

St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 11
Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes
37546 Pine Street Extension, Pearl River, Louisiana
Fire Chief Jack Dockery
November 11, 2025
7:00 pm – 7:49 pm

# **ROLL CALL**

Russell Lindsey – Present Ryan Dreux - Present Eugene Swann – Present Floyd Trascher – Present Michele Blackwell – Present

# PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE INVOCATION MINUTES

Mrs. Blackwell calls the regularly scheduled meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Roll is called, Board Members Russel Lindsey, Ryan Dreux, Eugene Swann, Floyd Trascher and Michele Blackwell are present.

Mr. Floyd Trascher says the invocation and Mr. Russell Lindsey leads the pledge.

## **MINUTES**

Mrs. Blackwell asked if everyone read the minutes of the October 14, 2025 meeting?

Mr. Trascher reviewed the minutes and moves to adopt them with the video governing. Mr. Lindsey seconds. A roll call vote is called, all in favor, motion carries.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

Chief Dockery presents the Financial Report for the month of October, we are looking for a 83% range. General Liabilities are at 90%, but we just made the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter Payments. I don't think we have any more payments for this year. They will roll over to January. It's the same for Vehicle Truck. Workman's Comp is up but, I have that adjusted in the amended budget. Medical Equipment and Repairs, we spoke about that and it will be adjusted in the amended budget along with the Engine 111 and Medic 112. Fire Prevention is done for the

year with \$400 left over. Training was a little high and that will be adjusted. Everything else is under budget.

## **EMS**

For the month of October, Ms. Vickie is on vacation, we didn't get a form for EMS billing but we brought in \$11,000 for the month of October. This is due, in part, to things slowing down at the end of the year, the government being shut down, and we didn't make a deposit until the first of the month. We are still above what we budgeted for EMS.

Mrs. Blackwell asked for any other questions for the Financial Report. With no questions we move to the the Chief's Report.

# **CHIEF'S REPORT/ EMS REPORT** - Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, for the month of October, we responded to:

EMS	64
MVA	2
SERVICE/GOOD INTENT	12
VEHICLE FIRE	1
STRUCTURE FIRES	3
(2 Mutual aid for District 7)	
GRASS/WOODS FIRE	8
DISPATCHED/CANCELLED IN ROUTE	6
POLICE MATTERS	3
TOTAL	99

## **BUSY MONTH**

There was a Breast Cancer Benefit at Track Side for Slidell Memorial, it seemed there was a good turn out.

We had Trunk or Treat and the Night Out Against Crime was canceled because it was raining but it stopped thankfully, and we had a good turn out. There were a lot of people that came out. Mr. Trascher thanks the crew and saw the displays at both events and it was impressive.

## AGENDA REVIEW

I attended the Agenda Review and the Council Meeting. The millage vote passed. I double checked with Foley and Judell and he said everything was good to go. There will be a new time line because they moved the election from April to May. No further action needs to be taken.

#### CHRISTMAS EVENT

December 5<sup>th</sup>, is the Christmas Event at Town Hall. We will be out there again and will be toting Santa around. We will be setting up soon to travel around Town in the neighborhoods I will get with Captain Geissler to schedule that. It should be a good time. That's all for the

# Chief's Report.

Mrs. Blackwell asked if there were any questions. Mr. Swann asked if they found out how the big fire started. Chief said, the one a couple of weeks ago, the Forestry sent an investigator and it's still under investigation. They took over the investigation and we have not heard anything on it at this time but, when we do, we will let the public know because they have been questioning it too. It turned out to be a 285 acre fire. Mr. Trascher said he found it odd that, during the month of October we were really dry and neither the State Fire Marshall nor the Parish called for any kind of burn ban or restrictions. Some restrictions should have been put on in our area. Was that ever discussed? Chief said I haven't heard anything about any discussion on it from any of the Chief's or any of the Parish officials. It may have been right on the threshold of out of the drought condition. It has to be pretty bad for the Parish to do it. Unfortunately, it was very dry and that day was very windy.

Mrs. Blackwell said if there's nothing else on the Chief's Report, we will move to Old Business, Adopt 2026 Budget, Chief.

# **OLD BUSINESS**

ADOPT 2026 BUDGET – Chief Jack Dockery

This was brought to the Board in September, we finally got figures from the Assessor's office and the numbers are pretty close. It's been in the papers for 30 days.

Mr. Trascher said, this is the Budget that we were presented with earlier and it's been laid over in the new paper for 30 days, it was available at the station for any public viewing or comment, we've met all the requirements. The revenue is close to what we projected. Did the Assessor's change anything? Chief said, they came in right at or a little lower.

Mr. Lindsey asked, why was the 2025 Amended Budget was almost 3.4 but he 2026 Budget is 3 million? Chief Dockery said because we rolled back 2 mills. It's just a range, I did a conservative range on it. We knew when we rolled back we would take a cut.

Mr. Trascher said, we are looking at a possible increase in revenue with the new development over by St. Joe Brick, right?

