

St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 11
Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes
37546 Pine Street Extension, Pearl River, Louisiana
Fire Chief Jack Dockery
January 9, 2023
7:00 pm – 7:39 pm

#### ROLL CALL

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

# PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE INVOCATION MINUTES

Mrs. Blackwell said, I would like to thank Mr. Cougle for coming out and Mr. Chuck for coming out.

Mr. Dreux said, thank you, guys.

Mrs. Blackwell said, I wanted to recognize them tonight. Has everybody read and approved the minutes for the December 12<sup>th</sup>, meeting?

Mr. Trascher said, yes, I have had the opportunity to review the minutes and I find them to be in order and if there is no further discussion, I move that we approve them with the video governing.

Mr. Lindsey said, I second.

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

Mrs. Blackwell said, 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.

#### FINANICAL REPORT

Chief Dockery said, alright, for the month of December, is it easier to add in the amended right now or do you want to hold off and do that separately?

Mrs. Blackwell said, we will do that separately.

Chief Dockery said, okay, for the month of December, we are looking at 100% for the target. Going through, we took in 99.73% of ad valorem. State Revenue, we took in 235.95%. Insurance Rebates, we didn't get anything. They just send them out of State Revenue Sharing, a check that is for the Fireman's Rebate.

As of Expenses, looking through, Fuel, we ended up at 106.24%, so not much over what we budgeted. It looks like we were over \$1,558.64. Of course, we talked about the Insurance, how we have the insurance audit so that's what raised our Workman's Comp and Vehicle Insurance up. Going to Page 2, the only one standing out in the trucks is Engine 111. We spoke about this one and talked about transferring money over from the Restricted Fund. The amount of the transfer will be \$28,000. That was the cost of the repairs on that truck.

Mr. Trascher said, and excuse me Chief, that was catastrophic repairs.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, thank you.

Chief Dockery continued, let's see, Medic 112, we were \$1,689 over but there again, that was another repair that we couldn't see. That was with the suspension.

Mr. Trascher said, a catastrophic failure.

Chief Dockery said, yes, catastrophic.

Mr. Trascher said, the front end repairs.

Chief Dockery said, yes, going down, Medical Supplies were up \$3,542, but that was just with

the number of calls with the expensive supplies. This is continually going up each year so, I think we well made up with what we took in for EMS billing. Internet we talked about. We were only over \$588.

Mr. Dreux said, internet.

Chief Dockery said, let's see if there's anything else that's kind of over. Accounting, we were over a little bit. We spoke about that during the year of the missed payment or the missed charge on the accountant's part. The principle and interest on the lease, we spoke about how, further down on the page, 8800, I'm sorry 8500, with that was to be taken, line item 8500 was to take up the difference in that price. All in all, everything else looks good on the budget. We were well under in some areas and a little bit over in others so, we were able to move stuff around and equal it out through the whole budget. Any questions?

Mrs. Blackwell asked, are there any questions on it?

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

Mr. Dreux said, I'm good.

Mrs. Blackwell said, okay, we will move to the EMS Report.

#### **EMS REPORT**

Chief Dockery said, on the EMS side, total deposits were \$28,852.68. Total posted was \$24,326.55. There was \$4,026.13, that was not posted as of 12/31 so, that will probably roll over into January's.

Mr. Trascher said, it's not that those funds were not collected, it's just that they didn't make it at the time, posted for the report.

Chief Dockery said, that is correct.

Mr. Trascher said, so, we are well within our budgeted projections on the EMS.

Chief Dockery said, yes, sir.

Mr. Swann said, do you have separated what we are getting from the insurance companies?

Chief Dockery said, insurance companies are up on the very first page, 3220, the Billed Service, \$2,408.69, was the physical checks that we got in so far and I've got another roughly, \$2,500, waiting on payments to be sent in from the insurance companies. I am checking and they are talking between them and the insurance company. I am just waiting for the physical hard check to come in.

Mr. Swann said, very good.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, is that it, are there any more questions on the EMS Report? If not, we will move to the Chief's Report, Chief Dockery.

