



St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 11
Board of Commissioner's
Minutes of the Meeting on November 9, 2021
Fire Chief Jack Dockery
7:03pm – 8:39pm

ROLL CALL

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

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MINUTES

Mrs. Blackwell asked, has everybody read and approved the minutes for the October 12th, meeting?

Mr. Trascher said, yes, I reviewed the minutes. They seem to be in order and if there is no discussion on them, I move that we adopt them, with the video governing.

Mr. Lindsey said, I second.

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

Mr. Lindsey 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, in front of you is something a little bit different. Here at the bottom, there is a mistake from my directions. We will go with it this time around. For the month of October, I can tell you what we brought in.

EMS

Chief Dockery continued, EMS brought in \$15,789.92, well, actually we brought in \$15,998.55. The little extra was credit cards that doesn't get reflected on here. There again, like I said, this one is my mistake. I like the look of it but it didn't show my percentages like I wanted it to, as to where we were at on the budget. My apologies to the Board.

Mr. Trascher asked, this is the new...

Chief Dockery said, new CPA, yes.

Mr. Trascher asked, is this a report that they generate?

Chief Dockery said, yes sir.

Mr. Trascher said, so, if I am understanding it, the total is, on the far left hand side is deposits or is that...

Chief Dockery said, the far left hand side is from January 2021 all the way to October 2021. The far right side is the total taken in as of October.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, I don't know if I am looking at the same report. It says 10 months.

Mr. Lindsey said, it doesn't say what we had budgeted for that?

Chief Dockery said, no, sir. That's what I was...

Mrs. Blackwell said, see where the percentages are cut off. We are used to looking at the percent, that's what is cut off.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, so we can see where we stand.

Mr. Lindsey said, as as well, what we had in the budget for...

Mr. Trascher said, okay, I'm sorry, I was looking at the daily deposit log.

Chief Dockery said, yes, it got cut off and I just missed it. That 's my fault.

Mr. Lindsey said, so, next meeting, are they going to try do what we had in the budget and where we are at with it now and the percentage?

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, well, we are going to need to do that this evening because we have to amend the budget.

Chief Dockery said, well, I have the...

Mr. Trascher said, we have a proposed amended budget, that should tell us. It doesn't, does it?

Chief Dockery said, the proposed?

Mr. Trascher said, no, we have the proposed budget which would be next year. But, tonight we have one...

Chief Dockery said, we also have the amended. The amended one is the one with two columns filled.

Mr. Trascher said, right, but, that should show us the percentages of where we are by amending it to where we will be, right?

Chief Dockery said, it will show where we are and to what we amended it to.

Mr. Trascher said, so, it doesn't have actual...

Chief Dockery said, it's all within 5%, I brought it all to 5%.

Mr. Trascher said, because, like on the amended here, I guess I am not understanding it. Bank Service Charges, proposed budget was \$1,000 and we amended it to \$1,500?

Chief Dockery said, checks, buying checks.

Mr. Trascher said, I mean, this is what we are amending it to?

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, to bring it in because we don't have the percentages. The budget for the Health Insurance was \$8,300 and we are amending it to \$4,400?

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Lindsey said, on Radio Repairs, 6468, do we have something go out that we had produce a lot of radios or something?

Chief Dockery said, we are getting ready to do a lot of maintenance, new batteries, we need a new antenna for this station. So, that's where a lot of that comes in, pieces and parts.

Mr. Lindsey asked, do you think we look good on our vehicles for the rest of the year?

Chief Dockery said, yes, sir. I have one in the shop right now getting A/C work on it right now. I called on it and got an estimate on what it will be for that repair. The rest of them should be fine for the next month unless something catastrophic happens which, there again, that's hard to predict.

Mr. Lindsey said, right.

Mr. Trascher said, for the most part, it looks like we are reducing.

Chief Dockery said, yes, the majority of it we are reduced I had some areas where I increased. It's basically, some of it, what was reduced from some parts went to other parts to make it within the 5% and I have some that we are in the process of buying fire equipment, hose, adapters.

Mr. Trascher said, we got here fire truck. We went, we put \$45,000 in and increased it to \$88,000.

Chief Dockery said, that is the service truck. The \$45,000, was actually meant for the pickup truck and we had to move in the \$88,000, to do the down payment or the first payment of the service truck. I actually was going to address that in the Chief's Report when we got to it about the Command Vehicle and give you all an update on it.