Chief said, regarding the new development by St. Joe Brick, at the beginning of the year, I will send the Parish an invoice with a monetary amount plus 20% of what they would be charged for the millage. After that year, it's a percentage of that millage. Chief said, Rooms to Go just came off the exemption agreement and AWG is still on in for a few more years. We should see a revenue increase from Rooms to Go. The increase for Rooms to Go was already added in for 2026 but, Agile was not added in. We should see a bump from that and they are already talking about expanding that so, if they do, that will be another bump for us. It is a lower budget than what we had last year but we will not have the truck payments out of it. We will have what we need to pay our personnel and our bills.

Mr. Trascher said, and we are going for a renewal of our millage. I think it was in our best interest to roll the millage back. Chief Dockery said that the Parish wanted to cut almost 4

mills and we did a fair compromise with cutting 2 mills.

Mr. Trascher said, with all of the advertising requirements met and we don't have any comments from the public, I move to adopt the 2026 Budget that's been advertised. Mr. Lindsey seconds.

Mrs. Blackwell asked for any discussions? With none, Mr. Trascher reads the 2026-026 Resolution adopting the 2026 Budget.

Resolution No. 2026-026 read into the record

Mrs. Blackwell calls a roll call vote, all in favor, motion carries.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

INTRODUCTION OF AMENDED 2025 BUDGET – Chief Jack Dockery

The Board reviews the Amended Budget and Chief Dockery reads the ad velorem income of \$2.45 million, Interest Income and Miscellaneous Income, \$275,000. Chief would like to pay Engine 111, we owe roughly \$415,000, and we discussed paying that off in previous meetings. I added two other line items in the back, but after I went through all of it, with the expenses, we came up in the negative. I took the money left from the Bond Surplus of \$28,000 and on the third sheet, at the bottom, you will see Fire Truck \$415,000, to make a payment for the Engine 11 to pay the truck off. Then, EMS Equipment is at \$45,000 on the last sheet, it's \$45,000 and I moved it up \$15,000, and that could be used to pay for a new stretcher. Fire Equipment is at \$40 right now but we already have that money allocated for purposes and I bumped it up to \$80,000. That would be for the items discussed, the UTV and the Skid. If this stayed how it was, we will end the year with \$55,163.19, unallocated. In our Bond Surplus account would be zeroed out and we could do away with that and the Restricted Account would be payment for the truck outside, the 2022 Pierce, we would have roughly \$192,626, which we could reallocate that to Station Renovations and bump that to give us more of a cushion for the cost of materials. The UTV and the Stretcher is included in the budget so we will discuss those. This will take some of these funds down.

Mr. Trascher said our cash reserve balance is not an issue with the Parish Government. They brought this up before about the amount of cash reserves. These funds are allocated

This is the last piece of equipment that has a lease. This will help with the cut in the millage that we will not have to make that leased payment.

This is an introduction for this Budget and we will accept it tonight and it will be on the next agenda to vote on.

## **UTV DISCUSSIONS**

We have a 2004 UTV but it is reaching its end. Looking into the new UTV and Skid for it

which is used for woods fires and other events. I have reviewed several types and cam across this Can Am 6x6 and like it more than the others. We need a all terrain vehicle with more power. Friendly Power Sports is on State Contract for Polaris. I am waiting to see the actual number and if they are not I will have enough quotes from other dealers in the area.

Mr. Trascher asked if it's already in the budget, will you come back with the bids for the Board before the actual purchase? Chief said yes, I will bring what I found and we will pick one. As for the old one, we can surplus and check the value for trade in or sell.

## STRETCHER DISCUSSIONS

The stretcher we have is getting close to the end of life and we have reviewed two new stretchers which are Stryker and Ferno. I would like to move forward with the purchase of a new stretcher. The guys like the Ferno which is cheaper. The Stryker Stretcher we priced was \$39,122, we would also have to pay for the warranty that is about \$4000 - \$5,000, which we pay now for multiple items. The Ferno Stretcher quote is \$37,000, which is a power stretcher and it also has a 7 year plan that is built into the cost of the stretcher. That is the 2 manufacturers in this area. It also has a charging port that is about \$7,000, that we can look at next year for the new truck. The cost of these are added into the Amended Budget.

## **WELL PUMP**

Mr. Sidney Landry, Bass Concrete, LLC, donated concrete. We were able to lay the pad for the pump and I have a list for lumber for the building around it. We will set the pump and work on the building and the electric.

#### RENOVATIONS

We are currently going to ask for bids from architects. We will also be looking for temporary living quarters.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Blackwell ask for any Public Comments or anything from the Board.

Chief Dockery wishes everyone a Happy Veterans Day and Thanksgiving. The Board wishes everyone the same and thanks the Department for doing a fantastic job on all of the events that they participate in. Mr. Trascher moves to adjourn. Mr. Lindsey seconds the motion.

A roll call vote is called, all in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.