## **CHIEF'S REPORT/ EMS REPORT** - Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, for the month of December, we responded to:

EMS	69
STRUCTURE FIRE (Mutual Aid STFD#7)	1
MVA	11
SERVICE/GOOD INTENT	7
DISPATCHED/CANCELLED IN ROUTE	9
FALSE ALARM	4
POLICE MATTER	4
GRASS/WOOD FIRES FIRE	2
TOTAL	107

Chief Dockery said, total for the year 2023 was 1,209 calls. I will try to get you all a breakdown for next meeting of each category of what we had for each one.

The only other news that I have for the Chief's Report, in case you didn't know, we maintained our Class 2 Rating for the PIAL so, I would like to thank all the guys and gals for helping out. We were able to maintain it.

Mrs. Blackwell said, good job!

Chief Dockery said, that's a good thing especially in these times with all the insurance companies charging a lot more than they used to.

Mr. Lindsey said, good news, Chief.

Mr. Swann said, very good.

Mr. Trascher said, it is and as it becomes harder and harder to attain that rating and to maintain it, the insurance companies are becoming much more strict and as everybody knows, the cost are going up. It's an accomplishment with sometimes, the limited resources we have in water supply and everything, to do that. So, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the guys for maintaining that and keeping us as low as we can on our fire insurance

rates for the year.

Mrs. Blackwell said, thank you all very much.

Mr. Dreux said, yes, good job!

Mrs. Blackwell asked, okay, is there any other questions on the Chief's Report? If there's nothing there, we will move to Old Business, Amend 2023 Budget, Chief Dockery.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

AMEND 2023 BUDGET – Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, alright, in front of you will be the amended 2023 Budget. We've just taken the actual from December and amended to that amount where we will zero out. By law we need to be within 5% and this will put us there for each category. I will let you all look through it real fast.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, so this puts all of our line items within the 5% as prescribed by State Law.

Chief Dockery said, correct.

Mr. Trascher said, we didn't take any funds from any other account. These are just funds that we adjusted within the budget so that all the categories come out to be in compliance.

Chief Dockery said, correct.

Mr. Trascher said, with that said, if there's no discussion on it, I move that we approve the Amended 2023 Operating Budget.

Mr. Dreux said, I second.

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

Mrs. Blackwell said, 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.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS FOR 2023 - Floyd Trascher

Mrs. Blackwell said, with Old Business being done, we will move to New Business, Summary of Resolutions for 2023, Floyd.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, as we do every year, to memorialize our records, we put forth a resolution that recognizes the resolutions that this Board passed last year. If you would like I will read the number of resolutions that we had and for this:

WHEREAS, a quorum of the Board of Commissioners ("Board") of St. Tammany Fire Protection District No. 11 ("District") was present on this date, January 9, 2024, for a properly advertised, regular 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 memorialize a summary of Board Of Commissioner's 2023 Resolutions approved in the official minutes for St. Tammany Fire Protection District No. 11:

#### NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

- 1. The Board of Commissioner's wish to recognize the 2023 Summary of Board of Commissioner's Resolutions for District No. 11.
- 2. Attached to this Resolution is Exhibit "A", the 2023 Board of Commissioner's Summary of Resolutions.
- 3. To the extent that prior resolutions or acts of this Board may conflict with this Resolution, those prior Resolutions and actions are superseded by this Resolution.

Mr. Trascher asked, would you like me to present a quick summary or would you like to look at the list of these resolutions? What would be the wishes?

Mrs. Blackwell said, just a quick summary.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, in 2023, last year was:

- 1. Summary of resolutions.
- 2. Rescheduled the 2023 February meeting with Resolution No. 2
- 3. Adoption of the Operating Budget for the Revenues and Expenditures for 2022.
- 4. Transfer of funds for Building Renovations, Acquisitions and New Hire Salaries.
- 5. Authorization of Funds for Temporary Living Quarters
- 6. Relating to Approval of the Renewal of Medical Insurance.
- 7. Approval of Scheduling the Special Council Meeting.

- 8. Appointment of Beatriz Newell Acosta to the Civil Service Board for District 11
- No. 1 Approval of the Adjusted Millage Rate for 2023 Tax Year. (Chief's Numbering)
- No. 2 Millage Rate Increase for the 2023 Tax year. (Chief's Numbering)
- 9. VOID Moved to 2024-008
- Adopt the Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the year 2024 and beginning January 2024
- 11. Recognition of Fire Fighter of the year, Mitchell Geissler
- 12. Renewal Agreement for Communications and Dispatch Services of Fire and Emergency Calls with St. Tammany Fire Protection District #1.

