



St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 11
Board of Commissioner's
Minutes of the Meeting on March 14, 2023
Fire Chief Jack Dockery
7:00 pm – 8:01 pm

ROLL CALL

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

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MINUTES

Mrs. Blackwell asked, has everybody read and approve the minutes from February 15th, meeting?

Mr. Dreux said, I looked over them.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, I had the opportunity to look over them and they seemed to be in order. If there is no further discussion, I move that we adopt them with the video governing.

Mr. Dreux said, second

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

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

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

Mr. Dreux 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. We will move to the Financial Report, Chief Dockery.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, alright, for the month of February, we are looking for a 16.66%, for our budget. Just looking through our every day expenses, it looks like we are right on track with water, electric, trash, even the gas. It was high last month but it's within range this month. So, as of everyday monthly bills, we are right on track. Fuel, fuel is a little high at 18.03%. We will just have to keep an eye on that throughout the year to see how it goes. But, that's pretty much it as for everyday monthly bills.

Of course, we got some expenses for the stations and trucks. Station 112, the hot water heater went out. It started leaking so I had to replace it and do some minor work upstairs.

Engine 111, we just got back from Cummin's Mid-South. It had a coolant leak in the turbo system. So, once that got back, that cost us \$3,095. I just had Sid Martins out here today to look at it for some other repairs it needs to have on it. The a/c, I had him come out and look at it and he said it is just totally shot so, we are going to have to look at a new a/c system for that truck. It is 10 years old and I would like to have it for another 10 years. Mild comfort to keep our guys cool in the summer time...

Mr. Dreux asked, which one is that?

Chief Dockery said, the primary engine out in the bay. So, I am going to talk to them sometime, I will talk to them tomorrow and set something up sometime next week for it to go to Harvey and have them look at the a/c to see what we can do to get it repaired.

Mr. Lindsey said, not that it matters but, do we have an idea on what it may run?

Chief Dockery said, I don't. He is going to get me a quote before anything is done on it, of course, and I will let you all know.

Mr. Lindsey said, it pretty much has to be fixed. It is what it is. I was just curious.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher asked, Chief when we look, is that one of the oldest engines?

Chief Dockery said, no, that's the 2013, 2014. The Pierce, this is the last year we will make a payment on it. It will be paid off this year. That and the ambulance so, it is 10 years old now.

Mr. Trascher said, because I know at one time we talked about the equipment, when it hits the 10 year mark, we needed to have it inspected and gone through.

Chief Dockery said, I had them go through it today. I have like a little punch list of different

things. Any little thing that we can fix, we will go ahead and fix it.

Mr. Trascher said, because it looks like it won't be long we will be needing to probably replace one of the engines, right?

Chief Dockery said, yes, I go in July up to up north for the prebuild for the engine that we bought. The last known estimate was, we go up in July for the prebuild and we go up for final inspection next February.

Mr. Trascher said, we are looking at a year out.

Chief Dockery said, yes, we are looking at a year out.

Mr. Lindsey said, that's faster than what they originally said. I think they said 22 months or something like that.

Mr. Trascher said, it's almost as fast as the pickup truck.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, really.

Mr. Dreux asked, who is building it?

Chief Dockery said, Pierce.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, I agree with Russell, the units are going to have to stay serviceable and we need the air condition.

Mr. Dreux said, I remember the days when there was no air condition.

Chief Dockery said, other than minor repairs, I had to get a new brake caliper for the med truck Friday.

Mr. Trascher said, software maintenance seems to be...

Chief Dockery said, software maintenance usually is once a year programs that we have, training programs or reporting system.

Mr. Trascher said, that something that seems to be a little higher now and that's something that's a low cost in the beginning and...

Chief Dockery said, yes, usually at the first of the year we will have them renew and it's not a re-occurring every month.

Mr. Trascher said, and Fire Prevention, I see..

Chief Dockery said, yes, Fire Prevention is another one that we got some inventory in for schools and what not, hats, cups.

Mr. Trascher said, it's pretty much a one time, a large purchase in the beginning and as we go

through the year is going to...

Chief Dockery said, yes, mostly our bread and butter every month ordeal, is running on track. Other than the fuel, it's a tad high but that's what it is.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, and we will have to amend the budget. Okay, thank you Chief.

EMS

Chief Dockery said, on the EMS side of it, last month we deposited \$10,604.07, so right at the mark that we usually set for each month. I know for a fact that they had some deposits made in March, at the beginning of March so, we are still within line with our \$10,000, that we set for EMS.

Mr. Trascher said, our budgeted goal.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, is that it for Financials and EMS?

Chief Dockery said, that's all I have.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, anybody else? If there's nothing else, we will move on to the Chief's Report, Chief Dockery?

CHIEF'S REPORT/ EMS REPORT - Chief Jack Dockery

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

EMS	61
MVA	4
VEHICLE FIRE	2
SERVICE/GOOD INTENT	7
DISPATCHED/CANCELLED IN ROUTE	10
FALSE ALARM	1
POLICE MATTERS	3
TOTAL	88

Chief Dockery said, I have it in the truck and I meant to bring it in here. We actually received a check from the service we are using for insurance reimbursement. We received a check for

\$1,800.

Mr. Swann said, you talking about the wrecks and stuff?

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Swann said, super.

Chief Dockery said, so, it is starting.

Mr. Lindsey said, that was going to be my question. I was curious to know if it started.

