



St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 11
Board of Commissioner's
Minutes of the Meeting on September 14, 2021
Fire Chief Jack Dockery
7:03pm – 8:15pm

ROLL CALL

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

INVOCATION
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MINUTES

Mrs. Blackwell asked, has everyone read the August 10th, meeting?

Mr. Trascher said, yes, I reviewed the minutes that were emailed and they seem to be in order and I would move that we approve them with the video governing.

Mr. Swann said, I second.

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. Let's move on to the Financial Report, Chief.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, the Finance's, we do not have. It's not Moyle's fault, it's just US Mail's fault. We are just starting to get mail in and we have not received the bank statements yet.

EMS

Chief Dockery continued, I will say, for the EMS side, we took in a total of \$13,231.99, for the month of August.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, does anybody have any questions?

Mr. Trascher said, no, that's accurate.

Mrs. Blackwell said, okay, we will go to the EMS Report/Chief's Report, Chief Dockery.

CHIEF'S REPORT - Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, for the month of August, we had:

EMS	83
MVA	6
VEHICLE FIRE	1
GRASS FIRE	1
SERVICE/GOOD INTENT	21
DISPATCHED/CANCELLED IN ROUTE	11
FALSE ALARM	3
POLICE MATTER	1
CARBON MONOXIDE	1
TOTAL	128

66 CALLS THE WEEK OF THE STORM (IDA)

Chief Dockery continued, we ran 66 calls the week of the storm. That is usually about a little over half to 75% of our normal call volume. We did that in one week. It was very busy for us the week of Ida. We kept both of our Med trucks up for the entire week and it was very well needed. With the amount of people in this area and neighboring Districts.

LEAVING 9/15, RETURNING 9/17, FLORIDA

Chief Dockery said, tomorrow I will be leaving and going down between Tampa Bay and Sarasota, to do inspections on our tanker so, I will be flying out tomorrow. We will do the inspection on the new tanker Thursday and I will be flying back Friday. So, once inspection is done, they will ship it over to Harahan and finish putting decals and any little pieces.

Mr. Trascher said, this is our shuttle, right,

Chief Dockery said, yes, this is our service truck. So, I will be returning Friday from that.

Mr. Trascher asked, will Chief Parish be in?

Chief Dockery said, Chief Parish will be in, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, do you have anything for the EMS?

Chief Dockery said, just what I had with the \$13,231.99.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Blackwell said, okay, if that is all for the Chief's Report, we do not have any Old Business, we will move into New Business, Introduction of 2022 Budget, Chief Dockery.

NEW BUSINESS

INTRODUCTION OF 2022 BUDGET – Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, alright, in front of you all, that very large piece of paper is our 2022 Budget. We are looking to be about \$75,000, more than year from ad valorem. That's keeping us neutral with our, what we did with our millage rates. That was just the growth. Everything has been adjusted. Payroll, I adjusted 4%, we had 2% raises but I put a little bit of a buffer in there and I adjusted our insurance and anything that goes with the cost of living. So, the rest of it should run about the same as this year. It looks as if, if everything runs the same we will have \$104,650, un-allocated at this time.

Mr. Trascher asked, Chief, let me ask you, on our FEMA loan, do you have something in here to help retire that debt?

Chief Dockery said, I do, on the last page, the third one from the bottom, it will say FEMA, \$30,000.

Mr. Trascher said, so, it would be a \$30,000, payment on that loan.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, and how much would that leave us roughly?

Chief Dockery said, \$60,000.

Mr. Trascher said, we will still be in for \$60,000.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher asked, are we paying interest on that loan?

Chief Dockery said, every year.

Mr. Trascher said, because it may be better if we could put something, a little more with it to retire that debt, depending on what the interest is.

Chief Dockery said, I mean, we can pay it in one lump. I mean, we have paid interest on it since Katrina.

Mr. Trascher said, but I don't think we are getting a lot of interest on our bank deposits to help offset that.

Chief Dockery said, no, not to offset it, no. We can definitely make a bigger payment. That's not an issue.

Mr. Trascher said, what we can do, if you want to leave it like this and then we can go through the year because we have identified other needs that we may have.

Chief Dockery said, this is just, I want to visit it now just because of how our journal does.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, because we have to get it advertised.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, and we have to approve it by December.

Chief Dockery said, yes, because the time frame is kind of funky.

Mr. Trascher said, and it has to lay over for 30 days.

Chief Dockery said, I just wanted to approve it in November. That way we have it all this month and next month and in November we can approve it at our meeting.

Mr. Trascher asked, do you want a motion to introduce the budget?

Chief Dockery said, yes. I have a notice here.

Mr. Trascher said, so it will reflect in the minutes.

Chief Dockery said, yes, I have a notice here that I will read or if you want to read it.

Mr. Trascher said, whatever you want, Chief. You have it, go ahead.

Chief Dockery reads:

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the Board of Commissioner's of St. Tammany Fire Protection District No. 11, will consider a resolution to adopt the proposed 2022 Budget at a regularly scheduled Board of Commissioner's meeting on November 9th, 2021, at 7:00pm, at St. Tammany Fire Protection District No. 11, located at 37546 Pine Street Extension, Pearl River, Louisiana 70452.

The proposed 2022 Budget is available for public inspection during regular business hours at the St. Tammany Fire Protection District No. 11, located at 64279 Highway 1081, Pearl River, Louisiana 70452.

Mr. Trascher said, I would so move to approve what the Chief just read.

Mr. Swann said, second.

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.

Mr. Swann asked, (inaudible) expense, what is that?

Mr. Trascher said, the Assessor's Office bought a program to identify deceased property owners and they go back and look at all of that and we have to pay portion of that back to them.

Mr. Swann asked, why do we have to pay for their program?

Mr. Trascher said, that's a question that we ask all the time.

Chief Dockery said, why do we have to pay for their furniture?

Mr. Trascher said, it's a question that we all ask.

Mr. Swann asked, for their furniture?

Chief Dockery said, we have to pay for their furniture every year. All the fire districts have to pay for their furniture.

