



St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 11
Board of Commissioner's
Minutes of the Meeting on October 11, 2022
Fire Chief Jack Dockery
7:00 pm – 7:50 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 September 13th meeting?

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

Mr. Trascher said, yes, I as well, looked at them, and they seemed to be in order. I move that we approve with the video governing,

Mr. Lindsey said, I second.

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

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, 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 on to the Financial Report, Chief Dockery.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, alright, for the month of September, we are looking at a 75% for the budget. Just skimming through, as of the items that we talked about for the last couple of months, they are still there and need to be adjusted. The every day or the every month bills, they look to be right in line with the 75% mark, if not a little under. I really don't see anything standing out that we haven't spoke about before.

EMS SERVICES

Chief Dockery continued, so, on the medical side of it, it looks like we brought in \$16,258.23, last month for the EMS deposits made, which brings our total amount up this year, to \$230,399.75, so, we are \$62,399.75 above the projected rate or projected budget for it.

Mr. Trascher said, which is great news, Chief.

Chief Dockery said, yes, it's been busy.

Mr. Trascher said, with proper management that ambulance is going to be functional.

Mrs. Blackwell said, thank God.

Mr. Trascher said, absolutely.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, are there any questions about this portion of the budget?

Mr. Trascher said, the only thing, Chief, at our next meeting we are going to have try to introduce some amendments, I guess, to the budget so that we can try to bring it and approve it in December to be within the 5%, right?

Chief Dockery said, no sir, it can be actual January for the amended budget. We can present it then and amend it in February. That one doesn't have to be...

Mr. Trascher said, so, we will try to approve, theoretically, the budget for 2023 at the December meeting.

Chief Dockery said, correct.

Mr. Trascher said, but, December we can introduce the amendments by then to let it lay over until January.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, that will be acceptable to the auditors because, I was just concerned as

December 31st, is getting closer, that we can't have any expenditures other than what was allocated.

Chief Dockery said, correct.

Mr. Trascher said, thank you, Chief.

Chief Dockery said, yes, sir.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, any other questions?

Mr. Lindsey said, I don't have any questions on the budget.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, everybody is good? Mr. Dreux, your good?

Mr. Dreux said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell said, we will move on to the Chief's Report, Chief Dockery.

CHIEF'S REPORT/ EMS REPORT - Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, alright, for the month of September we had:

EMS	105
MVA	10
TRASH FIRE	2
GRASS FIRE	2
SERVICE/GOOD INTENT	7
DISPATCHED/CANCELLED IN ROUTE	6
FALSE ALARM	6
TOTAL	138

Chief Dockery continued, I think last month we had 123, so it's been steadily in that area.

TRUNK OR TREAT/NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME

This month we have Trunk or Treat/Night Out Against Crime. They are kind of combined together at Town Hall on the 29th of October. We will be out there.

FIRE PREVENTION AT RIVERSIDE THIS MONTH, LITTLE PEARL NOVEMBER 7TH

Also, we have Fire Prevention at Riverside this month. I believe it's on the 31st or the 30th or the 31st.

Mrs. Blackwell said, I think the 31st is a Monday.

Chief Dockery said, yes, then it's the 31st. I think they are having a little fair thing there so we will be part of that and Little Pearl will have their Fire Prevention on November 7th. So, it's that time of the year that we get out and get the children and show them some fire safety. You can never start too young.

TREE REMOVED

On another note, we had the tree removed from behind the building here.

Mr. Dreux asked, was it Cleco?

Mr. Trascher said, yea!

Chief Dockery said, it wasn't even Cleco, it was, we actually caught the contractors that were putting in the transformer for the house that they are building right there and they looked at it and had the tree company come out and trim it and cut it out. Now, the only issue I have right now is that the line is very close to the ground. I contacted Cleco to have them come out and raise up the line. We have the area taped off right now to keep anybody from wandering back there.

Mr. Swann asked, you have Cleco here?

Chief Dockery said, yes. That has finally been removed.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, I saw it was cut back now. I was wondering how it got cut back.

Chief Dockery said, yeah.

Mr. Lindsey said, that's good.

Chief Dockery said, yes, we caught the boots on the ground and talked to them and they got it happening for us. That was a real good deal.

Mr. Trascher said, thank you, Chief and thank the guys too.

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

Mrs. Blackwell asked, do we have anything for EMS or we did that already with the Financial Report.

Chief Dockery said, we did that already, yes ma'am.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, does anybody have any questions about the Chief's Report?

Mr. Trascher said, just a comment. I am really astonished that we haven't had more trash fires or grass fires with the conditions that we have been having.

