



St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 11
Board of Commissioner's
Minutes of the Meeting on December 14, 2021
Fire Chief Jack Dockery
7:02pm – 7:29pm

ROLL CALL

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

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MINUTES

Mrs. Blackwell asked, has everybody read and approved the minutes from the November 9th meeting?

Mr. Lindsey said, I reviewed over them, everything seems to be in order.

Mr. Trascher said, I as well and if there's no further discussion, if it's okay with everybody, I move that we approve, with the video governing.

Mr. Lindsey said, I second.

Mrs. Blackwell said, Mr. Lindsey, how do you vote?

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell said, Mr. Swann, how do you vote?

Mr. Swann said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Trascher, how do you vote?

Mr. Trascher said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell said, motion carries. With that, we will go on to the Financial Report, Chief Dockery.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, for the month of November, a lot of this is still either low or right at max until the budget is amended. That's where it will reflect on this sheet. We have taken in 98% of ad valorem. 73% off State Revenue Sharing and 94% of Fire Insurance Rebate. So, we are very close to what we projected. I actually just received a check, one yesterday and one today. So, it should bring us up to the 100% mark on that. As of every day expenses, I saw nothing that was really out other than what we already projected with the amended budget. I did have them change the format back to the original style that we had, that way it's easier to follow. I know last month was kind of weird for us. If we have no questions, that's all I have for the general budget.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, do we have any concerns or any questions?

Mr. Trascher said, okay, this is the last, through November of this year for our budget, there's a couple of categories like, Medical Supplies, we had 131%. Have we made the necessary adjustments to bring this somewhat back in line where we have added money to the fund?

Chief Dockery said, yes sir.

Mr. Trascher said, because this one is showing that we are \$6,000, over budget right now.

Chief Dockery said, well, this is just not with the amended but, with the amended, it will be brought back into the 5% range.

Mr. Trascher said, and we will see that on the final report next month, for December?

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, any other questions?

Mr. Lindsey said, I don't have any.

EMS

Chief Dockery said, on the medical side, we brought in a total of \$15,668.02, for the month of November. So, right now we are \$3,493, short of our \$168,000. So, with the month of December, we should meet that.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, does anybody have any questions about that?

Mr. Trascher said, I just wanted to say that I have heard some comments recently on our ambulance and it was from residence from the Town of Pearl River that were very proud that we do provide that service.

Chief Dockery said, thank you.

Mr. Trascher said, very positive comments.

Chief Dockery said, that's good, that's good.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, does anybody else have anything on that? If not, we will move to the Chief's Report.

CHIEF'S REPORT/ EMS REPORT - Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, for the month of November, Fire District 11 responded to:

EMS	67
MVA	5
STRUCTURE FIRE	1
DUMPSTER FIRE	1
GRASS FIRE	2
SERVICE/GOOD INTENT	9
DISPATCHED/CANCELLED IN ROUTE	5
FALSE ALARM	1
POWER LINE DOWN	1
TOTAL	92

CHRISTMAS EVENT

Chief Dockery continued, I have this written on mine, it was kind of an after thought. We did have the Christmas Event last Friday. Everything seemed to run smoothly even though the weather doesn't feel like Christmas time but, we were out there. We had some fruit donated by the Walmart Neighborhood Market off of Robert Boulevard so, we were able to hand out fruit. We handed out some fire prevention items. I was able to give Santa Clause a ride to Town Hall. All and all, it went without a hitch and everyone was very thankful. I am proud of my guys coming out there and showing support to the department and having good public relations with everybody.

STATION 111 UPDATE

Chief Dockery said, you may have noticed that Station 111 has brick on the front of it, again.

It was a long struggle but, it's up there now. Now I am working on getting some trim pieces for the bays and getting some gutters made for the front. It's a work in progress. We still got some steps to do. I want to get a new sign made for the front. Get the plaque kind of, buffed up and repainted and we will get it set back in place.

Mr. Trascher said, amen.

Chief Dockery said, and go from there, other than the little things, putting the lights back up, but the brick is up.

Mr. Lindsey said, did everything seem to go okay with the contractor that we chose?