Chief Dockery said, it is starting to trickle in. It's hit or miss. Some of it, we get some MVA's that have zero insurance so, who are you going to go after?

Mr. Trascher said, that's \$1,800 we didn't have.

Chief Dockery said, that's \$1,800, we didn't have.

Mr. Swann said, like finding it in the street.

Chief Dockery said, I just wanted to let you know we are starting to get a little bit in from that.

Mr. Swann said, good.

Mr. Trascher said, while we are on the Chief's Report, I don't know if you all have seen a big gray ghost riding around this area. It looks like the Chief's truck finally came in.

Mr. Dreux said, what, we saw it last week?

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, but, not to worry, this is what it's going to look like when it's finished. It won't stay gray. It is a beast from what I've seen.

Mr. Lindsey said, nice truck.

Mrs. Blackwell said, very nice.

Chief Dockery said, yes. It's bigger than what I expected it to be.

Mr. Trascher said, that will keep you out of some small parking lots now.

Mr. Lindsey asked, Mr. Swann, could you past that down when your done?

Mr. Swann said, sure.

Mr. Lindsey said, and the deal we got on it is unbelievable. \$43,000, I think it was?

Mr. Trascher said, my damn little Colorado cost that much.

Mr. Lindsey said, I sure wish I could buy one for \$43,000. I would be down there tomorrow.

Mr. Trascher said, yes.

Mr. Dreux asked, what year is that?

Mr. Lindsey said, I guess it's a 23?

Chief Dockery said, it's a 22. The VIN number was created in the December of 22. it wasn't built until 23, but it's a 22 model.

Mr. Trascher said, a 22 model. It's a beast, I will say that.

Mrs. Blackwell said, it looks very pretty sitting out front.

Mr. Lindsey said, it's sharp looking.

Chief Dockery said, I'm sorry, one other thing on the Chief's Report. I had it covered up. I had the Louisiana State Police contact me, well they contacted a lot of Chief's, and asked how do we do our backgrounds. They basically are going to one system. No longer can any individual go to your local law enforcement and get somebody ran through NCIC or anything like that. They have to actually go and get finger printed and it's going to be held at the data base for State Police.

Mr. Dreux asked, in Baton Rouge?

Chief Dockery said, yes. I think they have some outlets like, you can go to the Sheriff's Department and get the digital prints and they will send them to Baton Rouge. But, they sent us a big old packet and I had to sit through a nice Zoom meeting to get some training on it but, all the fire departments are going to that now. For future reference, anytime we get a new employee, we will need to do the paper work they have with it and go get them finger printed and give them \$40.

Mr. Trascher said, so, they will have the employees prints on record.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, and that is just for the employees, right?

Chief Dockery said, for the employees. I just wanted to let you all know that, that is happening at this moment. It is suppose to...

Mr. Trascher said, that is our government in action and growth.

Chief Dockery said, they are suppose to be coming to do the audit in June, which there is nothing to audit this year but, next year, I will probably have all the employees just go ahead

and go through the system even though we all have been kind of grandfathered in. I will just have them go ahead and do it and have a clean slate. Everyone will get finger printed and that way we will have the whole record.

Mr. Trascher said, everybody will be in compliance with it. I am sure that will be incorporated in.

Mr. Dreux said, that's like the conceal carry permit.

Chief Dockery said, that's what I was, I have a question for the lady that I am talking with. I meant to email her today about that because if you have your conceal and carry, you already have finger prints on file. I wonder if they can transfer all that over to... that would be the question to ask because I know quite a few of the employees have their conceal carry and it would make it a lot easier just to...

Mr. Dreux said, unless they need that \$40.

Chief Dockery said, yes. They probably still need that \$40.

Mrs. Blackwell said, just to (inaudible) people with them.

Chief Dockery said, that's what I have for the Chief's Report.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, is there any other questions for the Chief's Report? If there's no other questions, we will move to Discussion of Station Upgrades, Floyd.

OLD BUSINESS

STATION UPGRADES – Floyd Trascher

Mr. Trascher said, Chief, at the last meeting we discussed the station here, that we need to get the plan in line as to what we want to do with it.

Chief Dockery said, yes, I talked with my guy and we came up with a sketch but also, I found out that District 8 is actually in the process of doing the same thing. I got the name and number for a gentleman. His name is Christopher Penton. He runs CMP designs. I contacted him and we are suppose to meet up next week to kind of go through and see if I can get him to come in and measure out and give me an actual computer drawing of what he...

Mr. Trascher asked, and will he be able to do the actual architectural drawings?

Chief Dockery said, yes. He is a, I want to say he can do pretty much, he is a civil engineer so he can do the drawings and from what they are doing over there, of course I will have to get more bids but, he basically can do the from the floor up. He does the design and then he will subcontract it out to where we just billed from him. I am not looking for that at this exact moment. I am looking for a rendition of what the station will look like. Something other than me. I am not an architect.

Mr. Trascher said, what we need is a set of plans.

Mr. Lindsey said, a set of stamped plans.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, that's going to be what we can use that...

Chief Dockery said, that's what I am doing right now.

Mr. Trascher said, not necessarily hire him as a general contractor. You know we may put it out for bid in certain sections of the work. But, we need to nail down what we want at this station. Do we want to use the second floor. Do we want to make sleeping quarters up there. How is the footprint of this station needs to be.

Chief Dockery said, that's what we are going to accomplish next week.