Mr. Trascher said, hopefully it went down. Fire Equipment went up to \$43,000 from \$20,000.

Chief Dockery said, that's from buying hose, air bottles, equipment.

Mr. Trascher said, yes because, what was the other one, SCB was substantially reduced.

Chief Dockery said, yes, SCB and Repairs, that's just any type of repair.

Mr. Trascher said, for tanks right?

Chief Dockery said, well, no, that's for any type of repair to the unit itself, like O rings, batteries, any type of regulators, masks, stuff like that. It's more of a maintenance.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, the only thing that I would ask is, if they could do it is, when they break it down to put the differences and to put the percentages on these reports.

Chief Dockery said, yes, sir, definitely on this one I will have then do that. It was on there and I guess I cut it off. This one is just the one that I have on my computer. This is something we had from the old CPA that I use and it has all the formulas in it.

Mr. Trascher said, I mean, you can put like all the differences between the amended and the other, put the dollar amount in that column so that, again, you can look at it and see how much it is.

Chief Dockery said, okay, I can go back and put that in.

Mr. Trascher said, I think we can work with what we've got here now because I see some really substantial reductions. I mean, that should give us an overage at the end of the year. What is the projected overage?

Chief Dockery said, the projected overage or unused funds, \$414,632.77.

Mr. Trascher asked, is that just from last year?

Chief Dockery said, that's from this years...

Mr. Trascher said, from 2021?

Chief Dockery said, 2021, from our budget to what we actually used. That is projected. Originally, it was \$83,746, also, we took in close to \$30,000, in our income \$15,000, from Training Services, \$26,857.51, from LWCC, \$11,918.94, that was actually insurance from Ida, when they came out and did the inspection.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, those funds, like you said, but from the budget standpoint, we are going to end the year with \$400,000, over what the cost of the department was because we can't, that money is going to have to be put into something. Like the restricted or something.

Chief Dockery said, yes, the very last page I have move into account 9827, \$300,000. That is our Rolling Stock Equipment Fund. That would leave us with \$114,632.77 in the budget for hold over for the beginning of next year until the ad valorem comes in.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, the Operating fund.

Chief Dockery said, the Operating Fund, yes. So, I do have in that in there and with the willingness of the Board, I would like to move that \$300,000, into that account, that Restricted Account for either repairs or new equipment in the future year.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, we have been scolded for that in the past, if we had any, and I don't what to use the term, left over money, we need to dedicate those funds to some purchase or why we need it or else, we have to roll our millage's back.

Chief Dockery said, well, that could definitely put a good, good payment on a new pumper.

Mr. Trascher said, I know we just added the tank truck to the fleet. Is that on a lease purchase?

Chief Dockery said, the tanker, yes. It is on a lease purchase.

Mr. Trascher said, because we could either, maybe put or pay some more towards that or like you said, several of the trucks are reaching the ages, we could put it into that type of maintenance and we still have building repairs that we need to do.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, a lot of building repairs.

Chief Dockery said, if you would, I totally agree that we need to move the \$300,000. That leaves \$100,000.

Chief Dockery said, yes, \$114,000,

Mr. Trascher asked, and what is that for?

Chief Dockery said, that is for...

Mr. Lindsey said, that's to hold us through next month, that's for January.

Chief Dockery said, yes, that's to hold us through January, maybe into February. That depends on when the ad valorem checks start coming in.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, so we are going to leave the \$100,000, in our checking account, if you will, as operational funds, and move the \$300,000, into the restricted account. That is going to be for building maintenance and equipment.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, because, we do have upcoming issues with the buildings that we need to do and I think you agree, we need to start looking at a pumper in the next couple of years. Thank you.

Chief Dockery said, I think we jumped way through the thing again. I am sorry about that again.

Mrs. Blackwell said, that's okay, we are going to go through it anyway. Are you all finished with the Financial Report?

Mr. Trascher said, yes, we, I guess we are, well in...

Mrs. Blackwell said, we have Amended Budget later on into the...

Mr. Trascher said, yes, that's what I was going to say, we have a resolution for that for later.

Mrs. Blackwell said, that's in Old Business.

Mr. Trascher said, we already kicked that cow in the belly already. We will do it in a minute.

Mrs. Blackwell said, let's do the Chief's Report and EMS Report.