Chief Dockery said, yes. They were able to come in and put the angle iron down. Actually, in the front where the door is, they had to cut the concrete right there because it kind of, was set off a little bit. So, they trenched out that whole area and got the angle down in there and got it all level. You can't tell that it's sitting on the angle iron. It looks like they did a decent job. Nothing has fallen off yet so, we will go for a while. I just wanted to give you all an update on that. Other than that, we are still working on some trim pieces. I checked with the place up in LaCombe but, I am not liking what I am hearing. I have basically, a 12 foot door and I want a 12 foot piece of trim and what they are telling me is, they do 6 foot pieces. I know somebody makes 12 foot pieces because the station over at 112 has full length pieces. I would like the full length pieces.

Mr. Trascher said, this that your talking about, is it like a flashing?

Chief Dockery said, it's the flashing to go on the bay door itself. Right now, it's that old red metal? This would be just a cap, basically, it's aesthetics. That's all this is.

Mr. Trascher said, like Corrugated Industries, where they used to do the tin if they could bend it.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, they can make anything you want.

Mr. Trascher said, they can make it 40 foot long.

Mr. Lindsey said, that's in Chalmette.

Chief Dockery said, okay.

Mr. Swann said, on Paris Road.

Mr. Trascher said, we won't hold that against them.

Mr. Lindsey said, they make anything you want. That's what I was saying before. I get my dad, often to draw up, as a matter of fact he just went there this week, draw up different designs of flashing's. He goes down there and shows them the drawings and this is how long

I want it and this is the color I want and they make it. They can make whatever you want.

Chief Dockery said, we are going to need something kind of odd for the gutter itself. It looks like we are going to need to extend out the roof a little bit, the over hang.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, it's going to need big wide flashing to tuck up back under the old roof and then come out and up into the...

Chief Dockery said, yes, we can definitely work on getting that. Alright, the last thing I have is engine 111, I don't even mean to call it that. The proposed new engine. I did do some research and got with the gentleman and actually built out a truck to our specks. I actually added a couple of thing that, truthfully, I just wanted. I want it to where everything has a home. So, that's how I built it. So, just to give you all an idea of what it would cost with everything we had on the truck it would be \$627,618. So, that's something for us to kind of look at in the future. I know we are moving this \$300,000, tonight into the reserve or restricted account. That would make a good down payment on it.

Mr. Trascher said, well, we will get into that when we move it to the restricted account.

Chief Dockery said, okay. That's all I have for the Chief's Report.

Mrs. Blackwell said, alright, anybody have any questions?

Mr. Trascher said, no, I would just like to thank all the hands that worked to put the bricks up on the building and take the old ones down. It was a safety hazard and at some point it was going to hit somebody in the head.

Chief Dockery said, yes. It wasn't too bad taking it down, so.

Mr. Trascher said, I bet they came down by themselves almost. But, it was something that needed to be done, thank you.

Chief Dockery said, yes sir.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Blackwell said, alright, we will move to Old Business, Resolution to move funds into the restricted account, Floyd.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, this is and folks, I hate to use the term budget surplus but, what we are looking at this year is, we do have some funds that, through careful management, we have been able to put on the side and I believe the law does require us, if we do have a surplus or we have funds that are in the budget that are not necessary, that we need to put those into a restricted account with a specific purpose. So, Chief, you can give us the numbers on the amount that we are going to have this year after we pay our expenses that we anticipate to move into this account. Now, this restricted account requires action by the Board to withdraw any funds from it. So, it's not like a budget item or a savings account

where you could just move the money around and do that. But, we have identified several needs for example, the truck that further down the road we are going to have to replace. So, with said, because we do have this surplus, I would move that we put it into the, our restricted account where it is going to require Board action to disburse those funds and it will be for the specific purpose of replacing equipment as we need it.

Mr. Lindsey said, I agree, I second that.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Lindsey, how do you vote.

Mr. Trascher asked, well, do you want to read the resolution into the record?

Mrs. Blackwell said, yes, let's read it in so we can have any discussion after.

