



St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 11
Board of Commissioners
Minutes of the Meeting on July 14, 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 asked, has everybody read and approved the May 19th, and June 9th, meeting minutes?

Mr. Tassin said, yes.

Mr. Lombard said, I got them and looked at them online. I didn't see any problem with them.

Mr. Trascher said, I read them and didn't have any problems either.

Mr. Lombard said, I make a motion to approve.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, do I have a second?

Mr. Trascher said, I will second with the video governing.
Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Emile, how do you vote?

Mr. Lombard said, yes.

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

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

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

Mr. Tassin said, yes.

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

Mr. Trascher said, yes.

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

FINANCIAL REPORT – CHIEF JACK DOCKERY

FINANCIAL REPORT – Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, for the month May, actually it's June, we are looking at a target rate of 50%. EMS services were right at 50%, so we are on pace where we need to be. As far as valorem, we close to getting our 100%, on that. We just got a check in today for \$12,000 and some change. Any of the big ticket items or the big overages will be addressed on the amended budget. These are the same ones as last month with the Medical Equipment and Maintenance. Then, we had one for Software Maintenance, and we went over by just a little bit. So, nothing new sticking out as being grossly out of place and then, if you look at the very last page, at the very bottom, will be our different accounts and what we have in them as of today. I am going to sit down with Chief Parish sometime today and get an amended budget together to bring to the Board in the next month or two. I also want to sit down and start working on next years budget so we can get that out kind of early this year. I just want to wait for the Grant Recap to come in from the Assessors Office to see where we are standing. So, when that's come in and we will start working on that.

Mr. Trascher said, Chief, do we have our restricted accounts in here?

Chief Dockery said, yes sir, the Rolling Stock, number 9827, the very bottom one, that's our Restricted Account that we have the money set aside for the Apparatus and the Building repair. Of course we have the Bond Surplus for \$132,000.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, that's was the one that we put in...

Chief Dockery said, for FEMA?

Mr. Trascher said, yes, that's the account that we, so this is the current balance or this is...

Chief Dockery said, it should be the current balance because, I am not sure on the bond surplus one... I am going to have to check with Moyle because, I know we had that money taken out last month.

Mr. Trascher said, right, that's what I am wondering. That may have a little less.

Chief Dockery said, yes, that may have a little less. I will check with him.

Mr. Trascher said, we did have those two expenses. The FEMA and the Sanitizing Equipment.

Chief Dockery said, the equipment, yes. We have \$19,000, in Debt Services. That's the account we had set aside for when we were purchasing trucks so, that money has just sat there for the past couple of years. Of course, our Money Market Account, our old Operating Account and our new Operating Account.

Mr. Trascher said, and we are in the process, we are going to phase out our old Operating account and combine it.

Chief Dockery said, yes. We had to make sure we didn't have anything else going to it. A lot of the medical payments, at one time, were going directly into that account so, once we see inactivity for a couple of months we will phase it out.

Mr. Trascher said, we will phase it out. Okay, thank you Chief.

Chief Dockery said, on the medical side, we took in \$11,523.36, last month so, we are still in our projected \$10,000, per month range. It seemed a little lower at first but, we didn't have lot of checks come in but, it looks like a lot of straight payments to the account. That's all I have on the finance, any questions?

Mrs. Blackwell asked, anybody have anything else?

Mr. Lindsey said, Chief, I wasn't here for the last meeting. Did everything go good with the engine and transmissions?

Chief Dockery said, we got the new one put in and it seems to be doing fine. I'm still getting, I had an issue with the radiator hose collapsing once so I brought it back there and they put a new hose and a new cap on it for me so, it's running right now.

Mr. Lindsey said, good.

Mrs. Blackwell said, okay, so, if that's it with the Financials we will move onto the Chief's Report and EMS Report, Chief Dockery.

CHIEF'S REPORT – Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, okay for the month of June, we had:

EMS	51
MVA	5
SERVICE/GOOD INTENT	11
DISPATCHED/CANCELLED IN ROUTE	6
FALSE ALARM	9
DOWN POWER LINE	1
SMOKE INVESTIGATION	1
TOTAL	84

Chief Dockery said, now, for the false alarms, we had one resident in particular, we went out there 4 or 5 times in a row. So, we have notified them to address this issue. If not, we will start with the Nuisance Alarm and send them a certified letter. So, hopefully, this will start to take care of that problem because it was becoming a once a day, if not twice a day, event going out there.

Mr. Trascher asked, was it an alarm or was it a call?

Chief Dockery said, just an alarm, a smoke detector malfunctioning in a trailer. So, they have been, Chief Parish has spoken with the resident and they will be addressing that.

Mr. Lombard asked, is it on private or in the trailer park?

Chief Dockery said, it's in the trailer park.

Mr. Lombard asked, do we cite the trailer park owner?

Chief Dockery said, that one I would have to look into being that, if the trailer park mandates that everyone have an alarm system, then it would be the trailer park. If it's just a regular private citizen getting their own security system, then it would fall on them.

Mr. Lombard said, if we made it where, if they move in there, the trailer park owner was responsible for making sure they had a working system and they don't, either one of them would have to be responsible for it. You would have to have a document, they would have to sign a document for it that its in working order. If it doesn't, you go to the trailer park and say look, if you don't get it corrected we are going to fine you for it. At least it would give you some leverage on it because, if you go to tell they guy, they going to say I don't care fine me. I would hate to make the trailer park pay for it but, we can't have you guys running out there. Think about it.

Chief Dockery said, yes. So, that's all I got for the Chief's report.

Mrs. Blackwell said, that's it, nobody else has any comments? There's no Old Business so, we will go into New Business, Adopt Millage Rates, Chief Dockery?