Mr. Trascher continued, with that said, I would move that we approve this resolution to memorialize the ones that were passed in 2023 by this Board to go into the official records.

Mr. Lindsey said, I second.

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

Mrs. Blackwell said, 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. You know, I forgot the Resolution for the Budget. Do we need to read that in?

Mr. Trascher asked, that's the one that we approved?

Mrs. Blackwell said, for the Budget just a minute ago.

Mr. Trascher asked, for the Amended Budget?

Mrs. Blackwell said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, I don't believe we need to. We do have a Resolution and we moved to do that and it passed. The one that we just did, to approve the 2023 Operating Budget and the number for that one is 2024-002. That was the approval of the 2023 Amended Operating Budget.

Mr. Trascher said, okay, thank you.

## **ELECT BOARD POSITIONS – Floyd Trascher**

Mr. Trascher said, once again, it's an annual thing that we, the Board elects the officer's for the ensuing year. We can do this by each office or we can make a motion to reappoint the officer's as they were in 2023. Madam Chair, the list of the officer's were?

Mrs. Blackwell said, Floyd Trascher is Vice-Chairman which is Resolution 2023...

Mr. Trascher said, okay, wait, the current officer's are Vice-Chair, Floyd and the Secretary was...

Mrs. Blackwell said, Mr. Lindsey was Treasurer. Secretary was Eugene Swann and Ryan Dreux was Vice-Secretary. That is the current sitting Board.

Mr. Trascher said, so we can, we can either reappoint those officers in globo, all of them, or we can do each individual office. What would be the pleasure of the Board?

Mr. Dreux said, all together.

Mr. Lindsey said, I make a motion that we just keep them as remained.

Mr. Swann said, I second.

Mr. Trascher said, Madam Chair, we have a motion and second that we, the Board will maintain the current slate of officer's for the ensuing year.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, do you want me to read off all of these numbers to go with that motion? Floyd Trascher is Vice-Chair, Resolution number 2024-004, Russel Lindsey as Treasure, Resolution number 2024-005, Eugene Swan is Secretary of the Board, Resolution number 2024-006 and Mr. Ryan Dreux, Vice-Secretary, Resolution 2024-007. That is what we are voting on. So, we have a motion and a second, 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. Appointment of Chair, Floyd.

## APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON – Floyd Trascher

Mr. Trascher said, once again, the 5<sup>th</sup> person on the Board is appointed by this Board and it's done in conjunction with the expiration of term officer's. At this time we need to reappoint the Chairman, I would nominate Michele Blackwell for reappointment.

Mr. Swann said, I will second.

Mrs. Blackwell said, with there being a second, the nomination of Michele Blackwell and a second, 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, Madam Chair, congratulations.

Mrs. Blackwell said, thank you.

Mr. Trascher said, what we will need to do is get the 5 copies of the oaths of office, execute that oath and we will provide the copies to the Parish so that they can once again update their records.

Mrs. Blackwell said, okay, thank you. If that's all for that, we will move to Discuss the February meeting.

#### DISCUSS THE DATE OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING - Michele Blackwell

Mrs. Blackwell said, I wanted to discuss the February meeting. It is on the 13<sup>th</sup>, if I am not mistaken and that is Mardi Gras. We got Mardi Gras and then Valentine's the very next day. Do we want to move it, do we want to keep it the same?

Mr. Lindsey said, that's up to you all.

Mr. Trascher asked, where are we going for Valentine's?

Mr. Lindsey said, I asked you all to move it last time if we can make it.

Mrs. Blackwell said, well, being it's Valentine's and Mardi Gras. We were just throwing it up there. If you all want to come Mardi Gras night. I don't know how many is going out of town, going Mardi Gras, going to the city or whatever.

Mr. Lindsey said, it don't matter to me.

Mr. Trascher said, it's either it's either Mardi Gras or we move it to the Wednesday after.

Mr. Swann said, your saying the Wednesday after?

Mr. Trascher said, yes, it would be Tuesday, instead of Tuesday we could have our meeting on Wednesday.