Mr. Trascher said, there's an assessment that they put on to do it but, my understanding is that, they purchased a system or they brought in a company that reviews all of the property taxes and they are looking for deceased home owners that have or are improper homestead exemptions. They identify those and collect the taxes. This is supposedly to offset the first year we pay it, we pay that portion of the program but we collect the taxes therein. That's the smoke that they told us when they did it. That's the best that I can explain it. We pay, every fire district, every taxing body.

Mr. Swann said, you didn't have a choice, you had to do this?

Mr. Trascher said, that's right. Basically, yes. They identified the millage's and the deceased property owners.

Mr. Swann asked, did you get that much more in income?

Chief Dockery said, it's, no.

Mr. Swann said, it wasn't very beneficial.

Chief Dockery said, no, it wasn't very beneficial.

Mr. Trascher said, the first year or so it was.

Chief Dockery said, yes, but now.

Mr. Trascher said, if we get this much. I know of a couple that they found.

Mr. Swann said, you mean dead people.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, you can't have dead people every year. They got to start dying quicker I guess. They have to die and they have to have a homestead exemption. That's our assessor and we are so thankful.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, alright, are we ready to go on to the next one? CPA Review, Chief Dockery?

CPA REVIEW – Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, alright, I spoke with you all a couple of meeting ago about putting some feelers out for some other CPA's. I sent to, I believe, 9 different companies. I only have 1 of them, other than our CPA that we have now, contact me back. Just to through them, Moyle and Associates, who we have now. They have two separate contracts. The first contract is for Write-up Services, which they estimate at \$13,550.

That's an estimate, that's usually where they fall each year. Now, they also have, they added to us last year, was a Payroll Service which they kind of broke it out. Payroll Service they charge \$150 per payroll which, 26 payrolls in the year, so, that's \$3,900. Then, they charge \$225 per quarter, for quarterly payroll reports and they charge \$195 for the End of the Year Report fees. So, that comes out to \$4,995. You add that to the \$3,550...

Captain Anderson said, \$3,900.

Chief Dockery said, it comes out to \$18,500 or a little more than \$18,500. I am going to try and be as polite as I can on record and we will go from there. We have been with this company for years now. Each year around tax time, we kind of get short changed. It seems like other people doing their taxes seem to get moved ahead of the line above us. I understand that he has his firm going on. I think the thing that really aggravates me and has basically gotten fed up, that's the politest word I am going to use, I've had an occasion that has happened where, I had one guy who pays child support to the State of Florida. It's suppose to come out every single check. We print the check and we send it to Florida. I started to wonder about it because I haven't seen that check. Around the same time I got a letter in the mail from the State of Florida stating that it hasn't been paid in a couple of months. I don't want the man to get in trouble for not paying his child support when it's been taken out of his check every single time. We got that cleared up and I got them to cut a check that day. I probably got charged for that, that day, and I got it sent off. Well, the gentleman that just left and another one of my employees had a loan through our deferred comp. It comes directly out of our check each pay period and each month they are suppose to send payment to the State of Louisiana. They put both of them in default when they missed a couple of payments and I guess they didn't catch it. Well, in May I got a letter from the State of Louisiana saying that I am in default. Well, wait a minute, I pay roughly \$130 per check goes into this loan. So, I called them up and sure enough, I was default in their eyes and I called Moyle's office the same day. Apparently, they had somebody new come in and they have so much turn over that it didn't get passed on and they didn't pay if for 4 months. I had to get a check for like \$21,000, cut and had you sign it, and mail it off that day. On these pieces of paper that I have highlighted, you can see where they talked to the people at the Deferred Comp, and they charged us. They charged us for their mistake! So, to say that I am just a little aggravated is keeping it very, very PG friendly. With that being said, I sent basically, everything that our CPA does. I sent it out to all of these other companies and, like I said, I got one reply back to me. I talked to them and they will do everything that our current CPA does and they will charge a flat rate of \$1,200, per month. It will come out to \$14,400, I think, for the year. Right now, even if it was the same cost, I would ask that we move services and give someone else a try. Let them kind of, get their act together.

Mr. Swann asked, what are we paying Moyle?

Chief Dockery said, on their contract we are paying, I missed the \$50 so let me get the \$50 in the amount. Don't misquote me here. We are contracted to them for \$18,545.

Mr. Swann asked, and how much was the other one?

Chief Dockery said, the other one would be \$1,200, per month, times 12, we are looking at \$14,400.

Mr. Swann asked, did you confront Moyle with these charges?

Chief Dockery said, I have talked to him multiple times. We've, I had meeting with him in the past on this.

Mr. Swann asked, I mean, did you talk to him on these issues?

Chief Dockery said, yes, on these issues.

Mr. Swann asked, and what did he tell you?

Chief Dockery said, they were sorry and they are working on it.

Mr. Swann said, okay, you should back bill them the hourly rate for straightening it out.

Chief Dockery said, I mean, I don't think we should be getting charged for their mistake.

Mr. Swann said, I don't either.

Chief Dockery said, I mean, that's, it may only be a couple hundred bucks but still, that's a couple hundred dollars that you are billing me because you made a mistake.

Mrs. Blackwell said, yes indeed, that's several hundred dollars.

Chief Dockery said, I am highly dissatisfied with it. Like I said, talking to this other company, they will do everything, everything that Moyle has in their contract, plus they will actually come to a meeting once a quarter and that's included in the cost. Whereas, Moyle's actually, they charge, well, if a CPA comes it's \$115, and if a partner comes it's \$180. So, we don't get any freebie's there.

Mrs. Blackwell said, so, all these telephone conversations with this other company, are they going to bill us for the phone calls?

Chief Dockery said, no, they said, unless it's an extraordinary, I think I have it in front of you, unless it's an extraordinary difficult thing or very complex, they will let us know, hey, in order to do this we are going to have to add a cost. Before it's even done but he said, a regular phone calls, regular visits, anything like that, it's all built into that rate. So, if I need to go over there and sit down and go over the budget, it's built into the rate. There's not an extra charge. If Mr. Swann wants to go over there and just visit and talk with them, they are not charging \$150, an hour just for them...