Mr. Trascher said, the second thing, something else we need to look at right now is, when we start this, the station is going to be out of commission. So, we need to either have some temporary quarters here. We need to bring something in. Have we looked at anything like that Russel? I don't know what size trailer we would need or what we would need for temporary quarters. We can be operational with this going on because I would imagine it's going to be a couple of months, at least.

Chief Dockery said, yes, it's going to be a couple of months at least.

Mr. Trascher said, that the station is going to be out and how many people do we need to put up during that time and where are we going to set something up for that?

Chief Dockery said, that's exactly our, your correct on that one. When I was talking with him about getting a drawing and going from there and finding out what are we going to do for temporary quarters. I don't know exactly with the station, once we go through it. If we are going to have any power anywhere in it.

Mr. Trascher said, well, we may have to set it because they are going to need power for construction so, we may have to set a temporary pole. What we may need to look at now, I don't know if we could lease a trailer or if we would need to purchase one and then sell it afterwards. We are going to have to set the equipment and set it in this back lot somewhere. So, we are going to have to set up a temporary residence, if you will. I mean we can move the appliances over to the other station and operate out of that temporarily but, we will have to have the residence here. What are we going to do for that or open for suggestions. We need to start looking at that right now.

Mr. Lindsey said, I am sure there is somewhere that we could rent a trailer. It might not be...

Chief Dockery said, rent a small trailer, like a construction style trailer.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes. It might not be ideal

Mr. Trascher said, it has to have at least bathrooms and sleeping quarters.

Chief Dockery said, I know someone who has a trailer, trailer and we could probably get it for free but, just getting it over here and getting it set up.

Mr. Trascher said, that big truck that you got should be able to pull it. What's up with that.

Chief Dockery said, I know District 1 has, had, I will have to verify for 100%, but they had a trailer over at the training academy that they were living in when they were building Station 18. I know they were looking to get rid of it relatively cheap or get it off the property.

Mr. Trascher said, that's what I am saying, we can plan on setting another power pole for the trailer and maybe have to put in a construction pole for the building.

Chief Dockery said, so, I...

Mr. Trascher said, the biggest thing would be, how would we tie it into the sewer.

Mr. Lindsey said, well, if we park in on this back end, the sewer is right there and the power right there. Everything is right there, on this back corner. So, we would have to set it up in this back parking lot and just drain it over to the sewer.

Chief Dockery said, set it up on the side and have it...

Mr. Trascher asked, on the side street right there, you mean?

Chief Dockery said, well, the side parking lot.

Mr. Trascher asked, where the school house was?

Chief Dockery said, yes, where we had the school house.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, too bad we didn't keep it.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, we could have used the damn thing now.

Chief Dockery said, yes, assuming we can tie in right there, water.

Mr. Trascher said, if we can look at, if that would work, maybe we should authorize the Chief if he could get in discussion with District 1, how much we could get that trailer for. Even if your truck won't pull it, we can get Ronnie Marshall to drag it over here.

Mr. Lindsey said, I am sure they will let us use it. We can bring it back to them or if they want to sell it after we are done with it, or whatever.

Mr. Trascher said, I don't know how, the District could donate it to us or even lease it to us for a dollar.

Chief Dockery said, now, if it's still there, I haven't been there in a couple of months but, the last I spoke with them, they were looking to get rid of it. So, if it's still there...

Mr. Trascher said, well, we definitely need to get it. That's a match made in heaven.

Ryan said, Matt should know if it's still there.

Chief Dockery asked, what?

Ryan said, Matt.

Chief Dockery said, he might know if it's still there. I don't know how often he goes out to the training academy but, I'll check with him after the meeting.

Mr. Trascher asked, okay, do we want to authorize him for a dollar amount?

Mr. Lindsey said, I don't think it's going to cost us anything to get that other than maybe paying Ronnie to move it for us and he will probably give us a good deal on that.

Mr. Trascher said, no, what I am saying is give the Chief, say like, the District, if we can get it for \$1,000, tell them to go ahead and hold it for us.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, I mean we have to do something. So, whatever it is I guess he needs to look at it.

Mr. Trascher said, well what I would offer tonight is we set an amount that the Chief could have in his back pocket up to that amount for that trailer.

Mr. Lindsey said, that's fine with me.

Mr. Trascher asked, Gene, what do you think?

Mr. Swann said, I agree.

Mr. Trascher said, and if he could get it for nothing or because we are not going to need it forever. If we buy it, I am sure later we will try to resell it later, surplus it but, if we could lease it from them for a couple of dollars or whatever.

Mr. Swann asked, what kind of shape is it in?

Chief Dockery said, I mean, I would assume it was decent when they were living in it but, that is something that we would have to look at before we even considered moving it. I don't think they would let it go to waste on their property.

Mr. Trascher said, I don't think it looks like our trailer we got over at the other place.

Mr. Swann said, could you throw a tarp over it?

Mr. Trascher said, what, over the one over there?

Mr. Lindsey said, if nothing else, if they are looking to sell it, if it's a decent deal, I will buy it and just let the District use it. I will park it up here and when you all are done with it I will pull

it off and put it on another piece of property.

Chief Dockery said, I will verify if it's still out there.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, I would think if we could get it for \$3,000, we could tell him to go ahead and buy it.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, I'm good as long as it's usable.

Mr. Trascher said, I would move that we approve an expense of \$3,000.