Mrs. Blackwell said, what date would that be?

Mr. Trascher asked, which one was the meeting was going to be scheduled? The very next one.

Mr. Dreux said, the 14<sup>th</sup>. That's Mardi Gras, I mean what you call it? Are you taking your bride out to eat?

Mr. Trascher said, you may make plans for Mardi Gras. Russell may still be out for Valentine's Day.

Mr. Lindsey said, I'm Mardi Gras it.

Chief Dockery said, the 21st, if we move it to the Wednesday after.

Mr. Trascher asked, Chief, do you have any issues with that?

Chief Dockery said, I don't. No, I do, we have class running at that time so Monday's, Wednesday's and Friday's we have class here.

Mrs. Blackwell said, so, we could do it Thursday, the 15<sup>th</sup> or the 20<sup>th</sup> or the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Mr. Swann said, what if we did it the first Tuesday instead of the second Tuesday?

Chief Dockery said, the 6<sup>th</sup>?

Mr. Trascher said, that's an option also. That would work.

Chief Dockery said, I am good with that.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, is everybody else good with that?

Mr. Lindsey said, that should work.

Mr. Dreux said, that's good.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, do I have a motion?

Mr. Trascher said, Russell, do you move to February 6<sup>th</sup>?

Mr. Lindsey said, yep, I'll move.

Mr. Trascher said. I will second.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, with a motion and a second, Mr. Lindsey, how do you vote?

Mrs. Blackwell said, 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.

Chief Dockery asked, and it's still 7pm correct?

Mr. Trascher said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell said, yes, at 7pm.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Blackwell continued, Okay, before we go to Public Comment I want to thank the Department again for the number 2 spot. We want to also want to recognize Mr. Cougle. He is our new chairman, I mean Councilman, for District 9. We want to thank Mr. Netzhammer for coming in. Do we have any Public Comment?

Mr. Herman Netzhammer said, I have one. Actually, it's more of a question for the Chief. In your Standard Operating Procedures and in your Manual's, Policy Manuals, do they state that you can leave a smoldering fire from 3 feet from a ignition source such as a gas tank?

Chief Dockery asked, a gas pad?

Mr. Netzhammer said, a gas tank.

Chief Dockery asked, a gas tank?

Mr. Netzhammer said, as in a truck.

Chief Dockery said, I would have to go back and look. I am not going to give you an answer at this point because I am not going to give you something falsely.

Mr. Netzhammer said, okay, you all have my email address, your secretary has my email address so, as soon as you find it, could you send me the answer please. Alright. Now, one of the things that I would like to address as I am sure you all are well aware, I witnessed a smoldering fire right behind a parked truck at the fire station and I don't believe in any way, shape or form that it was good policy, good pr, just good judgment to have a smoldering fire at a fire station right by an ignition source such as a full size gas truck, gas tank that was backed up to it. Now, I realize that you already ruled on that. You all are just going to change policies, something to do with the fires and all of that. My opinion is that, when you do not discipline your employees for misdeeds, bad PR, I mean, in this case it could even be conduct unbecoming of a fireman because it made you guys look bad. That, when you let them get away with that kind of stuff it just encourages future bad behavior and that's where this comes from. Sunday, at about 9:00, I believe I sent this in already to you guys, to your office, your PR guy, I observed one of your EMT trucks at the Highway 11/41 Junction, on the railroad tracks, stopped. He got caught at the red light. I was right behind him. I backed up and made sure he had enough room. I could have backed up even more but, for some reason, that truck did not sound his siren so that the car in front of him could move and get him out of the way so they could clear that track. Now, in my opinion, that put, not only the lives of the fireman in danger but, the people around him. I was in danger of flying debris, the car in front of him was in danger of flying debris, the train was in danger, the property of this Department was in danger. Now, I don't know how you all are going to address this. I really don't have much faith after my previous complaint but, I think that you all will continue to have unsafe actions like this happen if you all do not follow through and discipline your employees when it is needed. Otherwise, they are going to feel that they can do what they want, I am not going to get in trouble, the Board will just change the policy. So, y'all can do what you want, you know, like I mentioned before, I am just happening upon some of this stuff because I live near Pearl River and not in it and if I am finding out these things and seeing these things going on at this department by happenstance, it really makes me begin to wonder what is going on if somebody actually looked into things here. So, it's just something to think, it's something to really think about. You all need to dig deep and think about what's going on because from what I've seen, it's not looking good. Now, Chief, I am pretty sure there's a traffic camera on that intersection so, you can forward a request and probably can get it from the Pearl River PD fairly easy so, I think you really need to look into that. Don't take my word for it, please. Okay. That is all.

