



St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 11
Board of Commissioners
Minutes of the Meeting on August 11, 2020
Fire Chief Jack Dockery

ROLL CALL

Russell Lindsey – Present
Michael Tassin - Present
Emile Lombard - Present
Floyd Trascher – Present
Michele Blackwell – Present

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MINUTES

FINANCIALS

MINUTES

Mrs. Blackwell said, has everybody read and approved the minutes for the July 14th?

Mr. Lombard said, nothing jumped out at me so, if nobody has any comments, I make a motion to approve.

Mr. Lindsey said, second.

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

Mr. Lombard said, yes.

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

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

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

Mr. Tassin said, yes.

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

Mr. Trascher said, yep.

Mrs. Blackwell said, motion carries. We will move to the Financial Report, Chief Dockery.

Chief Dockery said, okay, we are looking at a target of 58%, it's .58%. Our ad valorem, we brought in 97%, so far, 72% of state revenue share and we should get another check later this year. The only one that really stands out to me is number 68, which is on the second page, it's Medical Supplies. Right now we are at 87%. Unfortunately, with the virus we had to withstand a lot more equipment and supplies. So, that will probably need to be adjusted when we do our amended budget because, we usually run about \$1,000, a month or so, just for medical supplies. But, everything else seems to be falling in line. All reoccurring are within range. All that are non reoccurring, we have control over throughout the year.

Just to go into the EMS side of it, we took in a total of \$12,523.20, for the month of July. There again, we are within our threshold of \$10,000, we exceeded that so, it looks like we are in pretty decent shape. EMS service, we are at 57%, so we are right at the area that we need to be. I think last month or the month before, it was a little less than what we were expecting but, we are on track to complete that at 100%. That's all I have for the Finance.

Mrs. Blackwell said, anybody have any questions?

Mr. Lombard said, no, I don't have any.

Mr. Lindsey said, nope.

Mrs. Blackwell said, well, if there are no questions, we will move on to the Chief's report, Chief Dockery.

CHIEF'S REPORT – Chief Jack Dockery

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

EMS	67
MVA	4
STRUCTURE FIRE (Mutual Aid Fire District #7)	1
VEHICLE FIRE	1
SERVICE/GOOD INTENT	6
DISPATCHED/CANCELLED IN ROUTE	14
FALSE ALARM	7
POLICE MATTER	2
TOTAL	102

Chief Dockery continued, kind of a busy month. We had about 20 more than we usually do.

Mr. Trascher said, Chief, excuse me, on the Dispatched/Cancelled, was there some reason or a specific event?

Chief Dockery said, it could have been anything. We get a lot of mutual aid from Slidell for Acadian. If they are tied up, they will request our Med truck and usually, when our Med truck is in route, there truck will free up and be able to take the call so, they will cancel our truck.
Canceled

Mr. Trascher said, I know, like we did with the alarms where if you get nuisance alarms...

Chief Dockery said, yes, we did get one nuisance alarm and we spoke with the homeowner and it appears they have corrected the issue because, actually the majority of those seven, were from that residence. I want to say about 5 of them were from that residence. We have spoken with them and I told them about the Nuisance Alarm Ordinance and they have corrected the issue so far.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, I was just wondering if the ones that have been canceled may have been something that was developing. Okay, thank you sir.

Mrs. Blackwell said, okay, if that's all you have for Chief's Report, we have no Old Business and we have no New Business.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

NONE

Mrs. Blackwell asked, do we have any discussions?

Mr. Lombard said, any comments.

Mr. Trascher said, the Assessor, with our millage's, Chief, how are we are target with that?

Chief Dockery said, it's been sent in and I went last week, I went last Monday, and turned the paper work into them and I actually got an email Tuesday from them stating that we didn't have public comment on there. So, I spoke with them and informed them that we didn't have any public here but, we checked with the Legislative Auditor and they said it was fine that we didn't have it stated on the agenda of public comment. She said, it does fall within the Sunshine Law to give public comment and that most people don't state it on the agenda but, I would like for future reference to add that little bit to there just to safe guard us.