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

ADOPT MILLAGE RATES – Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, alright, speaking with the Tax Assessors Office, they informed us that we have one millage that needed to be adopted and I think it was a misunderstanding. I use that word loosely to where, we thought that the millage that renewed itself this year was not up for reassessment therefore, would stay at the 10 mills. According to the tax assessor, being that it is a reassessment year, it has to go back to whatever it was last year which was 9.17 mills. I went and spoke with them Friday. I sat down with Mr. Dugas for probably 2 hours and went through it all. I say the good news is, we will still, we will still, we will make more money than we did last year so we will be able to do all of our increases for payroll and insurance and what ever life brings us. We do have to set the rate at 9.17. We cannot go any higher. We can go lower but we are not so...

Mr. Trascher said, Chief, I think the long and the short of it is, is that, this is the millage, the first year that we will be collecting it and because it was voter approved at 10 mills, when we set our rates, we assumed that would be the rate. We did not take into account that 2020 is going to be a reassessment year so, the assessor is really telling us that we have to roll that 10 mills back to what we collected last year. Now, we had the opportunity, we could have scheduled the public hearings and raised it to the 10 mills. You see the other fire districts are having issues with it. With setting the millage's to what they are telling us, we are still going to, Chief, what is it \$100,000?

Chief Dockery said, roughly \$140,000.

Mr. Trascher said, more in revenue because of the projected increase in property values.

Mr. Lombard asked, how much did we lose? What is the difference in what we are going to collect and what we lose?

Chief Dockery said, I think he said around \$70,000.

Mr. Lombard said, (inaudible) about \$100,000, more.

Chief Dockery said, we were looking at \$210,000, total and we are down to \$140,000, which is still reasonable. We can still manage on that.

Mr. Trascher asked, and I still, maybe next year when all the smoke and dust settles, we can go in and adjust three of the mills up to the maximum and reduce just one of them, the one that is going to come up the soonest for re-election so that when we have to, because at some point we are going to have to roll everything up and then roll it back down to maintain those millage's.

Mr. Lombard said, those levels.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, all we will have to do is adjust one of them and not all four different millage's. With that said, we are going to have to approve a resolution setting the millage's for Acquisition and Maintenance, Number 1069034 at 9.17 mills.

Mr. Lombard said, and that's what we collected last year.

Mr. Trascher said, that's what we collected last year on this millage. It's going to be worth more money because the property values are going up.

Mr. Lombard said, probably want to put a note notice out saying, that's what we collected last year. All of them are the same so, maybe we will get some good press out of it.

Chief Dockery said, well, we have our big millage coming up for renewal next year. It's 15 mills, so, with just the atmosphere with all the taxing bodies, I am comfortable with doing this. We don't really have a choice right now, but even before, I was comfortable because it's always difficult process around here to get the millage passed. We have always had a tight margin of pass rate. So, I will start working on that this year to get it on the ballot early spring next year and I dare not to even try this year with everything going on. I just don't want to jump into that fire.

Mr. Lombard said, let the other ones have that fire.

Mr. Trascher said, well, you look in the paper and they are asking the Chief's that are rolling their millage's forward, to attend the last Council meeting and the Parish Council really chastised them.

Mr. Lombard said, that was District 1?

Mr. Trascher said, yes, District 1 and 4 were two that were really, and they are going to realize a lot more money for rolling it forward.

Mr. Lombard said, they got a million dollars more.

Mr. Trascher said, and they still are going to have to have a public hearing for that millage at the Council Chambers. Anyway, we look like we are being good stewards of the parish, of the tax payers money.

Mr. Lombard said, yes, that's what you want. That's the impression you want.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, we are going to need a resolution number.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Georgette, do you know the next resolution number?

Mrs. Rinkus said, 2020-017.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, 017?

Mrs. Rinkus said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, So, I move to adopt Resolution Number 2020-017, to set our millage rate on the millage on Acquisition and Maintenance 1069034, at the same rate it was last year at 9.17 mills. I am not sure to say if it's the same rate because, the Assessor calculates this rate based on the amount of revenue we are going to get. So, it may have been at 9.something...

Chief Dockery said, it was 9.17.

Mr. Trascher said, was it, okay, I didn't have that in front of me. So, yes, 9.17.

Mr. Tassin said, second.

Mrs. Blackwell said, okay, with the second, Mr. Emile, how do you vote?

Mr. Lombard said, yes.

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

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

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

Mr. Tassin said, yes.

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

Mr. Trascher said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell said, I guess I need to vote as well, I vote yes.

Mr. Trascher said, I don't know that you have to but, you can.

Mrs. Blackwell said, motion carries. Well, we have on the last ones I think. Just in case.

Mr. Trascher said, we didn't have enough. We had to have three quarters. That's good, no problem.

Mrs. Blackwell said, alright.

Mr. Lombard said, next time, on the mics you should say, Michele Blanchard, Michele whatever, votes yes.

Mrs. Blackwell said, Michele Blackwell, I am not a Blanchard.

Mr. Lombard said, all I know is the name Michele, to bring it back into prospective of who it is.

Mrs. Blackwell said, alright, it that's it for that, we have nothing else on the agenda.

Mr. Tassin said, I move to adjourn.

Mr. Trascher said, before we adjourn, Chief, these are our new desk for in here? I think it gives it a whole, more professional look.

Mr. Lombard asked, who picked them out?

Chief Dockery said, Chief Parish picked them out. I think this can be off record. I received this from the Clerk of Court.

Mrs. Blackwell said, do we want to adjourn first? Let's go ahead and do the adjournment first.

Mr. Tassin said, I stick to my motion to adjourn.

Mr. Trascher said, second.

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

Mr. Lombard said, yes.

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

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

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

Mr. Tassin said, yes.

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

Mr. Trascher said, yes.