CHIEF'S REPORT/ EMS REPORT - Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, for the month of October, we ran:

EMS	52
MVA	12
GRASS FIRE	1
SERVICE/GOOD INTENT	14
DISPATCHED/CANCELLED IN ROUTE	9
FALSE ALARM	3
POWER LINE ISSUES	2
TOTAL	93

STATION 111 UPDATE

Chief Dockery said, I am going to give you an update on glorious Station 111. The brick guy did come out and he did see an issue. I think we talked about this issue at the last meeting, about the brick ledge.

Mr. Lindsey said, and the offset.

Chief Dockery said, so, basically, it's two separate slabs there. You got the station and then right at the beginning of the door, you have the slab for the apron. He's like, you cannot have that because the apron will move and the station is solid. That's where a lot of the issues are coming from with the brick. So, we had to have an engineer come out and look at it and we are suppose to have an answer back by tomorrow. He came by yesterday to get some measurements and basically, in a nut shell, what should take place is, have a heavy angle iron that will be bolted into the station and the bricks will sit on that at ground level, not much off the ground level to where you won't notice it but, that way it is attached to the station and there's no movement in there. We should hear something back on that tomorrow. Two other issues have arised. The doors themselves, the metal frames, on Bay 1, it looks like there was some repair work on it a long time ago. There is basically, two pieces of metal and they are not welded together. So, I need to get a welder or someone who can weld a solid bead over that and then, Bay 3, has a little bit of rot in it. We can probably cut the rot out and put a plate right there. When that is done, I talked to the metal place over in LaCombe. I will probably go over there tomorrow with the measurements I got and my plans are to make, have them fabricate caps to go on the bay doors on both sides and the upper part. That way it's fresh, new metal. It's not any type of, show any type of repair work to it and it will give it a good, new, clean look. We decided not to do the bricks on the side like we had before. He said that, it basically, it doesn't serve any purpose right there and that will give us, roughly, about 6

inches of clearance that was taken away before. We still looking at a good, clean look but with a little more space.

Mr. Trascher said, I'm sorry, the bricks on the side of what?

Chief Dockery said, on the bay doors.

Mr. Trascher said, on the inside?

Chief Dockery said, on the inside, they ran the brick all the way in. So, we ceasing with that and we are going to put the metal caps on it. That way, it's clean looking and it gives us more room. So, that's in the works. It's, he is hoping to get started...

Mr. Trascher asked, do they have any idea of the cost of what that angle iron is going to be?

Chief Dockery said, well, I haven't got it yet. As soon as I get it I will let you know.

Mr. Lindsey said, I am kind of surprised they didn't talk about pouring a brick ledge there. Attaching it, drilling dowels into the...

Chief Dockery said, I think that was talked at too. But, I think, he said the angle is going to be a cheaper route. If he did the brick ledge, I think they are wanting to or having to actually knock up all that concrete in front of the building a good bit, going down deep and building a ledge there.

Mr. Trascher said, because I am curious on how they bolt that angle iron to what? To the metal frame?

Mr. Lindsey said, drill and bolt it to the slab.

Chief Dockery said, it's the slab right there. It's the slab that comes up.

Mr. Lindsey said, I'm thinking it's going to also need something underneath it a little bit to sit on the slab itself because, just the angle iron itself, that's going to be a lot of weight on it but, I mean the engineers...

Mr. Trascher said, yes, that's his job. It seems to me too that the angle iron is going to have to come out far enough and with the bricks sitting on it, that's going to be... I think that pouring the brick mold or some type of footing would be better, to me. But, I am not an engineer.

Mr. Lindsey said, that's going to be the engineers job to decide that.

Chief Dockery said, I'm not either, so..

Mr. Trascher said, I just hate to sit here 5 years from now and all the bricks fall.

Chief Dockery said, so, that's the update on the station.

Mr. Trascher asked, what's the life expectancy on the angle iron?

Mr. Lindsey said, if it's galvanized it should last.

Chief Dockery said, it's galvanized, it's going to be galvanized.

Mr. Trascher said, because you are going to have a water, because you know, an angle iron, it seems like there should be something under there because it's going to hold dampness. I don't know.

Chief Dockery said, you got me on this one. They caught me by surprise on this one too.

Mr. Lindsey said, if push comes to shove, if you can't find somebody to weld that stuff up, I might be able to get somebody to weld it.