Mr. Trascher said, and it may be something we need to look at just for the agenda, for example, just setting the millage's requires a resolution. Anything that we are aware of that has a resolution, we may include on the agenda, public comment.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, because we do open the floor if there is any comments. It's something we do anyway.

Chief Dockery said, I would say anything with a vote, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, maybe, the Chairman, we need to make that a policy, that when we have an item that is on the agenda that is going to require a resolution that we also include public comment with that item.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Lombard said, we have to put it on the agenda for Michele.

Mrs. Blackwell said, Georgette, you got all of this?

Gr said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell said, done.

Chief Dockery said, so, once we got the clear from the State Auditor, he said, he was going to send all the paper work in and it looks fine.

Mr. Trascher asked, have you been working on our millage for next year for a possible election date?

Chief Dockery said, yes, I am working on that right now and trying to get it in the Spring time.

Mr. Trascher said, we are going to be able to pick our election date for that.

Chief Dockery said, that's what I am trying to find out right now. If we get a Spring time election, I would rather get one of those and shoot for it then but, by some chance it fails, I will at least, have another option in the Fall.

Mr. Trascher said, right, at one time the Parish was trying to require all millage or all taxing elections be held at the same time and I think it passed.

Mr. Lombard said, that (inaudible).

Mr. Trascher said, I think it passed, they could require it. They would have one election for all the millage's and sometimes it puts you at a disadvantage to be on the ballot with 10 different taxes if you are on a high profile election.

Mr. Lombard said, you don't want to be on there.

Chief Dockery said, especially next year. So, but that is being worked on.

Mr. Trascher asked, how is our ambulance holding up that we had the motor put in and all?

Chief Dockery said, good right now. I have had some other little parts break on it but that's just regular wear and tear. I did have a check engine light come on so it will be going back to Ford in the next day or so, to get a computer read on it to see what's going on. I am taking full extent of that warranty and I will make sure they will look at it.

Mr. Trascher said, absolutely, one other thing and I will shut up. On the Chief of Ops position, has Civil Service been working to eliminate that one?

Chief Dockery said, that one, I will have to check with Civil Service on.

Mr. Trascher asked, did we follow up on or, we did a resolution on this level and it needed to go to Civil Service now.

Chief Dockery said, I will check with them to see where they are at on that. I know we had one meeting but that was just to do the applications for the Civil Service test coming up. I will check with them on that.

Mrs. Blackwell said, while we are talking about Civil Service, Chief, do you have PAF's on you or Personal Action Forms when you take off when your sick or when you take off, we are suppose to have a PAF on it that we as the Board should know.

Chief Dockery said, that should only be for extended sick.

Mr. Trascher said, we talked about that in the past and if you are going to be out, the Chairman needs to be aware that you are not in and for a Personal Action Form, if you are going to schedule a vacation or like 3 days out, or something like that, we need to fill one out.

Chief Dockery said, alright, I do believe it was for any extended time but, I will check and by all means, I will make sure you have what ever you need for that.

Mrs. Blackwell said, thank you.

Mr. Lindsey asked, Chief, do we have any update on the Station issue with the brick on the front? Did we make any headway?

Chief Dockery said, truthfully, what happen this year with all the virus craziness, we have not. We have been mostly working on the inside, getting it straight and we have the money set aside. We just haven't stepped off into that area yet. But, the money money is there for it. I will get with Matt and see if we can kind of, start looking again. Like, what we were talking about last time, if we are going to go with that type of material for the outside of it.

Mr. Lindsey said, I think Matt coordinated the stuff in here, right, doing the renovations in here?

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Lindsey said, I think he did pretty good coordinating this together so, maybe we can encourage him to get a couple of guys together, make some phone calls or do something to get that done. That brick ain't getting any better in the front of the building.

Mr. Trascher said, the update is that it didn't fall. It's still standing up out there.

Mr. Lindsey said, it just doesn't look nice.

Chief Dockery said, I will make note to him to start looking at that and getting some more stuff together for that. We do have a couple of quotes for it but, we just haven't pulled the trigger on it yet.

Mr. Lindsey said, okay.

Mr. Trascher asked, are you doing anything with that trailer over on Porter's River?