Mr. Trascher said, they are not going to do that, I can tell you that. They will go a little

bit with you but, if we bother them every day, they are going to bill us.

Chief Dockery said, no, I'm saying, just a random, just once a quarter or once every six months, they are not going to but every day, yes, I can understand that.

Mr. Trascher said, I think originally, Moyle, we had the same agreement with them but, we, and not you, but we relied on them and called them every day and I believe that's when they started saying they would have to bill us. But with like the checks and all, picking things up locally here, you don't have a problem going into Slidell to do it. Mandeville is a bit further.

Chief Dockery said, well, we don't even go over there for anything. I haven't been over there since, probably COVID. Everything is done electronically now. Basically, what I do is, I email them any bills that I have. Chief Parish emails them all the payroll and they go and put it in the Quick books. I go in Quick books, I see what we have, I check and make sure my check numbers are correct, I put my checks in the printer and I hit print. They print out in my office so, there's nothing with us having to go over there for anything. Now, they are stating that it is basically the same service with checks, with the payroll, it's all just electronic. Even the W-2's, we don't go over there anymore or the W-9's, or anything like that. It's all done electronically. So, as far as me stepping foot in his office, it's been, it's probably been since COVID started.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, that's changed a lot of us.

Chief Dockery said, but, I wanted to present because our contract is up with Moyle. I wanted to bring it to the Board's attention that there is another option out there.

Mr. Trascher said, is this their list of services?

Chief Dockery said, yes, that's everything that they will do and that is everything that Moyle does for us. So, basically, when I sent it out to all of them, it was copy and paste of exactly what services we are supposed to be getting now, was sent to all of them so that it was a uniform list.

Mr. Swann asked, have you talked to anybody that uses their services?

Chief Dockery said, there are a couple of different departments that use them and they love them. He is very familiar with the fire service. Like I said, he's got 3 or 4 departments that use him so, he is very familiar with how our payroll is set up and how our time is set up.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, does Fire District 1 use them?

Chief Dockery said, Fire District 1, I think they still uses the people we had before. I can't remember his name.

Mr. Trascher said, Moyle?

Chief Dockery said, no, it's not Moyle.

Mr. Trascher said, no, not Moyle, Mark.

Mrs. Blackwell said, it was deGiovanni?

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, we didn't have any problem with him, I didn't at least. Even this one, ask them if they have other issues, are they going to bill us for it.

Chief Dockery said, yes, he has it in there that if there's anything that...

Mr. Trascher said, I mean, these same issues that we've had with Moyle, they may bill us for that, too. They could.

Mrs. Blackwell said, well, we went through months with Moyle that we were behind even in our monthly payments.

Chief Dockery said, yes, and this has been brought to his attention at some point or another. I would have to check up on him with payroll, not payroll, accounts payable and they would get it done that day but I'm like, you are already, I gave it to you the Monday before last. Why are you waiting until now. I would get two separate stacks of checks to print. Your making me late on my bills. I am giving it to you in a mainly...

Mrs. Blackwell said, a proper amount of time.

Chief Dockery said, in a proper amount of time. I'm sorry I'm getting frustrated, I feel my blood pressure getting up.

Mrs. Blackwell said, we can see it in your face, it's red.

Chief Dockery said, so, I am tired of them saying, oh, we have new people working on it. That's not my problem. I get new people all the time and it's my responsibility to make sure they are doing their job. You get new people, it's your responsibility but, when you let something go as important as something with payroll or something with child support, just regular bills. I don't like to be late. I don't like to have a late payment notice. Some of these people, they don't really care for late payments. LWCC does not care for late payments. I actually had to pay one time, I guess the check got lost. I had to put a stop payment on it and paid them with the card that day. These people do not like late payments. That's why it is very important when I get it in, I send it to them. I expect within two days to have something back. That way I can get

it signed. Not a week and then I have to hold your hand and say, hey, where's my stuff from this date. Well, we working on it. Are you short staffed? What is the issue going on here. I need my checks. So, I just feel that...

Mr. Trascher said, I can understand that. One of the things that I see, this one doesn't say anything about the annual audit preparation.

Chief Dockery said, let's see.

Mr. Trascher said, but, Moyle has been doing that. The list of services are more inclusive, they are clearer.

Chief Dockery asked, list for Moyle or....

Mr. Trascher said, for Moyle. They are more inclusive on services that they are going to provide. This is a broader statement on Griffin.

Chief Dockery said, Griffin.

Mr. Trascher said, Griffin and Furman.

Chief Dockery said, I am sure they had something in there about the audit.

Mr. Trascher said, one of the problems is, if the engagement letter begins October 1st, we almost have to make a decision right this minute.

Mr. Swann asked, let me ask you, do you think you can straighten out this stuff for Floyd and go ahead and get it to us. The stuff that Floyd is bringing up to you.

Chief Dockery said, about the audit? Let's see, number 6, Miscellaneous, preparation is scheduled for the annual audit, provide assistance as needed. Do you want me to have him spell it out or detail it more?

Mr. Trascher said, yes, you see what I am saying Chief? We need to compare apples and apples if we are looking at price. Sometimes the devil that you know is better than the devil you don't and we know what we can expect from Moyle. I certainly agree that I think that we should put something in writing to Moyle about being charged for the instances that you specifically mentioned.

Mr. Swann said, I think you should be back billed him.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, something should be in writing that he rescind those charges and that it was no fault of the department and that it was caused by his staff.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, and that would or that could have an effect on who gets selected and with Griffin and Furman, I see how they have it listed but it's not specific. We come up to do the audit and they can say that's additional. They could say we have to bill you for that so, I think the cost will come in about the same. We are going to wind up paying. No accountant works for nothing.

Chief Dockery said, no, no, that's, I spoke with him yesterday on it and I took apples to apples. I took everything on here and I blacked out all the prices and sent it to him. So, he doesn't have it spelled out, let me see what...

Mr. Trascher said, well, you had that sheet included in like a bid sheet, he could put on there to provide the services that are included with the bid sheet and attach that bid sheet. It didn't have prices on it so..

