



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
Of the Wentzville Fire Protection District of May 13, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the Wentzville Fire Protection District was held on May 13, 2021 via video conferencing due to COVID-19 pandemic and current CDC restrictions.

Chief Schneider called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Open Forum: No one from the public was present.

Roll Call: Chief Schneider called roll. Two Board Members were present Director Bob Hawkins-present, Director Jennifer Houston-absent, and Director Frank Grassmuck-present.

Also, in attendance were Assistant Chief John LeDoux, Deputy Chief Michael Scott, Shop Steward Max Mueller, and CPA Rick Rognan.

Director Hawkins made a motion to approve the agenda; it was seconded by Director Grassmuck. Director Hawkins-aye, Director Houston-absent, Director Grassmuck-aye.

Director Hawkins motioned to approve the regular meeting minutes of May 3, 2021; the motion was seconded by Director Grassmuck. Director Hawkins-aye, Director Houston-aye, Director Grassmuck-aye.

Approval of the bills: Director Hawkins motioned, and Director Grassmuck seconded the approval of the bills as presented. Director Hawkins-aye, Director Houston-absent, Director Grassmuck-aye.

CPA Rognan presented the April financials. The benchmark is 33.33%. The district is 7.81% over, this is exactly where the district was in February. Many of the items are funded early in the year and will catch up over the year. The district has collected 98.24% of revenue projected. He explained the line item for COVID Money and indicated FEMA is now reimbursing 100% so this line may increase. He stated COVID OT is completely reimbursable. Timing is the reason IT and Dues, and Subscriptions is over. He stated utilities are at 34%, indicated a colder than expected February. CPA Rognan provided the cash balance information stating as of April 30 there is \$10 million expected to be in reserve by the end of this budget year. The \$10 million will be 70% of expenses in reserve. So far in 2021 the district has run 430 calls. The district will be at 4800-4900 calls for the year, calls will be going up as the county is opening. Director Hawkins stated he is happy with the reserve at this time. There was discussion regarding a pension drop. CPA Rognan stated a drop was in the 2021 budget, however, he as well as the board would like to hear from FWM regarding entering the funds into the market. Director Hawkins stated he is good with proceeding with the pension drop.

Old Business:

No old business

New Business:

Amended budget for 2020 was presented. This request is made every year for audit purposes. CPA Rognan stated the budget committee does a phenomenal job. He stated only line items that are over are adjusted. Only five categories were over. Debt service no categories were over. Capital projects did not exceed the expenses. Again CPA Rognan praised the budget committee on how well it adhered to the adopt 2020 budget. Director Hawkins, asked to delay the approval by one week for Director Houston’s review. Approval of the amended budget was tabled until next week.

CPA Rognan discussed assigning funds for future needs of the district. He asked that the board assign \$10,000,000.00 for future appropriations. The break down would be: \$6,000,000.00 for capital equipment, assigning \$2,000,000 for purpose of pension obligation and assigning \$2,000,000 for the purpose of emergency preparedness. The approval the assigned funds was tabled until next week. Director Hawkins stated there needs to be discussion on issuing bonds. Chief Schneider asked what is a threshold for general funds? CPA Rognan stated the fund balance should be under one year of expenses.

Officers Report:

Chief Schneider stated the field work began for the audit and is going well so far. He commended the community outreach for the golf tournament. It was good turnout. Chief Schneider indicated next week, Mike Scott and Scott Ohlms were being recognized by the school district and would like to accommodate an earlier meeting on May 20th. It was decided to move the meeting to 5 p.m. Director Hawkins indicated he will be at Station 1 for the meeting.

Assistant Chief LeDoux reported lots of repairs and maintenance is going on. He also shared the new updated by CDC that fully vaccinated is now able to return to normal life, with a few exceptions.

Deputy Chief Scott stated he is working with FEMA and SEMA for grant proposal for the vaccination event at Holt. He indicated he has amended our amounts and hopes to get reimbursement soon.


Fire Marshal Cuddihee on vacation

Battalion Chief Chris Browder not present.

Legal Counsel McLaughlin was not present.

Shop Steward Mueller congratulated the Community Outreach.

Director Hawkins motioned adjourn the regular meeting at 6:35 p.m. The motion was seconded by Director Grassmuck. Director Hawkins-aye, Director Houston-aye, Director Grassmuck-aye.


Frank Grassmuck, Secretary


Stacy Krieger, Recording Secretary