Mr. Lindsey said, I second.

Mr. Trascher said, for the Chief to negotiate on that trailer if it will serve our purpose for temporary quarters here.

Mr. Lindsey said, I agree.

Mrs. Blackwell said, motion for \$3,000, and Mr. Lindsey seconds it. Mr. Lindsey, how do you vote?

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

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

Mr. Dreux 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.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, so that would give us, that should help us with the temporary quarters.

Mr. Lindsey said, that would be cheap temporary quarters.

Mr. Trascher said, yes. We still have to put a pole up or something like that but, we may be to put a pole up for the trailer that they can use for construction also because, they have to cut the power to the building to rewire all of it, I would imagine. But, that would be just tie it into the sewer and we would have the water. We need the power to the well anyway. So, we may have to do that. So, what we are looking at for the plan now is, the footprint of the building and we want to use maximum space. We want upstairs, whatever we got to do.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, let's make it last for a long time.

Mr. Trascher said, and that damn gutter up front. It looks too simple. It looks like I can do, that and a 12 pack and make something to put up there. You know, seal that off.

Ryan asked, would he give you a renovation as opposed to a total rebuild and see what the difference?

Chief Dockery said, we can see.

Mr. Trascher said, well, I think we are going to renovate. I don't think we are going to take the building down.

Ryan said, I know we talked. Someone mentioned it at the last meeting or something.

Chief Dockery said, the outside of the building will still be there. I think what Mr. Dreux is getting at is, leaving the studs up and such and re-configuring the inside rather just basically cleaning the inside out and starting new.

Mr. Dreux said, the inside.

Mr. Trascher said, gutting the whole thing. That's what I am saying. That's why we need the foot print. We may be able to not do that much damage to the downstairs if we can renovate the upstairs for living quarters. Maybe we can just move a few walls for better bathroom facilities down there and showers and make all the sleeping quarters upstairs.

Chief Dockery said, I will definitely try to get options from him and see what...

Mr. Dreux said, it may be easier to do certain things than having to move walls and tearing this out and just redoing it from the get go. Sometimes its easier and sometimes it's not.

Mr. Lindsey said, we just need him to give us an idea and make sure he is capable of, and his license and can offer us a set of stamped plans because you run into some of these guys that can do the drawings but they can't stamp them.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, because we are going to need that for the Parish. We will need to get a permit from the parish.

Mr. Dreux said, you said he is fixing to do a fire station for 8?

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Dreux asked, has he done any other fire stations that you know of?

Chief Dockery said, I do not know off hand.

Mr. Dreux said, okay, that could be a question you ask him or building type similar to it.

Mr. Lindsey said, or see if we like his ideas. If we like his ideas, if he is coming up with ideas

and we are like, that's not what we are looking for, then we will shop for someone that will be able to draw what we need.

Chief Dockery said, yes, I am with you on that one because I am good at a lot of things but, imagination is not one of them.

Mr. Dreux said, I can always plagiarize it.

Mr. Trascher said, we need the foot print and we need to know what the hell we want and then he can draw that like you are saying where it is architecturally sound and stamp it. How many bedrooms do we need? How many bathrooms do we need?

Mr. Dreux said, if he is an engineer, he is going to be able to stamp it. If he is an engineer.

Mr. Trascher said, you know, do we need separate his and her bathroom facilities?

Mr. Lindsey said, and separate living quarters in case we wind up hiring some females or whatever.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, like dormitory styles for male and female. That's something we need to tell him, what we want and you the boss Jack.

Mr. Lindsey said, we might need one of those special bathrooms.

Mr. Trascher said, a handicap fireman?

Mr. Lindsey said, no, you know what I mean.

Mr. Trascher said, oh, you mean the ones that don't know what they are.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, in case we hire one that's not sure.

Mr. Lindsey said, we can put a rotating sign on it for whatever you think it is.

Mr. Trascher said, flip for who's in it.

Mr. Dreux said, this is forever, it's on tape.

Mr. Trascher said, but, it's something we are doing and we are going to do it right. 30 years from now they are going to say, those damn fools if they just wouldn't have used cardboard air ducts.

Chief Dockery said, well, they probably will still do that but, none of us will be caring about it, so.

Mr. Lindsey said, while we are discussing stuff, quick question on the tank outside. Did they ever get everything finalized?

Chief Dockery said, the tank itself, I need to order two fittings and we have a, I don't want to call it a dilemma, it's not really a dilemma, it's more of a, I wish I had it. It's got pressure but it doesn't have a ton of pressure. Not as much as I thought it would have. So, I spoke with them on how to pressurize the front line more. Basically, what he was kind of going about was saying is putting a secondary tank, like a 120 gallon tank and putting a pump on it. Basically, making it a well tank which I am not thrilled and not going with that option at the moment. As far as water, we can get water out of it, yes, it is a functioning water supply. I was just hoping for more pressure in the front.

Mr. Lindsey asked, do we need a bigger pump on it?

Chief Dockery said, no, it's gravity fed. It basically pumps into the tank and it's gravity from out of that to the front. We were figuring we would have more head pressure than what it's got on it. It flows, it's just not spewing out.

Mr. Trascher said, you don't have the gallons per minute.

Chief Dockery said, yes, I mean, we can fill out of it...

Mr. Trascher said, it just takes longer.

Chief Dockery said, it takes longer.

Mr. Lindsey asked, does it cavitate or anything when your filling off of it?