Chief Dockery said, the only thing they have in here is annual audit preparation and assistance.

Mr. Trascher said, and I know we've had problems in the past where we had, they had to sit down and put their heads together and come up with the audit.

Chief Dockery said, so, he does have included as having the audit in there. Number 6, Miscellaneous, Preparation Scheduled Required for the Annual Audit, provide assistance as needed. That's basically what Moyle is saying, Annual Audit Preparation Assistance. There, I mean basically, they inherit their own way.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, they all are going to do it their way.

Chief Dockery said, so, as a CPA, they should have everything needed for the auditor. For whoever we have come in and do the audit, the CPA firm that we have should have everything in line for that audit. Now, there again, we run into issues where Moyle says, well, that's not my responsibility and I am just going to say, these people have done our audit for the past three years. They have been great, fabulous, no problems with them. They have spoken with Moyle and told him what they needed. Now, between those two, they got a little friction.

Mr. Trascher said, if we hire them they won't be able to do our audit, are they?

Chief Dockery said, they will not be able to do our audit but there's a lot more out there

and I want to say they have three or four names that they can throw out there of CPA's that can do it. So, trading one for another, truthfully, I rather have them for a CPA because I know what I am getting every year and I know that my books are going to be clean for whoever comes in and audits. If they do half of what they do for us with that, we will be in good shape. I leave it to the Board. Believe me, if I had my own way, my own universe to control it, we wouldn't even have this discussion but I am bringing it to you all to give my grievance to let you know how I personally feel as Chief of this department with how we have been lead astray in a sense. We've had him before, he left us, we had somebody else, I think Lake and Lake. Then we got with PMI and they did the deGiovanni and when we left them...

Mrs. Blackwell said, we went back to Moyle.

Chief Dockery said, I am just going to leave it at that, we went back to him. There's probably other reasons that we went back but...

Mrs. Blackwell asked, do you all have any more questions because the next thing is CPA Approval.

Chief Dockery said, if we want to hold off until next meeting, there again...

Mr. Trascher said, you see Chief, that's the Problem, you bring this tonight and October 1st is when this...

Chief Dockery said, I tell him every year, give this to me a couple months in advance. Every year I tell them, give me a couple months in advance because I have to bring it to the Board for them to look over it and then approve it at the next meeting.

Mr. Trascher said, I understand your frustration.

Mr. Swann said, if it's that big a deal, what's wrong with having a meeting next week and let him get what he needs.

Mr. Trascher said, that's another option.

Mr. Swann said, I mean, I see where he is going. He wants to change, okay.

Mr. Trascher said, no...

Mr. Swann said, and I see you have some thought in some of this. Do you think we can work it out in a week?

Chief Dockery said, I will email him tonight.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, is there any way he could come to a meeting?

Mr. Trascher said, I would probably better not to have him come to a meeting. We don't want to air our dirty laundry. If you have him come you would have the other one come and all of that.

Chief Dockery said, I can email him tonight.

Mrs. Blackwell said, well, we can flip quarters on who is fist fighting down and just watch the wrestle. That's a free show.

Mr. Trascher said, that's what it boils down to. We have a deadline. If we run over the October 1...

Chief Dockery said, we always run over it.

Mr. Trascher said, that's what I am worried about. I don't want to have October 1, and Moyle call you and tell you, you either decide this or we not going to do the payroll.

Mrs. Blackwell said, that's probably why he sends it at the last minute.

Mr. Trascher said, and it's going to take some time even if we approve it tonight, to switch everything from this company to his company.

Chief Dockery said, yes, we have to give him a 30 day notice.

Mr. Trascher said, we are going to have an overlap and it's going to be quite an ordeal to switch it over.

Chief Dockery said, the same contract he gave us, if he is not happy with us, he has 30 days to end service and vice versa, we have 30 days. I will contact him tonight via email.

Mr. Trascher said, well, if we can go over the October 1st, deadline, we could do it at the next meeting. You can get some more specific information on that.

Chief Dockery said, I think I am with Mr. Swann. All we need is a 24 hour notice.

Mr. Trascher said, well, your still going to run over the 30 days. There's no way we can make it now.

Chief Dockery said, no, once a week comes, if we have a meeting, whoever we decide, yes, the 30 day drop. We will have to pay his invoice. If we stay with Moyle, so be it, it's done. If we don't, we will have to pay his invoice because it's always a month behind because he has to do the services.

Mr. Trascher said, so, we can go ahead and hire Moyle now and give him 30 days notice to cancel it. We don't have to stay the whole time, right? Let's say if we sign the...

Mr. Swann asked, is there any cancellation fee on it? I am just trying to achieve something that will make both of you all happy.

Chief Dockery said, I have to look.

Mr. Trascher said, oh, I am happy either way we have to do it. We have to do it, that's all. I just, sitting here, I have been here too long I guess because every CPA we have dealt with...

Mr. Swann said, has a problem.

Mr. Trascher said, no, comes in here and they are going to be cheaper but, it's the add on's that winds up eating us up.

Chief Dockery said, truthfully, I wouldn't care if he was the same price as long as he...

Mr. Trascher said, if he was more you would want to go.

Chief Dockery said, as long as the service dictated what we were paying...

Mr. Trascher said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell said, and this isn't something that just happened yesterday. Back when Pam was here I was signing checks with past due notices. So, this is something that has been building with Jack for a while

Mr. Trascher said, yes, I understand. It's not just this year.

Chief Dockery said, I see where he can terminate but I don't see our terminate. I will go ahead and approve it right now. I thought it was a quick quo pro on that. But, it looks like if we elect to terminate our services for non payment, our engagement would be deemed to have been completed upon written, all our expenses, reimburse us, out of pocket expenditures at the date of termination.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, he can bill us like crazy if we tell him we are canceling.

Mr. Swann said, well, it's going to happen either way whether you do it tonight or do it later.

Chief Dockery said, he can get us for pound of flesh for a month and but, I will contact him when I get home and have him spell it out.