Chief Dockery said, yes, thankfully, we have skimmed through without getting too bad off. We have had a couple to where, I had one out on Chris Kennedy that started and thankfully, myself and another guy was able to get out there and kind of get it stomped out fast. We have had that in the past that, that whole area catch and...

Mr. Trascher said, it will light up.

Chief Dockery said, yes, it will light up and we did have State wide, they asked all of the Parish's, you can imagine what that email looked like. It was about a burn ban but, a lot of them disagreed because sugar cane season is upon us and they are burning all of that so, people cant tell the difference of why agricultural can burn and they can't. So, they decided against it. The good thing is, it looks like we are getting some rain today, tomorrow and maybe Thursday. That will help a little bit but, we probably need more rain but, thankfully, we've dodged the bullet on that one so far.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, any other comments?

Mr. Lindsey said, I have a question about the Chief's truck. Any update on that?

Chief Dockery said, yes sir. I called them Friday and talked to the gentleman and he said, the VIN has been created so, they are looking at production the first week of December and looking to have the truck at the dealership the first week of January. So, it's been a good...

Mr. Lindsey said, that's a lengthy process.

Chief Dockery said, it is a lengthy process for a regular Ford F250.

Mr. Trascher asked, so, that's the first part they make is the VIN tag?

Chief Dockery said, they create an ID for it, yeah.

Mr. Lindsey said, good thing we ordered it when we did. It takes forever.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, he would be retired by the time he got it.

Mr. Swann said, Slidell Police are waiting on a bunch of them.

Chief Dockery said, good old computer chips.

Mr. Dreux said, they were missing those tags, that's what it was, they coming from China I guess.

Mrs. Blackwell said, next it will be the computer chips.

Mr. Dreux said, yes, that too.

Mr. Lindsey said, the other thing is, are we all set with all the repairs on all the trucks that were down?

Chief Dockery said, yes sir, all of them are up now. I did schedule a preventative maintenance on the Med Truck on Thursday for the onboard generator. It's at it's hour time to go through and change out the plugs and adjust the valves and stuff like that so, it will go out Thursday. Hopefully, it will only be out for a day and I will have that maintenance done on it but, everything else is up and running.

Mr. Lindsey said, I know this is kind of in the future but to keep it in the back of our mind, how far out do you think we are before we may need to entertain looking for another ambulance, a newer ambulance?

Chief Dockery said, well, on the one that we got...

Mr. Lindsey said, I know we put that new motor in it and everything but, at some point we are going to have to get a new one and use that one as a back up.

Chief Dockery said, I would say we are probably 2 , 2 years. We will kinda start looking next year for pricing. We priced last year for just re-chassisising that box with a new, I think it was still a Ford Chassis at the time and it was around \$95,000, to have it re-chassisised.

Mr. Lindsey said, what are we looking at for a new one and keeping that one as a spare where we would have a good spare?

Chief Dockery said, there are a lot of options out there. If we went with a Sprinter Unit, like Acadian has, I think you've seen them. It's like a Mercedes van.

Mr. Lindsey said, right.

Chief Dockery said, they are about \$100,000. Looking at one like we have now, I think that one was close to \$200,000, at the time.

Mr. Trascher said, but it's much more versatile with the free standing box. You can take the box off and set it on the ground.

Chief Dockery said, yes, it's bigger. Me personally, if we look at getting the style like that, I am not a fan of what they are doing with the power source right now because they are getting away from the generator, the onboard generator which is fine but, they are going to almost, like a generator on the motor itself. It's about the size of a gallon can and the only issue I have with it is, it's constantly running. So, I think they said, I think it was after 2500 hours or

something like that, of running it has to be replaced.

Mr. Trascher said, not only that, Chief, then the unit is not self contained to function. So, you don't have to sit there and run the ambulance to use the box on the back with our unit. So, yes, I totally agree with that.

Chief Dockery said, we can entertain a lot of ideas on what is out there in the near future. As of right now, everything is up and running. Yes, we will need to address it, I would say we start kind of entertaining it next year and look at the following year for some type of replacement.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, two reasons, for one, it takes forever to get anything so we want to be prepared in advance for that but also, that way we can start looking into the budget and figure out how much money we are going to need for that. You know, for rolling funds over.

Chief Dockery said, yes sir.

Mr. Lindsey said, it's going to be something that we need.

Chief Dockery said, yes sir, by that time we should be starting to get to the end of the payments on the original one and the engine so, it should fan out to where that loan can cease and we can move it over to another one.

Mr. Trascher said, and keep comparable payments that we can afford on a newer unit.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Lindsey said, that's all I have.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, anybody else? If not, we will move to Old Business.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Blackwell said, there is none.

Mrs. Blackwell said, New Business...