Chief Dockery said, no, not that we are aware of. I guess we will find out if we ever pull too hard.

Mr. Lindsey said, we may have to put a pump back there on it.

Chief Dockery said, I was thinking about doing it, if there could be any way of putting an inline pump, like an on demand pump to the front. Even if it's a switch to kick on. Your filling, kick the switch on and that way your drawing instead of us ...

Mr. Trascher asked, what kind of tank is he talking about put?

Chief Dockery said, I think it was a 120 gallon tank. Basically turning it into your normal well.

Mr. Trascher said, you put a shallow well pump and a 120 gallon tank and this would feed to the shallow well pump and you could pressurize that tank, whatever you need it.

Chief Dockery said, basically, that's what he wanted to do.

Mr. Trascher said, would a 120 gallon tank be big enough for the fill capacity you are going to need?

Mr. Lindsey said, I am think the pump would have to be back towards where it's coming out of and force it up there.

Chief Dockery said, as of right now, it is operational. It can fill a truck. I would like for it to have more pressure for the front line. That is just my personal opinion and it's something we will look at because, talking with them, I think he said they would charge \$4,000 for the tank and the pump to pressurize the front line which, I kind of found the \$4,000, is kind of excessive on that part. Now, I don't know if that included him hooking up wiring and everything else but, if it's just a shallow well pump and a well tank.

Mr. Trascher said, this front fill is going to help us with our PIAL rating, right?

Mr. Lindsey said, that's what I was going to ask about too.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, you know we will be able to shuttle water. Is there any way we can put a gallon, test this line to see if it's going to help us on PIAL rating on shuttle? If not, we have no choice but to pressurize that line however we have to do it. I think the tank with the pump is the best idea, the best way to do it. I don't know if a 100 gallon tank is big enough to...

Chief Dockery said, keep up.

Mr. Trascher said, to hold the pressure when you are going to start dumping on trucks. For a house it would be great but, that is what we need to do right now. Is that going to meet the requirements for our PIAL rating to fill a truck.

Mr. Lindsey said, it's probably going to be rated like a dry hydrant.

Chief Dockery said, yes, that's it basically it will be a dry hydrant because you will never get the flow that you would actually get with a hydrant.

Mr. Lindsey said, if we put a serious pump back there though, I think it could move it pretty good.

Mr. Trascher said, the only thing that I am wondering is, like you say, with at pump, the tank that we have probably won't hold the pressure.

Chief Dockery said, no, I would have to be a separate tank. It would have to be a pressure tank.

Mr. Trascher said, that's what I am saying, if you put a pump you would have to put a tank.

Chief Dockery said, unless it was some type of inline thing.

Mr. Lindsey said, that's what I am thinking, a inline right close to the tank where it comes out the tank and into the pump and pushes it.

Chief Dockery said, it would have to be kicked on by some type of switch.

Mr. Trascher said, you still going to have to have a tank in that system. Some kind of bladder for when that pump comes on and off.

Chief Dockery said, not with an inline. An inline, you are looking...

Mr. Trascher said, inline pump, unless you hook everything up to the truck and then turn it on but, for safety sake, what is going to cushion that when it comes trough? That's what the bladder tank, the tank on this side of the outflow side of it would do, is cushion it so it wasn't a pressure. Like they do on the top of a washing machine. They put a washing machine line on there with a valve on top of it.

Mr. Lindsey said, I am sure they make something for that. We just going to have to look into it. I think, myself, a 120 gallon tank with a little pump pushing it, it don't think that is going to get us what we need. I think that would be a waste of money.

Mr. Dreux asked, how big is your tank? Is it 1000 gallons?

Chief Dockery said, the tanks on the trucks, 1000 gallons for the engines and 3000 for the service truck.

Mr. Lindsey said, and that tank is what, 10,000?

Chief Dockery said, 10,000.

Mr. Trascher said, now, don't the truck have a pump on it that sucks?

Chief Dockery said, yes. Now, we can pull, we can draft water out of it in a hurry.

Mr. Dreux said, you can draft it.

Chief Dockery said, we just can't pull too hard.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, you would cavitation it.

Chief Dockery said, yes, you can cavitate it or collapse a line which is just PVC so, if that would happen we would just have to...

Mr. Trascher said, I think, let's go ahead and get a test on it.

Chief Dockery said, okay.

Mr. Trascher said, to be sure to see were we stand on our requirements.

Mr. Lindsey said, I bet it don't flow 20 pounds if it's just gravity. You got 14.7 pushing down on it. Atmospheric pressure.

Mr. Trascher said, if it don't help us with the PIAL rating then we need to do something.

Mr. Lindsey said, that's part of pump op. That's the only thing I remembered.

Mr. Trascher asked, are we all in agreement on that? Chief?

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, I think we need to get it done.

Mr. Trascher said, let's get a test on it and then we will know what we have to do from there.

Mr. Lindsey said, I agree. I mean, we put all the money into this set up. Why not finish it out. Other than that, how are we looking on our rating?

Chief Dockery said, we're on the, we are working on paper work right now and we turned it in in 2 weeks and it's the waiting game from then for whenever he comes out.

Mr. Lindsey asked, does it look like we have everything we need?

Chief Dockery said, we are giving him all we got, yes.

Mr. Dreux said, sounds like Star Trek.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, that don't sound like a positive answer, does it.

Chief Dockery said, no, I mean...