Chief Dockery said, well...

Mr. Trascher said, is that a qualified no?

Chief Dockery said, I am going to try and stay subtle since we are still on record. That poor trailer has been broken into probably more than I have fingers to count. I went and looked at it last week when I was over there and the roof has a big crack in it to where it is starting to get some type of roof damage. I don't see it happening for any type of living area. If anything, truthfully, I would say do some type of training and then tear it down, scrap it and just cut our losses with it.

Mr. Trascher said, that may be something we have to do is surplus it.

Mr. Lindsey asked, do you think we can sell it for anything?

Chief Dockery said, scrap metal.

Mr. Lindsey asked, is that all? I haven't been there.

Chief Dockery said, it would probably fall apart just moving it.

Mr. Trascher said, it's very old and once a trailer, it's either 12 or 15 years, you can't put it anywhere in St. Tammany Parish. You can't even put it in a trailer park. So, even if you could move it, you couldn't get a permit to hook it up.

Chief Dockery said, I hate to say this was a pipe dream but, it is.

Mr. Trascher said, it was a \$3,000, boon dock, is what it turned out to be and we paid \$3,000, for it.

Chief Dockery said, use it for training, get some training out of it.

Mr. Trascher said, it might make a good controlled burn.

Chief Dockery said, tear the dumb gum thing down and sell the scrap and recoup a couple hundred bucks from it.

Mr. Lombard said, you would probably do better instead of burning it, just tear it down and get the scrap out of it. If you burn it, it's a mess to clean up.

Mr. Trascher said, it would be fire class if it was burned.

Mr. Lombard said, then you have hazardous material in it.

Mr. Trascher said, clean it up. You could offer it for sale. If somebody wanted to drag it up in the woods somewhere for a hunting camp.

Chief Dockery said, right now we could use it for a prop. Put a smoke machine in there, smoke it up and let them do searches inside and go from there. I'm pretty sure they would love to do that.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, at least we would be getting some kind of use out of it.

Chief Dockery said, get some use out of it for a while and when it gets too dilapidated...

Mr. Trascher said, get some use out of it because you are still paying the electric bill on it, right?

Chief Dockery said, yes, it's about \$10 a month.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, did we ever work out the water issue?

Chief Dockery said, I cut the water off to it being that we haven't in a while, being that they had a flat charge so, I just had them shut the water off to that. There was no need to pay \$100 per month to something that wasn't being used.

Mr. Trascher said, exactly.

Chief Dockery said, so, that's, in my opinion, that's what should do with it. Use it for some type of training and when it gets to the point of...

Mr. Lombard said, when it gets to a safety point, tear it down.

Chief Dockery said, yes, tear it down.

Mr. Lindsey said, that and if people start like, going in there and doing drugs and vandalize it.

Chief Dockery said, we had some neighborhood kids go in there and play house. They broke the window and climbed in and actually, I walked up there one day and I found a couple of kids on the back porch and I followed them home and spoke to their parents and I asked them to please, just don't go in there. We have already boarded up a couple of windows because, actually, we have a window that was broke about a week or so ago and I just haven't had the material and go over there and cover it also.

Mr. Lindsey said, whenever we do get to the point of wanting to tearing it down, just get with me. I will get a dumpster over there and bring some equipment over there and push that thing off the frames, mash it up and load it up in the dumpster.

Chief Dockery said, sounds good.

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

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Emile, you got anything?

Chief Dockery said, on the building, on the front of the building, are we still talking about doing that type of siding?

Mr. Lombard asked, the one that I brought here? I thought it looked good and strong.

Mr. Lindsey said, I think we all thought it looked nice but, if that's the hold up, that we can't find anybody to install that particular product...

Chief Dockery said, yes, that was the difficult part.

Mr. Lindsey said, then, if we have to come up with different ideas, let's put forth something because this has been...

Mr. Lombard said, I will pass by Mike's and see if he has anybody that can install it.

Chief Dockery said, okay.

Mr. Lindsey said, we have been talking about doing something for about a year and a half now and if we keep doing the same thing it's going to stay the same way.