Mr. Trascher said, thank you Mr. Netzhammer. I would like to address that comment.

Mr. Netzhammer said, one, one more thing. Now, Chief stated there were 2 grass fires this month and we've had rain and y'all had two fires burning at that station. Grass fires still could have occurred at that station because they were unattended. No matter what everybody says here, I was there. I have two videos and body cam footage of nobody being around outside. When you tend to a fire, you are outside by the fire. Your not inside a building with, I believe there are no windows overlooking that section, correct Chief?

Chief Dockery said, correct.

Mr. Netzhammer said, so, you can't, the firemen can't even say they were looking through a window at it. So, it was completely unattended.

Mr. Swann asked, did you stay there and watch it until it went out?

Mr. Netzhammer said, no, I told the Chief. I assumed he was going to put it out. I have him on body cam. I went there to get a fire report on a mutual aid and after we finished conducting that business, I asked the Chief what was the protocol for trash burning fires now that the burn ban is over with. He stated that they have to be less than 4 feet tall, they have to be attended and a water hose out to it. Now, I got to give it to the Chief, the fire was not 4 feet tall but, it was unattended and because all the firemen were inside playing on their phones on the recliner and of course the Chief was inside conducting business. So, that don't look good. You know. He told me exactly what should be done and it wasn't being done, so.

Mr. Trascher said, we do appreciate your concern with that and we feel that we have addressed that issue. We've changed the department policy. It will not occur again. As far as the issue that you bring up this evening with the truck on the railroad tracks. We are going to ask that the Chief look into that incident and take the appropriate actions, if disciplinary actions are required, we certainly will ask for that to be done. Sometimes there's extenuating circumstances. This department is Civil Service so we have, it has to be handled correctly. We just can't up and discipline somebody for that and that is not the Boards position. We are the Governing Authority. That is, the Chief as the supervisor. He is responsible to the Board and the employees are responsible to him so, we will ask our employee to look into this for you.

Mr. Netzhammer said, okay, alright, thank you.

Mr. Trascher said, thank you, sir.

Mrs. Blackwell said, thank you. Mr. Cougle, do you have anything?

Mr. Cougle said, good evening everybody, obviously, I was just sworn in yesterday and I'm David Cougle. So, I just wanted the regular, you know, keep me updated as far as what you guys priorities are, where you think this Parish needs to be given more support. Those types of things. You know, the Fire Districts regularly come up in discussion for the Parish Council. Our first meeting is Thursday night but, I really I am just going to depend on you guys a lot to let me know exactly what your priorities are, if they are being addressed, if they are not, those

types of things. If you have any questions for me at this time.

Mr. Trascher said, I would like to thank you for appearing at the meeting Mr. Cougle. This is the first time I think that I can remember that a City Councilman to come out to the meeting.

Mr. Cougle said, that was thanks in part to Chuck, Chuck's emails. I actually attended the Rec meeting, I can attend the Fire District because it's an hour afterwards.

Mr. Trascher said, we are glad to have you come out and see and we do try. We endeavor very much to provide the citizen's of this Fire District with the most efficient, cost effective fire service that we can.

Mr. Cougle said, I tell you now, these days, it's hard to get a lot of millage's past but, it seems like the fire districts usually get them past where everybody else seems to... Because people want, they need their, we need to make sure you have the resources you need and I think you guys have, deservedly, a very good reputation in serving the community, the fire districts do and the EMS, emergency services. Any questions for me?

Mr. Lindsey said, one thing we may need some assistance with, the Chief may know better but, I would like to see us look more into getting some help with some grant writing.

Mr. Cougle said, I know, go ahead and finish.

Mr. Lindsey said, that' basically what I was going to say.

Mr. Cougle said, I know, at least the Town had someone they were sending to school for that and they are almost finished and they will have some certification or something. Do you know what I am talking about?