Mr. Trascher said, we giving them all we got.

Mr. Lindsey said, that's a hard rating to get.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Dreux said, everybody has got to be on top of their game too when they come out.

Chief Dockery said, yes, we got all of our training turned in, all of our water system stuff done. So, it just goes to them and we will see where it goes from there. I mean, last time we had a 2, a weak 2, but we had a 2.

Mr. Trascher said, as long as, we have to hold the 2.

Chief Dockery said, hopefully we can hold the 2.

Mr. Lindsey said, if we had a 2, that would be good.

Mr. Swann asked, do you know that your fire ratings, your homeowners insurance is not set by the fire ratings. I found out the hard way. I called the Secretary of State and they let a lot of them set by latitude and longitude.

Mr. Lindsey said, really, that don't make no sense.

Mr. Swann said, I got that little house there that's a 2 and my house, which is right there, a 3 and I was arguing about it and I called the Secretary of State and, like State Farm, they can set their own rates by latitude and longitude.

Chief Dockery said, that's crazy.

Mr. Trascher said, in the same District.

Mr. Swann said, hell, it ain't even 300 feet apart. They said, how far from the fire department? I said, hell, it's less than 2 miles. They said, that's the way it is, latitude and longitude.

Mr. Dreux said, that's what it is, it's how far you are from the station.

Mr. Trascher said, well, don't tell people that because we are singing the praise of a 2 on our millage renewals.

Chief Dockery said, it's in the process. We have been working on it everyday making sure we got, I rather overload them with information than not have enough.

Mr. Lindsey said, we have to search his Facebook and see where he likes to eat. I get down and dirty. I know how to wheel and deal.

Mr. Trascher said, that's the legislature, send them a cannoli.

Mr. Dreux said, send him some boudin.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, is that it for the Discussion on Station Upgrades?

Mr. Trascher said, yes ma'am, thank you Chief, and we need to stay on top of that.

Mrs. Blackwell said, we will move to New Business, Audit Engagement Discussion and Approval, Chief Dockery.

NEW BUSINESS

AUDIT ENGAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL – Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, in front of you would be the Audit Engagement Letter for this years general audit. This is the same company we used last year and it worked out well. I ask that we go back with the same company. It looks to be around the same amount. I think it was \$1,000, more than what we paid last year but, looking through the packet there is also some more detailed information going through this time around. So, it's just one of those unfortunates that we have to do every year.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, there was some concerns. We got this in an email and it was quite extensive so we asked Georgette to go ahead and print it up for us so we can look at it. I have glanced through it and it seems to be like the Chief said, pretty much what they have done except they are doing some more detailed procedures and they are explaining it a lot more in detail in this engagement letter. I guess Chief, what we need to do is to, we need to engage an auditing firm to begin compliance. When does this audit have to be turned in?

Chief Dockery said, one second. He has this one beginning, I want to say he has this one beginning tomorrow.

Mr. Trascher asked, the engagement letter?

Chief Dockery said, the engagement. Let me double check on that because at the last meeting we spoke, I said it was probably getting about the time. It was probably the day after that we got a letter from or a email from the State stating we needed to have one.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, that is what I am saying, we need to act on this tonight at tonight's meeting, right?

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, we have identified the significant risk here, management override and controls. They haven't looked at it here but it is from previous audits.

Mr. Swann asked, on the Ethic's Training we got, do we need to bring a letter here and keep it on file?

Mr. Trascher asked, when you go on line to do it?

Mr. Swann said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, if you print the certificate...

Mr. Swann said, just give it to Georgette.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, just give it to Georgette.

Mr. Dreux asked, is that Ethic's?

Mr. Trascher said, yes, Ethic's and I don't know if we have to do that other report too?

Mr. Lindsey said, I think the other one is in May.

Mr. Dreux said, that's May 10th, isn't it?

Mr. Trascher said, yes, I think the other one is in May. That's the Legislative Auditor, is it?

Mr. Lindsey asked, the Financial Disclosure?

Mr. Trascher said, the Financial Disclosure, yes Ethic's.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes. So, it looks like the fee for this is \$10,800, for the...

Mr. Dreux said, I saw \$5,000.

Mr. Trascher said, for them to do the audit?

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, it says, we estimate our fees for these services would be \$10,800, for the Financial Statement Audit.

Mr. Dreux said, this must be one part of it.

Chief Dockery said, there was a \$5,000, in there for...

Mr. Dreux said, it's on the third page.

Chief Dockery said, third page.

Mr. Dreux said, yes.

Mr. Lindsey said, that's what I am wondering, is it 5,000 or \$10,800?

Mr. Dreux reads, we estimate our fees for these services will not exceed \$5,000.

Mr. Lindsey said, if you go 6 or 7 pages back to the back, page 10, look at the top, page 10.

Mr. Trascher said, I think they have 2 steps in here.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, page 5 and 10.

Chief Dockery said, most of the time it is a dual audit. We have our General Audit and then we have the Act 774 audit.

Mr. Trascher said, that the Parish requires.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Dreux said, this is not every year? Is this every year we have this Audit?

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

Chief Dockery said, every year.

Mr. Dreux asked, is this the State or is this a self audit?

Mrs. Blackwell said, it looks like it starts tomorrow and completed approximately April 30th.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, it's 2. It's \$10,800, it's going to be a total of about \$16,000 to \$18,000. Chief, if you pull up last year's, I think we paid like \$17,000.