Chief Dockery said, madam Chairman, Old Business, I know we talked last month about the Hancock Whitney Bank. I sent an email out to everybody, sorry Mr. Ryan, I didn't have your email address at the time but I got it now.

Mr. Trascher said, I did forward it to him, I think.

Mr. Dreux said, yes.

Chief Dockery said, okay, like I said, I did speak to Mrs. Wynn, Mrs. Williams and this is the rate that she is giving everybody and every other Department that is with her has taken this

offer. I would like for you all to look over it and if it's the Board's wish that we pursue this, the contract does end...

Mr. Trascher said, I guess to entertain this, Chief, we need to open the agenda because we didn't include it on there.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, because we didn't include that on there. So, at this time I would move that we open the agenda. There's a couple of other things that I wanted to talk about to that just came to mind. One of them is the insurance reimbursement issue. I think we had some questions about that at the last meeting. We tabled it to come to this meeting. So, if we could, I would like to open the agenda so we can discuss the contract with Mrs. Wynn at Hancock Whitney and we can review the insurance reimbursement proposal that we looked at before.

Mr. Lindsey said, I second.

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

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, 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. First, I guess we will do the Bank.

AGENDA OPEN – FISCAL AGENT, HANCOCK WHITNEY

Mr. Trascher said, thank you, yes ma'am, that would be for the Chief. Chief, do you want to explain this or just read the resolution?

Mr. Trascher said, okay, we have before us Resolution 2022-021:

WHEREAS, a quorum of the Board of Commissioners ("Board") of St. Tammany Fire

Protection District No. 11 ("District") was present on this date, October 11, 2022, for a properly advertised meeting:

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Fire Protection District No. 11 of the parish of St. Tammany, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of Fire Protection District No. 11 of the Parish of St. Tammany, State of Louisiana (the "District"), find it in the best interest of the Board, employees, citizens and taxpayers to approve the "District" to enter into this Fiscal Agent Contract between St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 11 (the "STFPD11") and Hancock Whitney Bank (the "Bank") as follows:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. St. Tammany Fire Protection District No. 11, Board of Commissioner's authorize the "Bank" of it's intentions to serve as the Fiscal Agent and Depository Bank for a period of 24 months beginning November 1, 2022 and ending on October 31, 2024.
2. The estimated monthly fee for STFPD11 is roughly \$195 a month.
3. The "Bank" agrees to pay a floating interest rate on all Public Fund Now accounts equal to 75% of the 28 day U.S. Treasury Bill, adjusting monthly, as reported by the Federal Reserve Bank as of the last business day of the immediately preceding month. Furthermore, the Bank agrees to credit said earned interest to the accounts of STFPD11 each month.
4. To the extent that prior resolutions or acts of this Board conflict with this Resolution, those prior Resolutions and actions are superseded by this Resolution.

Mr. Trascher asked, any questions? The contract is attached to this. I don't know if you have a copy of it or if you would like to look at the contract.

Mr. Dreux said, I have a copy.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, you do have a copy. Okay, I would so move that we approve the Resolution to have Hancock Whitney as our fiscal agent.

Mr. Lindsey said, I second that.

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

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, 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. What was the next thing you wanted?

INSURANCE REIMBURSEMENT CONTRACT

Mr. Trascher said, I guess the Resolution, Chief, we talked about the insurance reimbursement litigation contract.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Lindsey said, are we going to attach one of these that we have to sign? Do we have to?

Mrs. Blackwell said, we have one in the thing right here. I don't know who all needs to sign it. We will get with Chief after the meeting to sign it.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, Chief, would you bring us up to speed on this.

Chief Dockery said, I think when we spoke last meeting that we all came to the agreement that we liked Fire District's 13 contract on what they were charging and what they were not charging. So, I had Georgette put this in a resolution to mimic their resolution on it. Once we precede with this, we will have to get some paper work...

(music)

Mr. Trascher said, that's a \$50 fine.

Mrs. Blackwell said, sorry.

Chief Dockery said, we will have to get some paper work from the company itself, a, basic contract and if we approve tonight I will get with him and the contract and have it at the next meeting to sign and be complete with that.

Mr. Lindsey asked, and this will basically be the one that we looked at before which would be mainly hazmat stuff, car fires...

Chief Dockery said, hazmat, car fires, MVA's if they don't live in district so, it would help recoup some money.

Mr. Lindsey said, I know we went back and forth with this before about if we were going to charge the insurance of citizens or not. We kind of went back and forth, where did we wind up standing? I have no problem with charging the citizens, their insurance, not the citizens themselves.