Mr. Trascher said, yes, I believe the Parish does that and has somebody on staff.

Mr. Cougle said, the Parish probably has a resource for that. What I would request, my email is dcougle@stpgov.org. Floyd has it, dcougle, just email me your request about that and I can find out who can actually help us do some type of grant writing. If the money is there, you have to ask for it because, if not, somebody else is going to ask for it.

Mr. Dreux said, and you have to ask for it correctly.

Mr. Lindsey said, that's the thing.

Mr. Dreux said, yes, you have to write it in a way...

Mr. Cougle said, right, exactly. So, I will definitely, send me an email if you can and I will try to work with who it is in the Parish. They may have a grant writing department, I don't know.

Mr. Trascher said, the Parish does have a grant writing department...

Mr. Cougle said, a grant writing department. So, the next question is, what grants are available that would be beneficial to the fire district. Maybe I can get a list of those, if you

guys don't already have those. Maybe you know something...

Mr. Netzhammer said, just District 7 just actually, this past meeting I believe, spent \$3,000, to go a company to write their grants for them so, you might want to check with Chief Whitehead and ask.

Mr. Cougle said, let me see what resources the Parish has that would ideally, would not be an expense but, if that's not an option of whatever you guys are going to look at next. But, I mean, I think the real question is what grants are available but, definitely, I would try to apply for everything you can every year because, somebody else is going to get it if you guys don't get it.

Mr. Dreux said, you know Chief, what's available. You usually have a list that you can look at.

Mr. Trascher said, we looked for some before but, again, we weren't professional with it, the Chief wrote it.

Mr. Cougle said, okay, yes, you did recently apply for one?

Mr. Trascher said, it's been a couple of years I think.

Mr. Cougle said, okay, just please send me an email and Chief already has a list of some that is available?

Mr. Trascher said, some of them.

Mr. Cougle said, especially if, ideally, if you can send me an email with "here's the ones we want", and then I will go try to talk with the grant writing department. Like, say, how do we get these done and what are the timelines. I am sure that's important and I am guessing they go by calendar year not fiscal year. But, maybe it can happen in the first few weeks. I don't know. Definitely, I would like to apply for everything that we can to get it or somebody else is going to get it. Anybody else, anything else?

Mr. Lindsey said, I think that's it but, thank you for coming out.

Mrs. Blackwell said, yes, thank you for coming out.

Mr. Cougle said, you know, you guys know how the State Legislative lines run? I think this is Glorioso here because he goes up to Sawmill.

Mr. Trascher said, it's above Sawmill Creek.

Mr. Cougle said, yes, so, we are right north, I think it's still, it's going to be close but, if not I think it's going to be, if not, it's going to be, what's his name?

Mr. Trascher said, Egan.

Mr. Cougle said, Egan, if not, it might still be Glorioso's. I am not sure but certainly, this part

of the area is and, I have a very good relationship with him and can see if there is something we can try to request from the State as well. I haven't met Mr. Egan just because I think he lives in Covington but, I have talked to him a little bit but, Representative Glorioso is very strong and if anything, I think we need to,apply for some stuff in the state. That's another option as well but, just all I ask for now is, send me the email for the grants that you are interested in applying for then I will contact the Parish person and see how we go about doing that.

Mr. Lindsey said, well, thank you. We appreciate it.

Mrs. Blackwell said, thank you, we appreciate you coming out. Do we have any other Public Comment? Do we have a motion to adjourn?

Mr. Trascher said, well, I would like to again, thank the firemen for the good work in retaining our Level 2 because, I remember when we were a 3 and threatened with a 6 so, again, to do that with the water system, we know in the Town of Pearl River has issues and we have no control over that. That's something we have to live with and for these guys with the shuttle and being able to bring water and respond. The other thing is to maintain that Level with the limited personnel we have is quite an achievement. That's a thank you to the Chief to be able to schedule all of that because they have really tightened down on those ratings and I am very proud that we were able to make a 2.

Mr. Lindsey said, a 2, a 2 is very huge especially with a small department. Even a good size department, a 2 is very good so, for us to be able to maintain that is really...

Mr. Trascher said, yes, and thank you guys for what you do and with that said, I move we adjourn.

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, no.

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