



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
Of the Wentzville Fire Protection District of April 14, 2022

The Regular Meeting of the Wentzville Fire Protection District was held on April 14, 2022, at Wentzville Fire District Headquarters, 502 Luetkenhaus Blvd, Wentzville, MO 63385 at 6:21 p.m.

Chief Schneider called the meeting to order.

Open Forum: No one from the public was present.

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

Also, in attendance were Assistant Chief John LeDoux, Deputy Chief Michael Scott, Fire Marshal Chris Cuddihee, Shop Steward Max Mueller, Assistant Shop Steward Bryan Notheis, Legal Counsel Dan McLaughlin via the phone, as well as Adam Berkowitz from Simpara. Other members of the district in attendance were Fred Hohenshell, Patrick Kelly, Pat Szarwinski, Nate Kuhn, Joe Steltenpohl, Jordan Porter, and Blake Miller.

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

Director Hawkins motioned, and Director Houston seconded the approval of the Board Meeting Minutes of April 6, 2022. Director Hawkins-aye, Director Houston-aye, Director Grassmuck-aye.

There were no questions on the bills. Director Hawkins motioned to approve bills Director Houston seconded. Director Hawkins-aye, Director Houston-aye, Director Grassmuck-aye.

CPA Rognan was not able to attend. Chief Schneider stated the report is trending in a good direction.

Old Business:

Adam Berkowitz from Simpara was present to discuss self-funding options for healthcare. Mr. Berkowitz has been working with the benefits committee for over a year now. The benefits committee has attended several seminars conducted by Simpara. The committee has checked references in many states on how he navigates healthcare issues. Notheis discussed the benefit as a self-funded option, which how many in the business sector absorbs the costs. Berkowitz's team came into the picture with Simpara after learning, reading, and

about the coverage, and if the committee feel comfortable. Mueller stated we have been looking at this for over five years, with the stop loss and aggerated insurance, he is comfortable. Director Houston thanked the committee for their time and due diligence in providing this opportunity. Director Houston stated the board will need to review and digest.

New Business:

No New Business.

Officers Report:

Chief Schneider forwarded the sunshine request from the St. Louis Dispatch and explained there is a public salary portal on their website. They are building a portal for fire districts. Chief Schneider attended a Highway N expansion meeting this week funding is still pending. The personal property debate continued Friday in St. Peters; many people spoke what it would be like to loss 18% of budget over seven years. Still talking about not being constitutional. St Charles County, Assessor spoke also. The Feathershark Phishing program has begun. Happy to report a few clicked on, but overall, our percentages were well above average in a good way. Chief Schneider is off next week. He reminded the board the following week Father Fischer will be sworn in.

Assistant Chief LeDoux had not report.

Deputy Chief Scott reported on mutual aid training going on and CPR class coming up.

Fire Marshal Cuddihee had no report.

Battalion Chris Browder not present.

Legal Counsel McLaughlin was present via the phone.

Shop Steward had nothing to report.

No calendar issues to discuss. Director Hawkins feels positive about the self-funded plan and thanked for the work being done on bringing it. Transparency is huge, it is a big undertaking, and a nice option to have. Director Houston spoke to the transparency as well as Director Grassmuck. Chief Schneider asked the board it review and have a response by the first week of May. If there are any questions that come up feel free to reach out.

On a motion of Director Hawkins and a second of Director Grassmuck, the meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm. Director Hawkins-aye, Director Houston-aye, Director Grassmuck-aye.