Mr. Swann said, I agree with you. You are charging the insurance not the person. Your charging the insurance company.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, and the other thing that I pointed out at the last meeting is, we have a lot of people that don't pay any tax. You know, if they live in a low income home or something, they don't pay anything. So, if we get a chance to recoup a little of the funds from their insurance, not from the person individually but, I think it's only fair for the rest of the taxpayers that are flipping the bill to get our responder's there, to the accident, to start with.

Chief Dockery said, yes sir.

Mr. Lindsey continued, I don't know how the rest of the Board feels or what you all want.

Mr. Trascher said, I can support that Mr. Lindsey, I think its reasonable and I think it would clear up a lot of possible paper work later on instead of having, where do you live and what accident and so on and so forth. It makes it a uniform policy. There's no discrimination what so ever.

Mr. Lindsey said, it would be more difficult if you had, well he paid and I didn't, that kind of stuff.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, I can certainly support that in this contract.

Mr. Lindsey said, as long as it's just, you know how we had spoke about just car accidents, hazmat stuff, you know all that and not...

Mr. Trascher said, house fires, grass fires...

Mr. Lindsey said, exactly, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, strictly motor vehicle accidents or damages that we respond to that scene. I can certainly support that. Chief?

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, I think that's good.

Chief Dockery said, I don't have the copy of...

Mrs. Rinkus said, Michelle has it.

Chief Dockery said, oh you gave it to Michelle.

Mrs. Rinkus said, Michelle, do you have the Resolution?

Mrs. Blackwell said, yes.

Mr. Lindsey said, I think that's a good idea and a good way to pick up some funds for buying a new ambulance.

Mr. Trascher asked, (inaudible) Mr. Dreux, how do you feel about it?

Mr. Dreux said, I am good with it. I think that we had discussed that there were some places that didn't want it.

Mr. Trascher said, Mr. Swann, how do you feel about it?

Mr. Swann said, I can tell you right now that it's not like the insurance companies don't know this happens because they get it from everybody else. (inaudible) I think don't think you should send a bill to the person individually.

Mr. Trascher said, right. So, Chief, the contract that we have with the resolution, is that, did that have these provisions in there?

Chief Dockery said, let me look at that part. I am looking at his.

Mr. Trascher said, it seems as though the consensus of the Board is that we seek reimbursement on all accidents, motor vehicle accidents.

Chief Dockery said, well, I want to say that, if that is the Boards take on it, then let's move forward and if it's not in here we can...

Mr. Lindsey said, as long as it's through their insurance and not billing the citizens.

Mr. Trascher said, right, we don't bill the citizens.

Mr. Swann said, right, they might have insurance.

Mr. Lindsey said, it doesn't matter if it's not a citizen, just bill them anyway.

Mr. Trascher said, well, we wouldn't bill a citizen, I think it would be all insurance. The State of Louisiana says that everybody is suppose to have insurance. If they don't have insurance, it's a \$500 fine and they go to jail. So...

Mr. Swann said, that would never happen.

Mr. Trascher said, well, that's what it says anyway.

Mr. Lindsey said, they suppose to have insurance.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, they suppose to have insurance so, I think it muddy's the water to say, well if you don't have insurance, we will bill out of town and everything. I think it should the policy of our contract that it's a motor vehicle accident and we respond, the insurance company is billed for the recipients for our services.

Mr. Swann asked, do you have the paper work that you would have to submit to them for that kind of stuff?

Chief Dockery said, I do not have it at this time. I had to get approval from the Board and then I will bring it to him to get the contract. We just had to come up with the base line of what we wanted to do.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, I think what we can do Chief, to get it off of dead center, is this the

Resolution for that?

Mrs. Blackwell said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, okay we have a resolution with a number. The number is 2022-022. What we can do is we can move to approve this resolution with the terms of the contract of the wishes of the Board. The wishes of the Board be that, all motor vehicle accidents, within the boundaries of this District, we seek reimbursement through the insurance companies of the people that were in the accident.

Mr. Lindsey said, agreed.

Mr. Trascher said, is that pretty much what we agree on?

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, I would move that we approve Resolution 2022-022, to seek reimbursement from the insurance companies in accordance with the wishes of the Board for each motor vehicle accident from their insurance, not the individuals.

Mr. Swann said, I second.

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

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

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

Mr. Dreux said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, just one other thing is that, all of the terms of the contract that we were presented is that we are in agreement on. That's the only thing that we want to change. The prices and everything they had in there are good.

Mr. Lindsey said, they seem fine to me, it's just that...

Mr. Trascher said, I just wanted to clear that up before we went with the total vote that, the only thing we are amending is that we bill each motor vehicle accident.

Mr. Lindsey said, right.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, I am sorry Madam Chair.

Mrs. Blackwell said, that's okay, we will just backtrack. Mr. Lindsey, how do you vote?

