month's FRS meeting was to hear the response from New England Pension Consultants to Wilshire Investments. Wilshire did make a presentation and they were able to show an out performance of New England Pension Consultants; however, Wilshire had to use the same performance strategy, restrictions, write-offs.

The Board voted to give New England another chance to present; however, the meeting was postponed.

d.) **VFIS Special Risk Insurance & LWCC**- none

Commissioner Gay made a motion to accept the PMI report. Commissioner Hoying seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- 3) **Duplantier Hrapman Hogan & Maher, LLP**- Mr. DiGiovanni discussed the July (inclusive of June) financial report.

Commissioner Rich made a motion to accept the June and July financial reports. Commissioner Hoying seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4) **Attorney's Report**- (none)

5) **Board of Commissioner Comments** – Chief Kaufmann stated that Chamber President Mike Saucier has requested a meeting with Fire Dist. 4, which he will attend.

Commissioner Gay made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Rich seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

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