Mr. Trascher said, if you did it tonight and Jack gives him the notice, we have two weeks for him to get the other stuff before October 1, comes in and he starts billing us. That;s the only silver lining on the cloud.

Chief Dockery said, like I said, I can contact him tonight and probably have it for this week. I don't see any issue with it. It's probably just the format that I sent to him. I basically broke down every single thing that Moyle's does and copied and pasted it and took out the prices. That way it was apples to apples.

Mr. Trascher said, so, if you are comfortable, Gene, make a motion.

Mr. Swann said, make sure he understands Floyd's...

Chief Dockery said, yes, spell it out.

Mr. Swann said, exactly. This is going to have to be answered before a decision is made.

Chief Dockery said, yes, I will do that tonight.

Mr. Trascher said, if you are comfortable with it and want to make the motion, that way he can put Moyle on notice that we are not going to renew it. October 1st, is around the corner.

Mr. Swann said, I understand that, I rather have your questions answered and come back and vote on it then. That way we are sure. What do you think?

Mr. Trascher said, the October 1st, deadline is what concerns me. When we had this October 1st, Moyle is going to start charging us an hourly rate to do anything. That's what I think. We don't have an engagement letter so, if he has to-do a payroll, it's \$135 an hour to do a payroll.

Mr. Swann said, but if you go ahead and accept the other one anyway, we are going to be faced with that anyway.

Mr. Trascher said, but, we have 2 weeks to transfer everything over.

Chief Dockery said, yes, 2 weeks to transfer everything. Like I said, I will send him something tonight and I will have him spell it out very detailed and I will email it to you and hopefully, that will answer any questions that you have. And your right, if we sign the contract for that 2 weeks...

Mr. Trascher said, yes, if we did it tonight, we would have 2 weeks and that may make the difference for these people to do the payroll.

Chief Dockery said, yes, get everything transferred over and get everything set up to where we can run.

Mr. Trascher said, that would be the only urgency to do everything tonight. If we wait another week, we only have 1 week to have then transfer everything over and I don't see him doing that.

Chief Dockery said, as far as talking to a man, me talking to him personally, I believe it's going to be apples to apples. Basically, exactly what Moyle has now but I will have him spell it out very detailed. That way, it puts to rest any worries that we have.

Mr. Swann said, don't you think we can get this settled in 2 days or about another week?

Chief Dockery said, I will be back Friday night.

Mrs. Blackwell said, he is going to be out of town.

Chief Dockery said, I will be back Friday night sometime.

Mr. Trascher said, he is going to Florida.

Mr. Swann said, (inaudible).

Chief Dockery said, I wish, I have been trying.

Mr. Trascher said, like I said, if you are comfortable with it, make a motion.

Mrs. Blackwell said, I am just kind of thinking, and I am going to throw my opinion in, we are kind of up against a wall. I mean, what is Moyle going to do when we tell him that we don't want him?

Mr. Trascher said, if he tells him tomorrow, he's got 2 weeks. If he tells him tomorrow that we are contracted Griffin and Furman and we want to transfer all the records to them by October 1st.

Mrs. Blackwell said, that should only be a click of a button. Theoretically on a computer.

Mr. Swann said, if it was just a click of a button, we wouldn't be getting billed for all of this stuff that they didn't do.

Chief Dockery said, there's probably some files that have to be moved.

Mr. Trascher said, he's got a set up the program ...

Chief Dockery said, the program itself is just once, they can take it and just drop it into their server and it's just everything that we had is still in there.

Mr. Trascher said, so they move the whole envelope.

Chief Dockery said, yes, it's basically just moving the whole envelope. When it comes our time, basically, that's what I do. I go in there and move the whole envelope so he can have access to get what he needs to get out of it. So, that's not the issue. Yes, all these phone calls to different people, I don't like calling them just because...

Mrs. Blackwell said, they are going to try and charge you.

Chief Dockery said, I am not going to beat the dead horse but there again, like the loan, I was like how dare you charge me for your screw up. I am like the whooping

boy, you know.

Mr. Trascher said, I certainly, even if you kept Moyle, I certainly think we need to put something in writing to them from the department.

Chief Dockery said, yes, there will be some form of writing will be made to them in the sense of, you know...

Mr. Trascher said, and that's, you can't have any clearer justification than that to terminate the agreement. So, it's on you boss.

Mr. Swann said, the only problem I have with making a motion is, when I was here before, we had trouble with two different accountants. I don't want to jump into a third one. I would just like to have everybody's answers done before we do that.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, CPA's are strange animals.

Mr. Swann said, yes, we've been bit twice.

Mr. Trascher said, they are.

Mrs. Blackwell said, well he has done our audits and he's done ours pretty fair. Am I right, Chief?

Chief Dockery said, yes, every single year.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, is that the man I met in your office one time?

Chief Dockery said, probably so, kind of tall, kind of goofy?

Mr. Trascher said, kind of goofy? Your trying to sell that ham and your telling me it's got fat?

Mrs. Blackwell said, he was very nice and friendly.

Chief Dockery said, nerdy, how is that, on then CPA's standard.

Mr. Trascher said, that's a CPA.

Mr. Swann said, let me ask you something else dumb. Can you call him on the speakerphone so we can resolve this now?

Chief Dockery said, I can try to give him a call and see if he will answer.

Mr. Trascher said, PMI, that's the one. They are still entertaining some new districts around here.

Mr. Swann said, they are what?

Mr. Trascher said, they are hitting on several Districts to do. They want to take over Bush and of course, they have District 1 and I want to say Goodbye.

Chief Dockery said, I do not have his cell phone number, all I have is his office and I know he is not at the office at 7:50 at night. If we want to have a little meeting Friday, let me see what time I get back.

Mr. Swann asked, when are you leaving?

Chief Dockery said, tomorrow morning.

Mr. Trascher said, that is going to be hard because the notice has to be put up and all.

Chief Dockery said, the notice just has to be 24 hours.

Mr. Trascher said, go ahead and make a motion, Gene, if you want. Like I said, I am not a person that likes change too much, so..