Mr. Trascher said, we've actually got a resolution, Resolution 2021-020:

WHEREAS, a quorum of the Board of Commissioners (“Board”) of St. Tammany Fire Protection District No. 11 (“District”) was present on this date, December 14, 2021, for a properly advertised meeting:

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Fire Protection District No. 11 of the Parish of St. Tammany, State of Louisiana (the “Governing Authority”), acting as the governing authority of Fire Protection District No. 11 of the Parish of St. Tammany, State of Louisiana (the “District”), find it in the best interest of the Board, employees, citizens and taxpayers, whereby the Board approves the transfer of funds as follows:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. As requested by Chief Jack Dockery, the Board of Commissioner's approve the transfer of \$300,000, to the Restricted account for Building Maintenance and Equipment.
2. To the extent that prior resolutions or acts of this Board conflict with this Resolution, those prior Resolutions and actions are superseded by this Resolution.

Mr. Trascher said, we talked about the truck but, we do have some other needs from time to time in our stations that we may need to use these funds for. Okay, with that, I would move that we approve Resolution 2021-020, to move the funds to the restricted account.

Mr. Lindsey said, I will second.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, any discussion? If there's no discussion, Mr. Lindsey, how do you vote?

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell said, Mr. Swann, how do you vote?

Mr. Swann said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Trascher, how do you vote?

Mr. Trascher said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell said, motion carries. Okay, we will move on to 2021 Amended Budget, Chief Dockery.

2021 AMENDED BUDGET – Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, I would ask that we table this until next month. Unfortunately, we did have some issues come up after I presented you all with the amended. We have two trucks out right now that need repair. One of them I don't even have a quote on yet. They are still trying to locate the issue. It's something with the power block on it with our ambulance. I did speak with our CPA and we both looked it up and there is no reason, nothing holding us from doing it next month so we have every figure for the year.

Mr. Trascher said, the only question that I have is that, we are actually going into another year where we approved the budget that starts January 1st. Technically, we will be using those funds and these funds, you know December 31st, it's over with.

Chief Dockery said, yes, but you can, as long as you approve the budget for the next year, that's fine. But, you can still amend the prior years budget after that year has passed, after that fiscal year has past. I hate to even bring up Town Hall but...

Mr. Trascher said, we don't want to get into Pearl River's budgets. Because after December 31st, technically, the only thing you could pay would be invoices that you may have made a purchase in December to do that.

Chief Dockery said, yes, everything that we had, that I had set out for on the original that I presented last month, is being taken care of right now. So, everything is in the works for that. What I don't have is any other charges that I have taken out of the balance. Say for instance, for 11 months this truck ran and on the 12th month it decided to have some type of catastrophic failure. We've got to fix it and as long as it's within the December time line of being fixed, it's still falls into the December budget.

Mr. Trascher said, the December budget. Like I said, if an alternator went out today and you had to go buy an alternator today and you charged it, the \$2,000, alternator you wouldn't pay for it until sometime in January but, it would be credited to the 2021 budget.

Chief Dockery said, yes, the 2021 Budget.

Mr. Trascher said, I understand that we, by law, have to approve the budget for 2022, which we have.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, so, by tabling this in our January meeting, we are going to bless the figures that we did for last year. We are not going to change bottom line, we are only going to change the line items that were in that budget.

Chief Dockery said, yes, correct.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, with that understanding, I move we table it.

Mr. Lindsey said, I will second.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Lindsey, how do you vote?

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Swann, how do you vote?

Mr. Swann said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Trascher, how do you vote?

Mr. Trascher said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell said, motion carries.

ELECT CHAIRMAN FOR 2022 – Floyd Trascher

Mrs. Blackwell said, Elect Chairman for 2022, Mr. Trascher.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, well guys, our Chairman's term expires technically, December 31st, of this year. It's a 2 year term that we appoint the Chair. That is done by this Board. So, what we need to do at this meeting is we need to do a Resolution, appoint a Chairman for the next two years and in January, we will elect the officers for this Board and those are, well we are short one, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer and they had a Vice-Secretary. Pick which hat you want to wear next year.

Mr. Lindsey said, I would make a good Treasurer.

Mr. Trascher said, well, Mr. Secretary (Mr. Swann).

Mr. Trascher said, well, with that said, Madam Chairman, if you want to conduct the election or the appointment or as Vice-Chair, I will handle it.

Mrs. Blackwell said, you handle it.

Mr. Trascher said, it would be whatever you want.

