

St. Tammany Fire Protection District No. 1

Board of Commissioners

Regular Meeting Minutes March 17, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

The pledge of allegiance and prayer were given.

Roll Call: Chairman Kline and Commissioners Rich and Risley were present. Commissioners Davis and Kingston were absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES-

Commissioner Risley made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2009 Regular meeting. Commissioner Rich seconded the motion. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS – (NONE)

NEW BUSINESS

A) Chief's Report-

- a. **Adopt 2009 St. Tammany Parish- Pre hospital emergency protocols-** Chief Hess requested that this be tabled, stating that Dr. Muller brought to the departments attention a few medical protocol issues that he is concerned about. Chief Kaufmann also noticed some administrative protocols that are of concern.

Commissioner Rich made a motion to table the adoption of the 2009 St. Tammany Parish- Pre hospital emergency protocols. Commissioner Risley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- b. **SFFA Discussion (by Chad Duffaut)- EMS Discussion-** Chad Duffaut stated that past discussions involved the IAFF conducting an EMS transport study, free of charge. Upon receiving the IAFF president's approval, paperwork was submitted and the process is near the end. The members of the SFFA requested that Chad speak to the Commissioners and request that they allow the IAFF to finish the study, prior to prompt implementation of Ambulance transport.

Chief Hess further reiterated that the study that the IAFF conducts is a very well founded study and will provide far better concrete evidence which will become the basis of deciding whether or not we chose to do this.

Chief Hess also feels issues have arisen as a result of implementing the ALS Sprint truck. The SFFA members see this as moving forward to fast. Chief Hess has tried to assure the members of the department that a great amount of consideration will be given on whether or not we will move forward with this; as well as the results of the study being conducted.

Chairman Kline expressed his feeling on the importance of working diligently with the IAFF on this matter.

Commissioner Risley praised Chad Duffaut for his efforts.

- c. **East St. Tammany Parish Chamber Political Policy Committee-** Chief Hess gave an overview of the meeting that was held on March 13 with the East St. Tammany Chamber of Commerce regarding future legislation. Chief Hess stated that good inquiries were made and we were able to show where our department stands relative to the millage, etc. There was also discussion on the consolidation of fire protection districts.

Commissioner Risley made a motion to accept the Chief's report. Commissioner Rich seconded the motion. The motion carried.

B) PMI Report

- 1. **Employee Benefits-** There was a consortium to look at mass purchasing of benefits. This will be formally presented in the near future.
- 2. **Human Resources-**
 - a) **NCCI Experience Modifier Audit-** still ongoing
 - b) **2009-003: BOC Resolution (Inter Governmental Agreement)**

Commissioner Rich made a motion to ratify the acceptance of Resolution 2009-003. Commissioner Risley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- c) **2009-004: BOC Resolution (Surplus Equipment)**

Commissioner Risley made a motion to ratify the adoption of resolution 2009-004. Commissioner Rich seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- 3. **Payroll-**
 - a) **Budget Expense Forecast: 3 year rolling projections to 2012**
- 4. **FRS (Firefighters' Retirement System)-**
 - a) **FRS Back Pay Audit- Pay off balance (Outstanding)**
 - b) **FRS 2006- Outstanding Audit Acknowledgement (Filed as not in agreement with FRS determination)**
 - c) **Response: FRS letter 01/15/08- 17.2% Valuation v. 900K payment**
 - d) **X-FRS request for Reimbursement**
 - e) **FRS Employer Contribution increase-** Mr. Waniewski stated that in a FRS meeting, the actuarial stated that if they froze every aspect of the performance in the fiscal year, the employer contribution rate would increase from 12.5% to 14%, effective July 1, 2009, then to 37%, effective July 1, 2010. There are 3 primary factors in the increase: performance of their portfolio (down 5% in the fiscal year), contributions by active personnel to the retirement system, and the liability of paying benefits for retired and/or disabled members. Mr. Waniewski further inquired about a number that FRS would represent that we would need to budget for in future years and they responded, "28%" - there would be, at a minimum, a double digit increase above the 14%. They further anticipate that LMA will increase employee contributions from 8% to 12%.

- 5. **VFIS Special Risk Insurance & LWCC**
 - a) **LA Citizens Insurance Tax Credit (LA Fair Share)-** Applied for

- b) **VFIS Renewal Questionnaire-** completed and submitted

Commissioner Rich made a motion to accept the PMI report. Commissioner Risley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

C) DiGiovanni & Associates, CPA's, L.L.C

Mr. DiGiovanni discussed the financial report.

Commissioner Risley made a motion to approve the financial report. Commissioner Rich seconded the motion. The motion carried.

D) ATTORNEY'S REPORT

- a) **De-annexation Agreement with Fire District 3-** unable to make contact with Mr. Sevante
- b) **Doctor's Urgent Care Quote-** a revised quote has been submitted based on the discussions in the March 4 meeting. Mr. Ingram will review this quote
- c) **"Sale, exchange, or lease of property by a municipality" statute (La R.S. 33:4712) - surplus vehicles.** – sign Resolution
- d) **Contract with Paragon Health Services re: EMS Billing-** After reviewing the contract, Mr. Ingram has some additional questions.

Commissioner Rich made a motion to accept the Attorney's report. Commissioner Risley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Risley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Rich seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:11 pm.