Chief Dockery said, it looks like I will be getting back into New Orleans around 3:15, so, just say 4:00 in the afternoon. So, if we needed to have something Friday, I am pretty sure I can make it back in 3 hours to have it.

Mr. Trascher said, I wouldn't bet on that.

Chief Dockery said, find a way to make it back. Regardless, I will email him tonight when we leave this meeting and I will ask him to kind of put it in detail of what we are looking for.

Mr. Swann said, let me ask you this, if we get it all worked out where he can talk to Floyd and is satisfied with it, you don't have to make the meeting. Somebody else can be in your place, can't they?

Chief Dockery said, right.

Mr. Swann said, are you satisfied with that?

Mr. Trascher said, yes.

Mr. Swann said, so we don't have to wait until Friday. Are you satisfied with that?

Mr. Trascher said, yes.

Mr. Swann said, why don't we try that. If we have to have a meeting tomorrow night or whenever, you know.

Chief Dockery said, it has to be at least Thursday, you have to have a 24 hour notice.

Mr. Swann said, then Thursday. I just want you satisfied before I jump and make a motion.

Mr. Trascher said, if you want to know the truth, it's probably, in all honesty, it's going to fall in line because it's somewhat standard services.

Mr. Swann said, okay, so why don't you make a motion.

Mr. Trascher said, because it's, I am not comfortable in changing right this second. I will second your motion and vote.

Mr. Swann said, why don't we do it that way. I don't care if you have to get him on the phone with him.

Chief Dockery said, okay.

Mr. Trascher said, I just want to be sure the services are going to be, we are comparing price and certainly, we can save money by going with a cheaper price, you gotta do it. That just makes sense.

Mr. Swann said, I think he is looking at more than saving money right now, he is looking at the present problems.

Mrs. Blackwell said, I am looking at the quality of service, not the quantity. The price, yes, it's great that the price is a little bit cheaper, but like said, before.

Mr. Trascher asked, what other fire districts does he do?

Chief Dockery said, Folsom, I want to say Lee Road..

Mr. Trascher asked, their budget is comparable to ours?

Chief Dockery said, yes, small departments, too.

Mr. Trascher said, we not the smallest anymore.

Chief Dockery said, well, otherwise, we are still in the small category. I think Slidell has that in there pocket.

Mr. Trascher said, we can't compete with Slidell.

Mr. Swann said, we can't pay their taxes.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, we not even in the same thing.

Chief Dockery said, we can't pay their assessor taxes.

Mr. Swann said, let me ask you this, do you have a problem with him getting the guy to get straight in touch with you?

Mr. Trascher said, no, not at all. Other than that, if you are comfortable with it, I will...

Mrs. Blackwell said, he is talking out of both sides of his mouth right now.

Mr. Swann said, yes, he is.

Mrs. Blackwell said, because he is saying , well it's the same price, it's going to work out to the same thing but then, well....

Mr. Swann said, how about we do this with some of the other ones that we had in the past...

Mrs. Blackwell said, he does do our audits. He's been fair to us, he's done great with our audit and everything.

Mr. Swann said, I don't see where it's going to be a problem with you getting him on the phone with him, we work it out and we do it.

Mr. Trascher said, if you make a motion I will vote for it. I will go with it, I will second it.

Mr. Swann asked, a motion to go ahead and wait?

Mr. Trascher said, no, to go ahead and change to Griffin.

Mrs. Blackwell said, to go ahead and change.

Mr. Swann said, I wasn't even talking to you.

Chief Dockery said, Georgette is going to have fun with these minutes!

Mrs. Rinkus said, yes, I am.

Mr. Swann said, I make a motion that he talks to you.

Mrs. Blackwell said, I kind of, agree with Chief. I signed a bunch of them that's been past due. We are paying services, overdraft fees, not overdraft fees, late fees or whatever, that we don't need to be. It's not Jack's fault or my fault.

Mr. Trascher said, I totally agree. I can understand.

Mr. Swann said, you know what gets me more than anything, I don't think this should happen under no circumstances. If they made a mistake, it's inexcusable to bill us for it.

Mr. Trascher said, make the motion. Go for it Gene, come on.

Mrs. Blackwell said, it makes these guys look bad because they are the ones that's being...

Mr. Swann said, let's go ahead and move forward.

APPROVAL OF CPA – Chief Jack Dockery

Mr. Trascher said, I will make the motion.

Mr. Swann said, I will second it.

Mr. Trascher said, we treading on water here Chief, and it's going to be on your head.

Mrs. Blackwell said, wait a minute, do we need to go into CPA Approval, before the motion?

Mr. Trascher said, we in Approval of CPA. (inaudible).

Chief Dockery said, well, I have such a big head so there is plenty to go around, so...

Mr. Trascher said, I mean, I've been burnt with CPA's where they tell you this and they tell you that and...

Chief Dockery said, well, I tell you what, if this one burns us, I will take the blame for it and I won't charge you for it.

Mr. Swann said, I like that.

Mrs. Blackwell said, well are we making a motion?

Mr. Trascher said, I make a motion, I mean, I can talk to him but I know what's going to happen. It's going to be there and we are not going to know the performance. We don't have anything to judge it by until you try it and you are going to have to sign the engagement letter to get the work. Now, certainly, for the difference in cost, that's a no brainier but, if he starts running up, we need a clause in his contract.

Mrs. Blackwell said, we can make a motion tonight to approve it and then still have him talk to Floyd on the phone.

Mr. Trascher said, that's not a problem. My concern with the urgency of the motion is that we need to put Moyle on notice because October 1st, it comes up and if we fool around and we don't, we tell him September 30th that we are not going to sign the engagement letter, then he is going to bill us an hourly rate for everything he does.

Chief Dockery said, we sign it tonight and send it to...

Mr. Trascher said, and we will pay \$6,000, a month.

Chief Dockery said, if we sign it tonight and I will send it to both that the acceptance and the termination that we will be terminating on the, what ever the date was, the first.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, can you do that before you go to Florida?

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Swann said, the only time we didn't go unanimously was PMI.

Mr. Trascher said, that's true.

Chief Dockery said, that was my second one. I was going to bring that up to you all.