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, 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, Chief, so that will give you the tools to go ahead and all the other terms of the contract as far as the prices and everything, seems to be the wishes of the Board and are satisfactory. The only thing we feel that would be fair is that, everyone be billed for reimbursement. Thank you Chief.

Chief Dockery said, your quite welcome.

Mr. Swann said, you might want to find out what the other ones are using as a form to send to the insurance company. I sure Slidell would probably have more than anybody.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, is there anything else we needed to talk about?

Mr. Trascher said, no, I think that was the only two things that we brought up.

Mr. Lindsey said, if you look at just this last report with 10 motor vehicle accidents...

Mr. Trascher said, that's 10 possibilities for reimbursement.

Mr. Lindsey said, I mean, that could add up to some nice money and then we can get into like, the 18 Wheeler's that catch on fire on the Interstate and you know, your out there for the whole day.

Mr. Trascher said, well, you know when we looking at the first of the year and we are going to have salary increases and different things. You know, the money is going to get progressive. You know, one other thing that I was made aware of. I don't know that we have to open the agenda to do it. I've been told that Mrs. Buck would like to resign, leave the Civil Service Board.

Mr. Swann asked, who?

Mr. Trascher said, Mrs. Kriste Buck. There are three people on the Civil Service Board.

Chief Dockery said, she is the school's appointment.

Mr. Trascher said, she is the school's appointment. Now, in order for her to leave, we have to

of course, find a replacement. The way that we replace her is, the Chief has to send out letters to all the universities within 50 miles from here, for recommendations for someone to serve in that capacity. So, we need to go ahead and have the Chief send out those letters now because, Chief, as you know, it's a lengthy process. Some of them won't respond. They may not even recommend anybody. We really had a hell of a time getting Mrs. Buck.

Mr. Swann said, the majority of the time they don't recommend anybody.

Mr. Dreux asked, this is the appointed person right?

Mr. Trascher said, we actually make the appointment but, we have one appointment to the Board that comes from this group, one appointment to the Civil Service that comes from this group as a Board. The employees have one appointment to that three-member Board that they vote on exclusively, we have nothing to do with. The third member of that Board is by recommendation from the Universities for somebody to serve and we select from their recommendations. So, we actually make the appointment but, that has to come from them. We cannot interject that person.

Mr. Swann said, we've had times where nobody was submit.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, that's what I am saying so, that is something, Chief, were you aware of that? Did you mention that?

Chief Dockery said, I was not aware that she was...

Mr. Trascher said, okay, I ran into Sidney Anderson, Captain Sidney Anderson. He is the one that informed me at the last meeting, that Mrs. Buck, she has other duties now and she would like to be replaced on the Board and he is the Chairman of the Board now. He didn't show up for the meeting so he got elected.

Chief Dockery said, I will start this process.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, just everybody be aware and we will get the Chief in there and get the recommendations and we will verify with her before we actually make it but I'm sure Mr. Anderson is telling the truth.

Mr. Swann asked, do they have to live in this district?

Mr. Trascher said, they are supposed to, yes.

Mr. Swann said, okay, because, I mean, some of these places may send somebody from anywhere.

Mr. Trascher said, well actually, Mrs. Buck, it was Jaclyn Gallo that talked her into doing it for a recommendations. When she saw the list she said, I know her so, she called her.

Mr. Lindsey said, it seems kind of odd that you send it out for a 50 mile radius to recommend somebody that lives here.

Mr. Trascher said, that lives in this district. I believe, isn't it the universities within the area or something?

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, it goes to Hammond.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, it seems like a difficult process.

Mr. Trascher said, I mean, it goes to Hammond, it goes to all the colleges. I mean, what colleges do we have in Pearl River?

Mr. Lindsey said, I mean, if you live 50 miles away, you may not even know anybody that lives here.

Mr. Dreux said, that don't count.

Mr. Lindsey said, it just seems like a not good process.

Mr. Swann said, Slidell had the same thing and most of the time you couldn't get them to respond.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, what happens if they don't respond?

Mr. Lindsey asked, who came up with that process?

Mr. Trascher said, Civil Service.

Mr. Swann said, the State does that.

Mr. Lindsey said, you would think there would be another way to choose rather than sending it to a university within 50 miles.

Mr. Trascher said, it's got to come from them. Now, why, I don't know. We did have names on a list. They send you names and you have to call those people and ask if you would be interested.

Mr. Swann said, you have to ask them where they live.

Mr. Lindsey said, it seems kind of...

Mr. Trascher said, Chief, I think we have some letters probably in the files that we sent out before that we can use as a form. Hey guys, don't shoot the messenger.

Mr. Swann said, well, I know your right.

Mr. Trascher said, it is what it is. But anyway, we will get that process started and I don't think we need to open the agenda to do that.