Chief Dockery said, I think last years was like \$14,500. I would have to double check.

Mr. Trascher said, because it's going to be the \$10,800 plus the \$5,000, and of course, these are estimates. This is not final figures. I hate auditors and CPA's.

Mrs. Blackwell said, they always tend to charge us more at the end.

Mr. Trascher said, exactly, because they tell you that this is the price but then, they charge you hourly to do something else.

Chief Dockery said, that's for looking through all those records that Georgette has verbatim.

Mr. Lindsey asked, so we need to go ahead and approve this tonight?

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Lindsey said, I make a motion that we approve it as presented.

Mr. Dreux said, second.

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

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

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

Mr. Dreux 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.

Mr. Dreux said, the wording is a little tricky because it says, we estimate the fee for these services will not exceed \$5,000.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, that is not the final price.

Mr. Dreux said, it's not saying we are not going to charge you.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, if they start looking into it and they find that, for example, they are going to do random test on contracts. If they find something out of order in one of those contracts, they charge you by the hour to dig into that contract. They are going to randomly select 5 employees for Sexual Harassment Training, to be sure they have had all the training that they are required to have. If not, they will bill you more for that. That's CPA's and

Auditor's. That's standard. You are not going to find anybody that does it differently.

Mr. Lindsey said, speaking of Audits, I know we used to go over all the credit card charges and ever since Pam left, we never seen anymore credit card charges.

Chief Dockery said, okay.

Mr. Lindsey said, so, I am not thrilled about looking over them but...

Mr. Trascher said, that is something that we have been cited for before in the Audit Report, is that, the Chief is suppose to approve those and then one of the Board members review.

Chief Dockery said, I will bring in what I have and let you review them.

Mr. Trascher said, because somebody should be signing, somebody on this Board should be signing off on the credit card purchases.

Mr. Lindsey said, what Pam would do before is, she would have all the receipts stacked up, all the gas receipts for the month, along with the credit card charges. What I did was, I went and looked at every receipt, looked at every charge and then, stamp off on it.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, we have been cited for that before and the Chief has the credit card and the Chief approves the credit card. They said there was no internal control of the Department because the Chief could buy something and sign off on it and nobody would ever know.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, so it had a sheet behind it with a description and the receipt which, it takes a little while to go through them but, I haven't seen them in a year or longer.

Chief Dockery said, we touched base a couple of times but yes, I haven't seen them in the last couple of months. We can set something up for any Board member who wants to do it and just set up a time or date or whatever.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, the same thing with the checks. It takes two signatures on the checks so, if a Board member signs a check, the Chief has to approve that expense prior to us signing it. Because we have had issues before where contracts were, we approved a certain amount and they can just get a couple different Board members to sign a couple different checks to exceed that amount and the auditor's catch it.

Mr. Lindsey said, like I said, they are not a lot of fun to do but, I think it is something that would...

Mr. Trascher said, it's about control and they will cite you and give you a bad grade for it.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, are we going to have to back track to the beginning of the year or the beginning of the audit time or whatever, to catch it up? Is this something that a couple of us need to come up here one night and let's just do it.

Chief Dockery said, we probably have, I know I have from last year from January to

November done. November, December and I got the beginning of this year so, we can most certainly sit down and do it.

Mr. Trascher said, because the auditor's, they may just pull 5 random months.

Mr. Lindsey said, I even bought a stamp with my name on it because there were so many to go through and sign and I would just line them up and go through them. Cross them out with a check and got this, got this, then the stamp. I looked at every one on the statement and every receipt and if something didn't add up, I would ask Pam, hey, we are missing this receipt and she would look into it or have an explanation or whatever.

Mr. Trascher said, but, that's if they pull those 5 months and they see where it's signed off, it won't be a problem. You just don't know what months they are going to pull. Didn't Emile have a stamp or he bought a stamp.

Mr. Lindsey said, I bought a stamp.

Chief Dockery said, Emile had a stamp too.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, Emile bought a stamp or something when he was doing it. I don't know where it is.

Mr. Lindsey said, I really should have bought 2 of them so I can really get after it.

Mr. Trascher said, send those suckers through.

Mr. Lindsey said, I thought about doing 3 but that might look a little weird.

Mr. Dreux said, definitely. Who's moving the paper for you while you are stamping it?

Mr. Lindsey said, anyway, that's all I got, sorry.

Mrs. Blackwell said, that's okay.

Mr. Trascher said, anyway, if that is something you can set up Chief, on a monthly deal or something.

Chief Dockery said, yes, monthly is great but I rather not do it at the Board meeting because usually we have a ton of stuff but, if I could set something up with someone personally.

Mr. Trascher said, usually, it would be easier if you had whoever comes into sign checks for you, if you could have it then, if it's not a problem with the Board. Then they can review those statements.

Chief Dockery said, it would most certainly be great.

Mr. Trascher said, then it would just be 2 weeks or something like that.

Mr. Lindsey said, we could rotate it out where it isn't all on one person to look at them but,

every couple of weeks where it's not a stack like that and it takes hours to go through.

Mr. Trascher said, that's what I am saying, if you did it maybe rotate it like that because the checks require two signatures so somebody has to come in and sign checks. Whoever signs the checks can review it at that time. We all need to be aware of what we are going to look for, like you said, with those other expenses.