Mr. Trascher said, Chief, you ain't gonna sell me that ham. I can promise you that. I move that we accept the proposal with Griffin and Furman, with the stipulation that we communicate with them, that I am able to communicate with them and we put a termination clause in the contract. Is that acceptable, Chief?

Chief Dockery said, that is acceptable. I will get him in touch with you tomorrow.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, do I have a second?

Mr. Swann said, you have a second.

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. I should have voted no and make Michele vote to break the tie,

Mrs. Blackwell said, motion carries. You thought too late because I said motion carries too quickly. Okay, now that we resolved the CPA, let's move to Command Vehicle, Chief Dockery.

COMMAND VEHICLE – Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, save the best for last.

Mr. Swann said, can I ask you something on this before we get started?

Chief Dockery said, sure.

Mr. Swann said, don't they have a State contract for this?

Chief Dockery said, this is the State contract.

Mr. Swann said, that's only two things on the State contract?

Chief Dockery said, that's the only two things viable right now on State contract for the end of this year. The only other thing they had this year was a Ford Expedition, a Chevy Tahoe and a Ford F-250 Crew Cab.

Mr. Trascher asked, why do we need a command vehicle?

Chief Dockery said, I am wanting to retire the Ford that we have now. It's in...

Mr. Trascher asked, so we are taking that out and we are going to surplus it?

Chief Dockery said, yes, surplus the Ford and the Dodge will go down and the new one would come in. That way we will have exactly what we have now, it's just keeping it updated.

Mr. Trascher said, updating the fleet.

Chief Dockery said, updating the Fleet.

Mr. Trascher said, you know, we've determined several other areas that we need to work on to improve the PAIL rating and safety, like the electric here in the fire house. So, with that in mind, is the Ford, is it causing problems?

Chief Dockery said, yes, the Ford, I think it's a 2010, it's got close to...

Mr. Trascher said, my car is older than that.

Mr. Swann said, mine too.

Chief Dockery said, well, you don't run, you don't want to make a rental car a police car, how's that.

Mr. Swann said, yeah, we do..

Mr. Trascher said, (inaudible) I don't do that.

Chief Dockery said, this is just to update the fleet. The Ford is needing some serious work on it now. Being it is a 2010, it's got close to 180,000 miles on it. I want to, I have it in the budget this year to replace that truck. I am just bringing the two options that are viable to us to afford.

Mr. Swann said, alright.

Chief Dockery said, the first one is a Chevy Tahoe and it looks to come out at \$38,564.

the second option is a pickup truck. It's a Chevy Silverado.

Mr. Swann said, what's a SSD?

Mr. Trascher said, the package.

Chief Dockery said, the SSD is the fire or police version built a little heavier. So, this one, the pickup truck will be 4 wheel drive, it's wired for lights and siren's, it has a couple of safety things to it. So, it's built a little tougher.

Mrs. Blackwell said, it says here that the Tahoe is 4 wheel drive. I see it, optional figures.

Chief Dockery said, yes, the Tahoe is also 4 wheel drive but, it's \$38,564, whereas, the Silverado is \$32,748.37.

Mr. Trascher said, Chief, my thoughts are, is that the pickup truck is, for this department, a better fit and by being able to pass them down.

Chief Dockery said, yes, I just wanted to bring the two that are still viable. By all means, we can do this pickup truck, that's fine. I just wanted to bring it to your attention. We do have it in the budget. I put \$45,000, in the budget this year for this.

Mr. Trascher asked, is this the lights and all on it, too?

Chief Dockery said, that is just the truck so, you are probably looking at, I would say \$8,000, maybe, maybe, for all the lights.

Mr. Trascher said, so you want the same thing?

Chief Dockery said, yes, so we would come out...

Mr. Trascher said, even though it's a truck, you still looking at \$40,000.

Chief Dockery said, yes, we still come out under what I put in the budget for it.

Mr. Trascher said, you never did like that Dodge, did you?

Chief Dockery said, the Dodge is great. I like it.

Mr. Swann asked, are you going to order that red hot?

Mrs. Blackwell said, it doesn't look like it's offered in that. It just says the available colors is Shadow Gray Metallic.

Chief Dockery said, this is where we are going to look at, I am looking at, like our new service truck is actually gray and red. So, we might start getting the fleet in that color but, if they don't have it in that, we will go with red hot. As of my apparatus, my engines and my service truck that we are getting, we are going to try and go with a

gray and red. It's kind of, I hate to sound cheesy, it's almost the Pearl River High colors. But, that can be adjusted but regardless, it doesn't effect the price on the color. I just had Chief Parish runs something for me and this is where we come out at. This one would be 4 wheel drive. I feel it would be beneficial to this department to have something 4 wheel drive because we do have that...

Mr. Trascher said, 4 wheel drive gives you a better towing capacity.

Chief Dockery said, great towing capacity, and a better way of getting off at some of these hunting camps.

Mr. Trascher said, oh, that's you going hunting.

Chief Dockery said, well, let's take for example that Mosquito Abatement plane that crashed. I hate to say that I took my personal truck back there but, I did. If we would have had a 4 wheel drive, especially a couple of days later, it would have made it a world of difference because it's high water at that time.

Mr. Swann said, this one here is ready for a snow package.

Chief Dockery said, for all the snow we get down here.

Mr. Trascher said, if this CPA don't work out he's gonna need a snow package.

Chief Dockery said, so, like I said, these are the only two that are still in contract. The other three ran out earlier this year and the only other one that was a pickup truck, was a Ford F-250. So, I wouldn't, I know, Mr. Floyd, how you feel about pickup trucks. That's why I am saying let's...

Mr. Trascher said, if they don't have a problem with that, then I would move that if we need to replace the command vehicle, do it with the Chevy Silverado.

Chief Dockery said, okay.

Mr. Trascher said, and part of that is going to be also to, that when this vehicle comes in, we will surplus the...

Chief Dockery said, the Ford.

Mr. Trascher said, the Ford and I don't know if you have an option for selling it or if we need to bid it.