Mr. Swann asked, are they handling any disciplinary things?

Chief Dockery asked, the Board itself? We have nothing at this time but, they would be.

Mr. Swann asked, since they started, have they handled anything?

Chief Dockery said, I don't think it's ever made it that far. It's mostly come to me and there has been no appeals from there on so, I can't recall one time that they actually had to appeal to the Civil Service Board.

Mr. Trascher said, good, Chief, I noticed here, Madam Chair, excuse me if we are coming to the end of the agenda.

Mrs. Blackwell said, sure let's like cut it short.

Mr. Trascher said, I noticed we have something here that I have been looking for for some time.

Chief Dockery said, I made that copy especially for you.

Mr. Trascher said, do all the other Board members have a copy of this?

Chief Dockery said, no sir.

Mrs. Blackwell said, no, your the only one privileged.

Mr. Trascher said, well, we need to look at this because I am proud. How many times have I asked that we need some type of recognition program? Something within the District and the Chief has presented this evening, he has a copy of a policy of the procedure manual, for recognition and awards for the employees. Again, I am proud to see that Chief and I wish we could email copies to the other Board members.

Chief Dockery said, I will email it to them.

Mr. Trascher said, I would like to have this on our next agenda. That we can adopt it and include it in our policies and procedures so that we can begin some sort of recognition program for our employees.

Mr. Lindsey said, good.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, are you done?

Mr. Trascher said, Chief, I would like to thank you for that.

Mrs. Blackwell said, thank you, Chief. Are you done?

Chief Dockery said, slow and steady.

Mr. Trascher said, yes ma'am, there's no more papers so we have to move on to the budget now.

NEW BUSINESS

2023 PROPOSED BUDGET INTRODUCTION – Chief Jack Dockery

Mrs. Blackwell said, we will move on to New Business, 2023 Proposed Budget Introduction, Chief Dockery?

Chief Dockery said, okay, in front of you is the 2023 proposed budget. Now, with the tax assessor, it's always an educated guess of what they are going to give us so this number is from the latest and greatest paper that they had out. I actually took 5%, off of what they gave us to be safe. So, I went through last year and I went through this year to see what the trends were for the normal, everyday utilities and insurance and stuff like that and I adjusted accordingly. Now, there are couple of areas that I did add some to just because of uncertainty. Fuel, I added \$5,000 more so, it brought it up to \$25,000. Medical Supplies, and the second or third, fourth page, Medical Supplies, I gave them \$6,000 more for next year being that the trend in calls steadily are going up. Right now, this year, we should be close to the \$20,000 mark but a little extra just in case. Payroll, I increased 4%, of course it's 2% mandated for the full time employees but, this just gives us a little bit of breathing room. Like I told Chief Parish, you really can't predict on any type of injury. You hope you don't have any but, in case it does happen.

Mr. Trascher said, yes or you have to cover over time.

Chief Dockery said, you have to cover them and someone else.

Mr. Trascher said, that's reasonable because, like you say, 2% is mandated and that's a fact.

Chief Dockery said, in the very back, I put \$50,000, in for fire trucks. That would be the Chief's truck. I know it was like \$42,000, but I just put \$50,000 in there to make it a even number on that and it left us with \$91,884, that is not allocated for this budget. So, this is just to bring this to the Board. It will be put in the paper for 30 days and we will review and adopt this in December which would give us the time for, before the end of the year it will be adopted.

Mr. Trascher said, I don't know what day our November meeting is but maybe we can adopt it then. Depending on the advertising requirement. But, certainly, December would be good as long as we have it by December 31st.

Chief Dockery said, yes, the advertisement, like the Farmer is usually like a week and a half out.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, so it might be a week or so now which would put the day of our November meeting less than 30 days.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell said, our November meeting will be November the 8th.

Mr. Trascher said, digging up skeletons from the past, ghost, what about our FEMA loan?

Chief Dockery said, it's forgiven.

Mr. Trascher said, it has been forgiven?

Chief Dockery said, that has been forgiven so, that is...

Mr. Trascher said, so that is \$60,000, I think the last, we made a couple payments.

Chief Dockery said, we made a couple payments and it was last year, late last year or early this year, it was forgiven. I want to say I brought it to the Board but, I will backtrack and find the email and send it back out.

Mr. Trascher said, because I think we had some restricted funds.

Chief Dockery said, we do have some restricted funds.

Mr. Trascher said, for that debt.

Chief Dockery said, no, it was, the restricted funds was still for the bond that no one will grace us...

Mr. Trascher said, okay, yes. That's another ghost. It's just sitting there.

Mrs. Blackwell said, no one will (inaudible).

