

St. Tammany Fire Protection District No. 1

Board of Commissioners

Regular Meeting Minutes April 17, 2012

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 Risley and Kingston were present.
Commissioner Rich arrived at 6:00 p.m. Commissioners Davis was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES-

Commissioner Kingston made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2012 meeting. Commissioner Risley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

(There are no March meeting minutes due to not having a quorum)

OLD BUSINESS- (none)

NEW BUSINESS -

A) Chief's Report-

a.) Years of Service Recognitions

- Gary Jones, Sr- 30 years of service

b.) **LWCC Refund Check-** David Posner, from LWCC, presented the department a dividend check in the amount of \$64,843.00

c.) **Millage Renewal Update-** Chief Hess stated that the millage feedback that he has gotten has been very supportive.

Commissioner Risley requested that the meeting procedure changes, communicated through e-mails, be discussed and made a part of the minutes. She also requested a discussion regarding what the voters approve vs. what the District collects.

Chief Hess stated that if the voters approve our renewal at the existing 35 mills, at some point within the next four years we will have to vote to collect the 35 mills or our maximum millage will default to whatever the highest rate charged during that intervening 4 years was approved by the BOC.

This is based on a state law that, for whatever reason, requires a taxing body to collect the voter approved maximum at some point between reassessments of property values. Normally that occurs every four years. In 2013, such a reassessment of property values will take place throughout St. Tammany Parish.

As the revaluation process takes place every 4 years, it is important to note that a Tax Assessor can petition the State to perform a revaluation at any point. We are currently working with the Tax Assessor Elect to draft legislation that will not require taxing bodies to artificially charge the taxpayers more than what is required, simply for the sake of "protecting" the maximum millage rate.

Chief Kaufmann stated that the recent Millage meeting, put on by the Legislative Auditor, had more information than the ones in the past; and even contradicted previous meetings. It was explained that there is the option to increase the rate next year to 31 mills, as that is the maximum we have collected since the last property assessment.

Chief Hess stated that with regards to the “open meeting” changes, more detail to the topics being discussed must be on the agenda. Additionally, after a motion and a second to the motion, the Chairman should “open the floor” for public comment.

Commissioner Risley asked (playing devils advocate), if in the event that the public does not support the millage renewal, if there was the option of coming back again. Chief Hess stated that we would have to wait until November, and the Board would have to agree on a feasible millage to ask for.

Commissioner Kingston made a motion to accept the Chief’s report. Commissioner Risley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

B) PMI Report-

1. Employee Benefits

- a.) **Loss History Review-** favorable loss review (less than 100%)
- b.) **Ancillary Benefit Review**

2. Human Resource

- a.) **2011-008: BOC Resolution (Referred to Civil Service (OSE))**
- b.) **2011-009: BOC Resolution (Referred to Civil Service (OSE))**
- c.) **2012-004: BOC Resolution (Maximum Age for Applicants)-** tabled
- d.) **2012-005: BOC Resolution (Fort Pike VFD Donation)**
- e.) **2012-006: BOC Resolution (Inc. Asset Tracking to \$2,500 min.)-** Mr. Waniewski explained that anything over \$500 is tracked in inventory; however, based on auditor recommendations, it was suggested that we increase the asset tracking from \$1,000 to \$2,500.
- f.) **2012-007: BOC Resolution (2012 VFIS Insurance Renewal)-** effective May 6, 2012, with a standard 7% across the board increase.

Commissioner Kingston made a motion to table Resolution 2012-004, per Administration request. Commissioner Rich seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Risley made a motion to adopt Resolution 2012-005, Relating to the donation of surplus equipment to Fort Pike Volunteer Fire Department. Commissioner Rich seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Rich made a motion to adopt Resolution 2012-006, Relating to the inventory control tracked asset valuation for District No. 1. Commissioner Risley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Rich made a motion to adopt Resolution 2012-007, Relating to the renewal of Commercial Property & Casualty Insurance coverage(s). Commissioner Kingston seconded the motion. The motion carried.

3. Payroll

- a.) **Parochial Retirement System: 2012 ER Contribution rate “no change” 15.75%**

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.) **FRS Recommended 2012-2013 Contribution Rate: 24%**
5. **VFIS Special Risk Insurance & LWCC**
- a.) **VFIS- 2012 Renewal Proposal**
 - b.) **LWCC 2012- Dividend: \$64,843 (03/30/2012)**

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 Kingston made a motion to accept the financial report. Commissioner Rich seconded the motion. The motion carried.

D) Attorney's Report- Attorney Troy Ingram reported that the CVS contract has been signed.

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

Commissioner Rich made a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Reardon read a statement regarding his request for records and concerns that his request has not been answered to his satisfaction.

Chief Hess, Chief Kaufmann and Attorney Troy Ingram discussed the details provided to him for his request and they felt his request was complete.

Commissioner Kingston seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.