Chief Dockery said, we can actually check for maybe a trade in or something. We can check with the dealership to see if there is a trade in or something. We can go that route or just surplus it and sell it outright on our own.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, I mean, we don't really need to surplus it right now until, I imagine it's going to be a month or two before everything comes in and goes down. At that time we can surplus it unless they offer a decent trade in on it.

Chief Dockery said, yes. I am not taking no \$500.

Mr. Trascher said, no, we will sell it to the mosquito district. That way the smoke will kill the mosquito. Okay, if you need a motion, I would move that we authorize the purchase of the Chevy Silverado.

Mr. Swann said, I will second it.

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. I should have voted no so she would have to vote.

Mrs. Blackwell said, motion carries for the command vehicle.

Mr. Trascher said, Moyle didn't give us our check tonight?

Chief Dockery said, no.

Mrs. Blackwell said, see, that's a better reason to get somebody else.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Blackwell continued, Do we have any public comment? Would you guys like to say anything tonight?

Chief Dockery said, they asked the other day and I gave them the names. So, here's (inaudible).

Mrs. Blackwell said, okay, there's no Public Comment. Do we have a motion to adjourn?

Mr. Trascher said, well, before we do that, I would like to thank all the fire fighters for the service during the storm. A lot of times you don't realize it but, they are out cutting limbs and clearing roads and checking pass and things like that.

Chief Dockery said, my guys did excellent. I brought them here the Saturday morning before the storm just because, when I finally pulled the trigger Friday, it was supposed to hit us Saturday night, Sunday morning but, it kind of decided to slow down. Anyway, these guys came in Saturday morning prior to the storm, made any preparations that needed to be made, was here, I think I released these two...

Captain Sid Anderson said, Monday morning.

Chief Dockery said, the following Monday morning and all 8 or 9 days and all my guys, once the storm, we ran up until we couldn't run anymore. The following morning when the storm passed, we were out cutting, we were out clearing. They were out running calls, we had a shelter that I didn't know about until the principle called me and I saw it on Facebook.

Captain Anderson said, the day of the storm we got a call.

Chief Dockery said, the day of the storm, PBOC???.

Mr. Swann asked, where did they open up?

Chief Dockery said, Creekside.

Captain Anderson said, it was an electrical and Red Cross shelter.

Chief Dockery said, I made my grievances with EOC with that one. But, they worked.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, and I do want to recognize them for that. I appreciate it. The fire districts, in a disaster, when we have inclement weather or something like that, is really a focal point because you can do MRE distributions and stuff like that. They are the first contact in a neighborhoods with Parish Governing Bodies.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, even the Sheriff's office doesn't have that contact that you have with the Fire Districts. They are very important in these types of disasters.

Chief Dockery said, and all of the Fire Districts communicate with one another seamlessly to where we know what everyone else has and they know what we have.

Mr. Trascher said, I would like to, Chief, one of the things that we really need to look at is, to be sure that our generators are fully functional and that we have an adequate fuel supply.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, and we need to make preparations if any of our fireman have to bring food or bring something to put in the freezer or something.

Chief Dockery said, yes, both generators get services every year and get checked every year.

Mr. Swann asked, are they diesel?

Chief Dockery said, this one here is diesel but, I am actually getting in touch with the company to see if I can get a conversion for it to do natural gas or I maybe I can do double fuel where I have a diesel backup.

Mr. Swann said, double fuel would be good because you had a case where the ones that run off of natural gas, they had so many in the subdivision, they couldn't run the generator.

Chief Dockery said, the only problem here is, that tank that they got on there, it would run approximately a day and a half or two days and then you have to refill it. I would like to do a dual fuel. That way I have diesel backup from natural gas whereas, my other station is strictly natural gas.

Mr. Trascher said, I tell you, the one, my little generator, you can run either propane or natural gas.

Chief Dockery said, well, they do make them for...

Mr. Trascher said, but you have to put, you have to switch it but, you would have to put a tank in here.

Chief Dockery said, but, they do have it for, I've seen it for diesel and natural gas. We have a tank in the back that will be taken out and bringing it back up. I need to repair the trailer on it but, I think it's a 300 gallon tank. We will have that, get it filled. Luckily, Davidson Fuel was very cooperative with us. We did a lot of running, a lot of running with the ambulance the day of the storm. So, I will give the EOC credit for that. They did actually get something set up for fuel and we had multiple areas we could go to get fuel. It took a little fine tuning because at first they had it set up in LaCombe and I said, well, I am going to burn a half tank just to go there to fuel up. So, they finally set it up with Fire District 1, at their training academy on Camp Villere, and then they set up one right across the road in the Target parking lot where we could bring your truck and fill it up. So, it was very, they did get that right.

Mr. Trascher said, okay. Anyway, you let the guys for us and let them know that we do appreciate it.

Mr. Swann asked, how do we stand on the bricks?

Captain Anderson said, some are here, some are over there.

Chief Dockery said, I did get the contract from the man, I did get it signed and about three days later Ida showed up. Ida took off a few of our bricks here and Mr. Case came by the day after the storm and apparently he called the insurance adjuster. When he came out I told him, I can't steer you wrong because I just signed a contract to have this work done.

Mr. Swann said, you don't have to be that honest.

Mr. Trascher said, remember that with the CPA.

Chief Dockery said, I would feel bad if I wasn't that honest because something would come up and like, hey, we dropping your insurance because you committed fraud to us. So, I did contact the company and they were backed up a little because of Ida. I said, we are backed up too. I am going to get with Mr. Lindsey and get them off the

station front. If we have to stack them back there until we can get over to where ever we need to bring them, fine. Let's just get them off so they can do their thing. So, that's, I am still in contact with the company and of course, the bricks got backed up a little bit because we just went through, whatever. The contract is signed and it is a go. We just need to find what day we can start. We were supposed to start on the 6th, there was no way.

Mr. Swann asked, did we ever decide if we can put a load of limestone out here?

Chief Dockery said, I don't know if you wanted to stay on record or go off record?

Mr. Trascher said, I move we adjourn.

Mr. Swann said, second.

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, no.