Chief Dockery said, no one is going to put their neck out and say, yes, go ahead and spend it even though...

Mr. Trascher said, eventually, we will get with the District Attorney's Office and there's got to be a resolute to that problem.

Chief Dockery said, yes, because that's...

Mr. Trascher said, I mean, the statute of limitations, if nothing else, is going to expire. But, I thought we restricted some money for that FEMA debt.

Chief Dockery said, that was mostly in our, let me find it.

Mr. Lindsey said, I think we did hold some money in case we had to pay that. The other thing I was going to ask...

Mr. Trascher asked, the FEMA loan?

Mr. Lindsey said, yeah, we don't have anything showing the balances of all our other accounts?

Mr. Trascher said, like the restricted accounts and the CD's?

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

Chief Dockery said, okay, they didn't add it on that one. I will get you all a copy of that of what is in each balance.

Mr. Lindsey said, because we had the restricted where we rolled over that money. I think we rolled over what, \$400 last year, \$400,000.

Chief Dockery said, I think so.

Mr. Trascher said, we had some CD's I think and we had some money that was restricted that would take Board action to spend it. I thought we had put something away for FEMA. It was like \$60,000, and we put something away in the event that we did have to pay it. Maybe we didn't.

Chief Dockery said, we probably put it in our restricted fund that we had for like, station repairs and all the others. We probably added it in that just for the sake of it being there.

Mr. Trascher said, because we had another fund that we put together, I want to say for equipment.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, we did have a fund for large capital...

Mr. Trascher said, right, equipment, for like the fire trucks. I know the Sheldon truck...

Mr. Lindsey said, so, I think we have one that has, it's been a while since I saw it but I think we have one that has like \$1 million in it.

Chief Dockery said, yes, we have one that's a little over \$1 million, that was our old operating account that was closed. So, it does have a little over \$1 million in it for, I don't want to call it rainy day but, if everything broke loose here and we didn't get paid through ad valorem, we have it.

Mr. Trascher said, right, you had to have something for hurricane season, to get through hurricane season.

Chief Dockery said, yes, if we needed to sustain for at least almost a year, if not a year.

Mr. Trascher asked, we are growing interest on those funds aren't we?

Mr. Trascher said, yes. You know, they didn't put it on this one. I will get you all an up to date this evening.

Mr. Lindsey asked, with all the different accounts?

Chief Dockery said, with all the different accounts.

Mr. Trascher said, you should be able to get that from Wynn when you go back with that contract.

Chief Dockery said, I can get that on line. I have access to do that so, I will get it and send it to you tonight.

Mr. Trascher asked, what about Mr. Dreux, has he been included on the signature card?

Chief Dockery said, Mr. Dreux is not special enough, no, I have not got him on there yet. I will get Mrs. Wynn to see to it.

Mr. Dreux said, you wouldn't recognize the signature.

Chief Dockery said, it can't be no worse than mine.

Mr. Trascher said, they don't care, as long as you scratch a signature.

Mr. Swann said, yes, chicken scratch.

Mr. Trascher said, as long as you scratch it. I'm sorry, that was just something that just popped up.

Chief Dockery said, truthfully, I just lost track Mr. Dreux. I will get with Mrs. Wynn when I get the contract to her. But, I think she will need you to come in and show her your license and she can make a copy of it.

Mr. Trascher said, we may need to do a resolution from the Board authorizing the signature. I think she will want that, right Chief?

Mrs. Blackwell said, I think we did that already.

Mr. Trascher asked, did we?

Mrs. Blackwell said, yes, when he first came in, we had it.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, well he may need that resolution when he goes to sign the card, if we didn't do that we need to do that.

Mr. Swann asked, have you been satisfied with the financial service we have now?

Chief Dockery said, yes, I am satisfied and I am satisfied with, we are able, we are part of what they call, "treasury management" so, we can actually do deposits here, to a certain extent. Now, if there's a big ad valorem check for \$1 million, of course, we have to bring it to the bank. But, all of our EMS checks that we get we can actually deposit them here, file them away and I can go online and review all the accounts. We can make sure the transactions are going through. So, it's been great and it's pretty secure. I have to of course, put in pass

words and everything and then I have to go on my phone to a certain app and it gives me a certain number, a token number that I have to punch it in. So, I am very happy with it and it seems to be working out very well for us.

Mr. Swann said, good.

Chief Dockery said, that's what I have for the budget. Like I said, I am going to put it in the paper and we will tackle it in December. That way we have enough time for the 30 day running.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, because then your advertising will be done and any questions.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, great news.

Mr. Swann said, I don't think we ever got an answer, they were suppose to put the gutters on the front. That was included in the bid and they didn't do that. Did we get that money reimbursed?