Mr. Lindsey said, that's what I said, I would look at the receipt and Pam made it easy for me. She kind of put them in order where it was, at first I was sorting through them and I was like okay, here's \$52.15, looking all through the statement trying to find it and finally I found it and I would check that off. But then, she would kind of have them in order and I would just go down through it and it made it a lot faster but, it was work on her part too.

Mr. Swann said, if you had a good system we should continue to use it then.

Mr. Lindsey said, it seemed like it. At first seemed like it took 2 hours after a meeting to get through everything but, when she had it all organized and we would keep up with it on a monthly basis or even a couple of weeks would be ideal and it wouldn't take as long.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, because if we don't have that they are going to cite us in the audit.

Mr. Lindsey said, well, we need to get back to doing it then.

Mr. Swann asked, when was the last time it was done?

Chief Dockery said, I got last year up to November and so, I don't have December and the beginning of this year.

Mr. Lindsey asked, who was signing them then, Mr. Emile?

Chief Dockery said, I had you on some of them, catch up and I want to say that Michele a couple of different times.

Mr. Lindsey said, because I know I haven't signed them in a while.

Mrs. Blackwell said, like I was saying, if there is something we need to catch up maybe a couple of us can come up here one night and let's just get it organized and do it.

Mr. Lindsey said, do like a little workshop, here's your month, here's your month and here's your month. Put a pot of coffee on and let's get after it.

Mrs. Blackwell said, that's right.

Mr. Trascher said, scratch like chickens in the hen house.

Mr. Dreux said, and coffee.

Mrs. Blackwell said, when do we need to do it?

Mr. Trascher said, whatever we need to do let's do it.

Mr. Lindsey said, we will probably have to pull an evening time or afternoon to get caught up because it's going to be several months.

Mrs. Blackwell said, that's what I am thinking.

Mr. Lindsey said, and we can just come up here and knock it out.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, because when they start picking months, when they turn this in it will be on us.

Mrs. Blackwell said, well, it looks to me they are going to start tomorrow on this and it will be ready on the 30th. This is something we need to do.

Mr. Trascher said, they are not going to finish this by the 30th of this month.

Mrs. Blackwell said, the 30th of April.

Mr. Trascher said, maybe April.

Mr. Lindsey said, we can call a special meeting to come up here and do it. Whenever the Chief is ready.

Mr. Trascher said, if the Chief gets the records together.

Mrs. Blackwell said, it says, we expect to begin our audit on approximately March 15, 2023 and issue a report approximately April 30th, of 2023. So, we don't have very much time to get it caught up for them to be questioning and looking at the books.

Chief Dockery said, I will get with you all within this week of setting up a day. It shouldn't take very long to get those few months done.

Mr. Trascher said, really it's just the credit card statements, right Chief? Michele, haven't you been signing off on checks?

Mrs. Blackwell said, I have been signing checks.

Chief Dockery said, it's more or less a few purchases on the credit card and I mean, the fuel. The fuel is mostly for Act 774. That's when it first come out they were wanting to know everything about what the purchases were.

Mr. Trascher said, what ruined us with the fuel is, with buying it locally and they would list fuel as food purchases. Every time they would fill the trucks up it would look like they bought sandwiches or they bought other things with it.

Chief Dockery said, well, it would say "other" instead of diesel.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, and that's when the auditor's freaked out that they were going to the

gas station and buying pizza and sandwiches and everything.

Chief Dockery said, which is ridiculous because the card will not let you do that but, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, but you remember that one?

Chief Dockery said, I remember that one, yes. So, I will get with you all in a few days and we can catch those few months and we can be caught up.

Mrs. Blackwell said, caught up.

Mr. Lindsey said, this Friday I will be here but Friday of next weekend I will be gone. Other than that...

Chief Dockery said, okay.

Mr. Dreux said, out of the Country?

Mr. Lindsey said, no, in the Country. Just going camping for a few days.

Mr. Trascher said, not another Valentines day?

Mr. Lindsey said, Valentines is every day for me.

Mr. Dreux said, you better say that, your on tape.

Mr. Lindsey said, almost right at 32 years of Valentine every day.

Mr. Dreux said, man, that's it.

Mr. Trascher said, really? Thank you, Lord. Chief, one quick question. How is our awards coming? Are we ever going to give one?

Chief Dockery said, yes, towards the end of the year.

Mr. Trascher said, the end of the year?

Chief Dockery said, that's usually when they do awards.

Mr. Trascher said, you can do them any time.

Mr. Lindsey said, we can't do them too often. We don't have that many people.

Mr. Trascher said, you might get some participation or somebody honored for something with it.

Mr. Lindsey said, I guess we definitely have to be on the look out for any special service or special, if anybody goes above or something like that, it would be an opportunity where you don't have to wait until the end of the year or whatever.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, just some kind of recognition for the guys.

Mr. Dreux said, you usually have a sheet and you cast it when your Chief writes you up.

Mr. Trascher said, the only time they write you up is when you do something wrong.

Mr. Dreux said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, we need to write a bunch for when they do it right.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, is that it for the Engagement Letter?

Chief Dockery said, that's it.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Michele Blackwell

Mrs. Blackwell asked, any body else have anything? Do we have any Public Comment?

Mr. Lindsey said, I don't hear none.

Mrs. Blackwell said, no Public Comment, do we have a motion to adjourn?

Mr. Trascher said, motion to adjourn.

Mr. Lindsey said, I make a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Dreux said, second.

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

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

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

Mr. Dreux 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.