Chief Dockery said, okay.

Mr. Lindsey said, I got two welding machines at the shop there, but, I am not a good welder. I got the machines, but, I am not a good welder.

Mr. Trascher said, I mean, I can peck at it and make an arc but, it ain't gonna be pretty.

Mr. Lindsey said, we can, I have somebody that can probably get it done but it would have to be on like a Saturday or Sunday or something. So, we need a piece of metal for it?

Chief Dockery said, one piece. I will show you when the meeting is over. It's just a small little piece of rusted rot spot on it.

Mr. Trascher said, Bondo.

Chief Dockery said, it really just needs to be cut right there and a little piece put in, tacked in and be done with it.

Mr. Lindsey said, so, that's what we are waiting on to get started with the bricks.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Lindsey said, but, the brick layer itself has ordered the bricks and pretty much ready to go other than that?

Chief Dockery said, yes, they showed up the one day and they had the scaffolds and all and then he saw the slab and he said, well, that's a problem and we will have to address it.

Mr. Lindsey said, it's better than him just putting it on there and saying I know it ain't right, but the heck with it, lets go with it.

Mr. Trascher said, they did that already.

COMMAND VEHICLE UPDATE – Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, alright, Command Vehicle, we put in our PO for it so it's locked in. The

only issue we have is that it's a 30 week wait.

Mr. Lindsey said, how long?

Chief Dockery said, 30 weeks.

Mr. Lindsey said, wow!

Chief Dockery said, yes, 30 weeks.

Mrs. Blackwell said, that's like birthing a baby.

Mr. Lindsey said, I know you can't get vehicles right now but, that's crazy.

Chief Dockery said, so, right now, the money that we were going to move out of the Restricted Account, to make a payment on the service, we will just keep in there and when it gets closer we will move it out and cut a check.

Mr. Lindsey said, 30 weeks, we talking about May or June.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell said, oh wow!

Chief Dockery said, yes, when I heard that I said, are you serious? 30 weeks, that's just ridiculous.

Mr. Lindsey said, that's just...

Mr. Trascher said, thank you Joe. Let's Go Brandon!

Chief Dockery said, so, we did get the new service truck in. It's come in and we are still trying to outfit it and get some brackets and what not so we can get the tools secured to it to my liking. It is in and we took it out to the high school yesterday. I was able to get the permission from the Principle. I just wanted to do it all legal and not get in trouble in any way but, I got her permission and I had the football team come out and take a picture with us being it kinda matching their colors. Mitchell put it on Facebook.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, I saw it on Facebook, it really looked good.

Chief Dockery said, it made it's first fire the other night.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, it looks nice.

Chief Dockery said, it seems to be what we need.

Mr. Lindsey asked, so, there's no bugs to work out in it, it worked out okay?

Chief Dockery said, everything is okay. I think most of the bugs we got out when I was over in

Florida and it seems to be doing just fine.

Mr. Lindsey said, good.

Mr. Trascher said, I saw the, I know this is off the subject on that, the water shuttle. I saw the Town was flushing the water hydrants. Are we working with them, doing anything in any way? Contributing or pumping for them?

Chief Dockery said, they are just, basically, washing the rust out and they, I found out about it last night, they were actually in front of the station today. So, I am going to check with, I think it's Ricky, tomorrow and see if we can get with them because, when they are doing that, it can count for our credit too with actually going through and flushing.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, that's what I am saying. You can get like flow meters and say you can run it.

Mr. Lindsey said, it would be nice to get a list of which ones were flushed so you know which ones have been flushed and which one haven't.

Chief Dockery said, so, we have been working with them. We are trying to get them a actual map with all the GPS coordinates on there of every hydrant. That way he has a solid map. Of course, they should know where all the hydrants are and he is letting me know of any new ones they are putting in. Just as long as they put it on Facebook letting people know because, I haven't got any phone calls yet and Town Hall is getting it unless they have their own people doing it.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, because usually we are the bad guys because, I remember James Lavigne gave...

Chief Dockery said, well, the last time, one of the last times we actually pressure tested, I went midnight until 4 in the morning. That way it gave time to settle before they...

Mr. Trascher said, settle it before they started running it.

Chief Dockery said, it didn't disrupt as much as it would have.

Mr. Trascher said, while they are out there working on it, it's a good time to, you know, we could work with them. Okay, thank you. I know that was out of the order.