Chief Dockery said, we never paid them.

Mr. Swann said, okay, even better.

Chief Dockery said, yes, we never paid them.

Mr. Lindsey said, so, we are just going to have to find another company to do it?

Chief Dockery said, we are going to find another company to do it. Like I said, I got the problem solved right now with it not leaking in the station but, we will have to address with a different company or

Mr. Swann said, somebody should be able to do that.

Chief Dockery said, yes, or somebody with a little of ingenuity with some more scaffolding.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, and I do want to thank Chief for, he got up there in the heat on top of the scaffolding and put all that tin on that roof to extent it out like it needed to be so, to me, that is over and above the normal job is.

Mr. Trascher said, the scope.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, although, I would have like to see some of the young bucks that are down at the end of the totem pole and say, no Chief, let me get up there and do it.

Chief Dockery said, my theory on it was, I am mostly doing my desk work so, if I can keep them available to run calls, then I am okay with that.

Mr. Lindsey said, well, I do appreciate it because I know there was a lot involved. You know, setting all the scaffolding up and moving it and taking it down and I know it was hot out there.

Mr. Trascher said, thank you Chief.

Mr. Lindsey said, I know there was a lot of work that was involved in that, that is not a part of his daily job but, it saved the department money.

Mr. Trascher said, maybe we need to put him in on that recognition program that we are getting approved.

Mr. Lindsey said, I agree with that. That saved us some money and we would have had to get somebody to do that.

Mr. Trascher said, it got the job done and we were willing to pay for it and they wouldn't do it. It got something done with a stop and get measure.

Mr. Swann said, the roof slopes to the front?

Mr. Trascher said, yes.

Mr. Lindsey said, the roof used to stop here and the roof stopped here so, the water just used to run behind the bricks.

Mr. Swann said, it's can't believe that they slopped it to the front. Seems like it should be slopped to the back.

Mr. Lindsey asked, what's that?

Mr. Swann said, the roof, the design of the roof.

Mr. Lindsey said, well, it's got a gable so, it slopes both ways. It's a gable roof so it goes...

Mr. Trascher said, so it slopes in the front and slopes in the back.

Mr. Lindsey said, when they did the bricks years back, they modified gutter system type thing that they had that never worked and all the water was running behind the bricks .

Chief Dockery said, they basically knocked the center down spouts off and tried to shove the metal back up and put some caulking on it or something so, it was instant leaking behind the brick.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, it deteriorated the mortar to the point that the bricks fell. So, I mean, they started bowing and I knew they were going to fall and they wound up falling. So, anyway, now it's extended thanks to Chief doing it and like I said, I was a little disappointed that we didn't have some other helping hands up there doing it but, Chief got the job done so I appreciate him for that.

Chief Dockery said, I appreciate you letting me borrow all the scaffolding.

Mr. Lindsey said, I'm glad I didn't have to get up there and extend the roof.

Mr. Dreux said, we had to do that before...

Mr. Lindsey said, yes. That's all I have.

Mr. Dreux asked, does it have any type of drip edge on it?

Mr. Lindsey said, well it's going to have to have a gutter and downspouts.

Mr. Dreux asked, is there something to attach that gutter to because it normally has a drip edge and you attach the gutter to that.

Mr. Lindsey said, well, it's going to have to mount to the bricks.

Mr. Trascher said, they are going to have to make a flashing to make a drip edge like you are talking about. That's going to go over the bricks and then the gutters.

Chief Dockery said, I think the original gutters were attached to the roof itself through some type of bracket.

Mr. Dreux said, and it had brick on it before? Because you have 5.5 inches is what the amount is for the bricks. You have to have 5.5 inches of the ledger. So, that's 5.5 inches from the edge of your roof. As long as the tie backs are good it should hold. You have to have good tiebacks.

Chief Dockery said, we will go from there.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, is that it? Any other Public comment?

PUBLIC COMMENT – Michelle Blackwell

Mr. Trascher said, we don't have any public.

Mr. Lindsey said, that's all I have.

Mr. Dreux said, that's all I got.

Mrs. Blackwell said, I appreciate each and every one of you guys, including Chief. I think we have come a long way. A very long way from our past, when I started.

Mr. Swann said, your right.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, nobody is in a headlock and no police here or nothing.

Mrs. Blackwell said, I know. Tim Marshall ain't here, Floyd ain't beating a dead horse and...

Chief Dockery said, we will go off record before I say anything.

Mrs. Blackwell said, let's adjourn the meeting, do I have a motion to adjourn?

Mr. Trascher said, so moved.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, do I have a second?

Mr. Swann said, second.

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

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, 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, no.

Mrs. Blackwell said, motion carries anyway. Meeting adjourned.