Mrs. Blackwell said, because it's pertaining to me, I would rather you handle it.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, then what I am going to do at this time is, I am going to open the floor for nominations for Chairman.

Mr. Lindsey said, I nominate Mrs. Michele.

Mr. Swann said, I second it.

Mr. Trascher said, okay we have a nomination and an second for Michele Blackwell. Are there any other nominations? Are there any other nominations? Last call, any other nominations? Hearing none, Mrs. Blackwell has been re-elected as the Chairman of the Board for the ensuing years 2022 and 2023. Mrs. Blackwell, do you accept?

Mrs. Blackwell said, I accept.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, get your Oath of Office together and get filed with the State and congratulations.

Mrs. Blackwell said, who do we go to for that now?

Chief Dockery asked, what's that?

Mrs. Blackwell asked, who do we go for that, are we still going to Mr. Tassin? I guess anybody can do it.

Mr. Trascher said, any notary.

Chief Dockery said, we can go get with Mrs. Janet, Jane.

Mr. Swann said, Tim Matheson is over there. He can notarize it for you.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, at Town Hall.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, who is that?

Mr. Trascher said, Tim Matheson, the Town Attorney.

Mrs. Blackwell said, sounds good. Georgette, do you have a copy of that?

Mrs. Rinkus said, I can get one.

Mr. Trascher said, and also the Secretary of State, there's 5 copies.

Chief Dockery said, I think that Mr. Tassin usually stays over in the Mandeville area Mandeville, Covington area.

Mr. Trascher said, who, Mr. Tassin? He is working in New Orleans. He was in Covington for a while but he is over in New Orleans. He lives there, I can get him anytime we need him. We can call him at the house and go over to the house. Which ever is convenient but, we do need 5 copies. One goes to the, you can send two to the Parish. The Parish will keep one and they will send one to the Secretary of State, one goes to the Town of Pearl River and one for Michele and one for the records here for the Board, in our files.

Mrs. Rinkus said, I think I have a copy in the files.

Mr. Trascher said, if not, you can go on the States website and I know I have some printed somewhere at the house. I can print some for you.

Mrs. Rinkus said, I can get them.

Mrs. Blackwell said, Georgette will take care of that.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Blackwell said, okay, if that is done on that end, we have under New Business, any Public Comments?

Mr. Swann asked, do I have to fill this page in?

Mrs. Blackwell said, no, Georgette will take care of that.

Mr. Trascher said, I wanted to ask Georgette, if she would, check on the terms of the Civil Service Board, to see when there appointments are expired. If we, as a Board, we make one appointment to the Civil Service Board. When that comes up, if there is somebody that may be interested that you want, we can make that appointment. There are three people on that Board. One is appointed by the Universities and we would have to get recommendations from the colleges.

Mrs. Blackwell said, Kriste Buck is that appointment.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, Kristi Buck is that appointment.

Chief Dockery said, that's a difficult one to fill.

Mr. Trascher said, the department, the fireman elect one of their, they have one appointment that they elect and we make one appointment. Anyway, that is just food for thought that will be coming up in the future.

Mr. Swann asked, who is our appointment?

Mr. Trascher said, Pete Finger.

Mr. Swann asked, does he want it again or what?

Mr. Trascher said, I don't know but he's been there a while and if we are all satisfied then that

will do it.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, okay, is there anything else on the elections and seating's and stuff like that?

Mr. Trascher said, and as you know, we still have an appointment from the Town of Pearl River on the Board. A vacancy on this Board but, supposedly the Alderman make that appointment. I think they have to appoint their own right now before they start appointing us. No pun intended.

Mrs. Blackwell said, alright,with that being said, are you finished.

Mr. Trascher said, there was something else I wanted to bring up.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Michelle Blackwell

Mrs. Blackwell said, no, Public Comment then you can bring it up afterwards. Is there any Public Comment? With no public here, thank you. Do we have a motion to adjourn?

Mr. Swann said, I will make a motion to adjourn.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, do we have a second?

Mr. Lindsey said, I will second.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Lindsey, how do you vote?

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Swann, how do you vote?

Mr. Swann said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Trascher, how do you vote?

Mr. Trascher said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell said, motion carries, thank you.