Chief Dockery said, yes, that's understandable but, unfortunately, of course, I am the head of the department is who I have to blame on that one and there's no excuse for it.

Mr. Lindsey said, if you could maybe, get a couple of guys appointed on some kind of little committee to move forward with getting some quotes or getting some ideas or whatever.

Mr. Lombard said, I will go and see Mike and see if he can get somebody over here to look at it. You can get some measurements on the building and I will bring it to him, let him price it out.

Mr. Lindsey said, he should be able to get somebody to come by here and...

Mr. Lombard said, he should.

Mr. Lindsey said, and get some prices on it. I think it would look nice but I don't know if that's the problem, that nobody is familiar with the product.

Mr. Lombard said, I don't think it would be that hard to install.

Mr. Lindsey said, but, I mean, if he is selling it, he should should know somebody that is installing it.

Chief Dockery said, they had one installer but, every time I gave him a call he was unavailable or he never made it out here. We set up numerous times for him to come out and he never came out.

Mr. Lombard said, Mike will let me know who the distributor is around here that supplies him and I will call him up and say, look, we have a problem. We want to put your product on the building, on the fire department, on a heavily traveled road and we are not having any success.

Mr. Lindsey asked, are we still talking about bricking the bottom of it?

Chief Dockery said, I think the bottom probably needs to come off and go back with either brick or something.

Mr. Lindsey said, that's what I was trying to remember.

Mrs. Blackwell said, we had a drawing, it was half brick and then this stuff was on the top. That's what I thought.

Mr. Trascher said, I think it wasn't decided. We talked about it.

Mr. Lombard said, you can put two different colors on it. I think you and your wife was going to come and look at it and give us an idea. Put one color, a dark color on the bottom and then lighten it up. If you go look at Station, the one by Steel Road, they got it in colors but, it's stucco and everything else. You can do the same principle, you can band it on the top with something. Write fire department up there, District 11.

Mr. Lindsey said, I will look at that and see but...

Mr. Lombard said, I will go talk to Mike and get everything rolling.

Mr. Lindsey said, I kind of think it would look nice with brick on the bottom, up about 4ft or so and the siding up above it.

Mr. Lombard said, but you don't have much of a span to make a difference with the brick. You know, if you have the three big bay doors and then you got the little part by the office, you got about that small of area.

Mr. Lindsey said, I am all for whatever. I just want to see something done with it. The way it looks nice when we pass by.

Mr. Lombard said, let me get Mike to send somebody out here to look at it and give us some ideas and maybe give us a little sketch on it.

Mr. Lindsey said, especially if you are talking about tax millage's next year, I don't know about everybody else taxes but, I know a lot of peoples taxes that went way up here recently.

Mr. Lombard said, they went with reassessment

Mr. Lindsey said, yeah, and if you ride by and the station looks like trash, you know your like, what is all that money going to? I just think it would be good for it to look nice, professional. Not overboard but, clean and neat, professional.

Mr. Trascher said, I totally agree with you.

Mr. Lombard said, I agree. I will go see Mike tomorrow while I am off.

Mr. Trascher said, off of what?

Mr. Lombard said, off my rocker.

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

Mrs. Blackwell said, are you sure? That's twice.

Mr. Lombard said, I've been off that for years.

Mr. Lindsey said, no, I'm done.

Mrs. Blackwell said, that's alright, if you have something else we can roll with it.

Mr. Lindsey said, no, I am done.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Tassin, do you have anything?

Mr. Tassin said, I got nothing.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Trascher, do you have anything?

Mr. Trascher said, no, I just want to wish everybody a safe journey. Try to stay safe with this COVID. This is unprecedented.

Mr. Lombard said, did you see that we have a selection for vice president for Mr. Biden?

Mr. Lindsey said, we might should go off record.

Mr. Trascher said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell said, yes, let's go off record.

Mr. Trascher said, Jack, thank the department and the fireman for us for keeping safe and keeping us safe. With that said, I move we adjourn.

Mr. Lombard said, second and yes.

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

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

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

Mr. Tassin said, yes.

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

Mr. Trascher said, I believe so.

Mrs. Blackwell said, motion carries.