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

Mrs. Blackwell said, okay, if there is nothing else on the Chief's Report, we will go to Old Business.

OLD BUSINESS

2022 BUDGET APPROVAL

Chief Dockery said, alright, we presented this last month, the 2022 budget. It's been placed in the paper and ran for the whole 30 days it needed to run. I ask the Board now, to approve the Budget.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, you haven't had any amendments to this?

Chief Dockery said, no, no amendments to it.

Mr. Trascher said, that we introduced?

Chief Dockery said, once it was introduced, this is the same one that was introduced.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, with that said, I would move that we adopt the 2022 Operating Budget, as presented.

Mr. Lindsey said, I will second.

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

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

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

Mr. Trascher said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell said, motion carries.

2021 AMENDED BUDGET – Chief Jack Dockery

Mrs. Blackwell continued, with that being done, do you want to move to the 2021 Amended Budget, Chief Dockery?

Chief Dockery said, I think we kind of talked about this one already. This is just an introduction of the amended budget and what will be voted on next meeting.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, and yes, we did discuss it and we answered some of the questions. If there's any way that you could put the difference that we talked about and where it comes on the percentage, like if it comes in 96% or whatever it is. The percentage may be harder to do because, with the amended figure, what we spent and what we are adding and it would show how much we are adding and taking away.

Chief Dockery said, okay.

Mr. Trascher continued, and if the percentage comes out, if we could do that. See what I am saying? If we could do that. It may make it a little bit easier to understand because if we amended it and it shows that it's 98%, or it's within the 5%. That was the only thing, if we could do that.

Chief Dockery said, yes sir, I can get that done for you.

Mr. Trascher said, I don't think we need a resolution to introduce this budget, do we?

Chief Dockery said, I don't think so.

Mr. Trascher said, we are just going to introduce it tonight and it will lay over for 30 days and then we will vote on it at our December meeting.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, that will work for me.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, anything else on the Amended Budget? If there is noting else on the Amended Budget, we will move to New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Blackwell said, there is nothing there so, we will move to Public Comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Michelle Blackwell

Mrs. Blackwell asked, is there any Public Comment?

Mr. Trascher asked, is there any public?

Mrs. Blackwell said, well, your public.

Mr. Trascher said, that's good. How is our training coming with our Firefighters, Chief?

Chief Dockery said, I just had two of our, I had a full time and a part time employee, both of them do our inspections. I just sent them to Alabama, up by Tuscaloosa, to the fire college up there. They went for a week and did the Inspector 3 Class. So, what they are telling me, they have gain a good bit of knowledge from the guys up there. So, that way we can use it for down here whenever they are doing their inspections. As of that, everything seems to be good.

Mr. Trascher asked, our Deferred Comp program, have we settled that issue?

Chief Dockery said, yes, I have settled that issue.

Mr. Trascher said, so, everybody is satisfied with that and now they don't have to pay into Social Security. They can participate in the deferred comp and we budgeted for the department Contributions. Does that help morale or maybe retention or recruitment.

Chief Dockery said, I think it has. I mean, we have something to look forward to now. I

mean, other than what they were putting in, so, I think it's starting to show when ever they looks at their account and they actually see a jump in there.

Mr. Trascher said, and this should help us with recruiting from other districts for firefighters that couldn't work here part time. Because, if they are participating in another system they wouldn't have to pay the Social Security, they would be able to collect deferred comp.

Chief Dockery said, yes sir.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, thank you.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, okay, is there anything else? Do we have a motion to adjourn?

Mrs. Rinkus said, I would like to thank the paramedics again. My neighborhood keeps them busy. We had my neighbor go to the hospital and of course, they took great care of her. She is still there but they came and got her. We keep them busy. They are always good at it so, I just wanted to thank them.

Mr. Trascher said, well, thank you for that testimony. Well, with that said, Chief, keep an eye on the department. Is should be getting about time to do the appraisals and we are looking at you. We are going to have to start and it is about moving time on to one of those. Have you done the employees yet?

Chief Dockery said, it's in the process.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, we can get the forms and we will get the Chairman to make an appointment. We need to start working on that so we have the records up to date. Okay, with that said and there is no other discussion, I move we adjourn.

Mr. Lindsey said, I second.

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

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

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

Mr. Trascher said, no.