



FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 13
ST. TAMMANY PARISH
P.O. Box 2109

Tony Devillier
Vice-Chairman

Eryn Jones
Secretary

George Osbourn
Chairman

Mark Cortez
Commissioner

Lonnie Johnson
Fire Chief

COVINGTON, LA 70434
985-898-4913

Jorge Fernandez
Commissioner

Jeffery Stern
Treasurer

Meeting Minutes

The St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 13 Board of Commissioners met in regular session at **7:00 PM** on **August 21, 2024**, at the St. Tammany Fire Protection District No. 13 fire station located at 13053 Hwy 190 Covington, LA 70433.

7:00 PM the meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Tony DeVillier

Roll call: Absent: George Osbourn and Mark Cortez; Present: Tony DeVillier, Jeffery Stern, and Jorge Fernandez

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation

Awards and Recognition: None

Minutes Review: Review and consideration of approval of July 17, 2024, board meeting minutes, Mr. Fernandez made a motion to approve minutes, seconded by Mr. Stern, no further discussion, all in favor. (See attached).

Financial Presentation by Wynn Williams with Hancock Whitney: Ms. Williams presented interest rate (4.7% variable) information to the board. The bank would like to extend the rate for 1 year starting November 1st. A motion to accept was made by Mr. Fernandez, seconded by Mr. Stern. Mr. Mark Waniewski will provide a resolution next month for record keeping.

Financial Report: Mr. Stern reviewed the credit card report before the meeting and reported all in order. Mark Waniewski reviewed the through July 31, 2024, financial report, and performance report with the Board. Mr. Stern asked about the bond payment schedule, Mr. Waniewski will send over the schedule to the board for review. Mr. Fernandez made a motion to adopt the financial reports, and credit card reports, seconded by Mr. Stern, no further comments or discussion, all in favor (see attached).

Old Business

1. Discussed the status of Station 134. Chief Johnson advised that the Fire Marshal has approved the drawing. Mr. Chad Danenhower is working on the documents for bid. Once the documents are ready, the job can be put out to bid and posted for 3 weeks.
2. Mr. Stern spoke on the Verizon tower contract. Verizon is looking to pay out a lump sum amount and smaller monthly payments. The current contract is for 20 years but Verizon can cancel the contract with 1 year notice. The board discussed options for a counter offer on a new contract. There is a concern about the technology staying relevant in the coming years. Mr. Stern advised that he is hoping to have more information by the next meeting.

New Business

1. 2024-011 BOC Resolution (Approve Workers' Compensation Insurance) Mr. Fernandez made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mr. Stern, all in favor.
2. 2024-012 BOC Resolution (Approve Commercial Property, Casualty & Automotive Insurance) Mr. Fernandez made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mr. Stern, all in favor.
3. Additional comments from PMI: The LWCC October renewal has an 18k lower premium than the previous year. The reduction is due to a rate reduction along with the lower Emod. Mr. Wainewski advised that they are working on the 2025 budget.
4. Civil Service report – None
5. Training Report: TSO Michael Getscher advised that a system issue was corrected which caused an issue with past numbers. An Officer I class will start in September. He informed the board that C. Gruber has passed Advanced EMT. There were also two part-timers who have passed Officer II.
6. Fire Prevention: Not present.
7. Maintenance – Rodney Waltrip advised that Deep South is having trouble getting the chassis for the remount. Deep South is hoping the remount will be done by the end of the year.
8. Fire Chief's Report: Provided a call breakdown report. There were 109 calls, most of which were medicals. He advised that he and District Chief C. Melerine will be going to leadership classes September 4th – 7th.
9. Additional New Business: There has been a change in agent used for the district's health insurance. A motion to accept



was made by Mr. Fernandez, seconded by Mr. Stern. Mr. Mark Waniewski will provide a resolution next month for record keeping.

10. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Stern and second by Mr. Fernandez, all in favor, meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m

Pending approval August 21, 2024